

CINCINNATI MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

12/13/2020 ~ 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Time: 10:15 AM (Worship starts at 10:30)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/371911727?pwd=bEdOMTgOR1NQK2NRMXdBNkIpVG1Sdz09>

Meeting ID: 371 911 727

Password: 180430

WORSHIP LEADER: NATHAN WASHATKA

SPEAKER: RANDY MILLER

MUSIC COORDINATOR: GRETA HOLT

GATHERING

PRELUDE Suzanne Stauffer *In the Bleak Midwinter* (Gustav Holst, arr. by Larry Shackley)

WELCOME Nathan W. & Jaimi W.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Adapted from Psalm 126:2-6)

Leader: The Lord has done great things for us, and so we rejoice!

People: Our mouths are filled with laughter, and our tongues with shouts of joy.

Leader: Those who sow in tears will reap shouts of joy.

People: Those who go out weeping will come home with shouts of joy.

All: The Lord has done great things for us—we rejoice!

OPENING PRAYER

CELEBRATING

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE Connie B.

I Saw Three Ships King's College Choir, Cambridge

CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE Nathan W. & Jaimi W.

Leader: God, we confess we do not always recognize you.

People: We confess that when we do, we do not always receive you.

All: Open our eyes to see you and our hearts to receive you.

MUSIC *Noel Nouvelet* The King's Singers

HEARING

SCRIPTURE Jaimi W. John 1:6-9, 19-28

MONOLOGUE Eli S. "John the Baptist Denies Being the Messiah"

MEDITATION Randy M. "A Witness to the Light"

RESPONDING

SONG OF RESPONSE *O Holy Night*
Chris Purves and the Winner Chords, Berne, Indiana, circa 1940s

SHARING JOYS & SORROWS Nathan W.

PRAYER

SENDING

Music Suzanne & Bruce Stauffer *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*
(trad. French, arr. by Lloyd Larson)

BENEDICTION Randy M.

OFFERINGS

ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Following the service, there will be an invitation to join breakout rooms for smaller groups to check in with each other. You may click YES to the invitation or remain in the larger meeting room.



Please plan to join CMF worship on Sunday mornings at 10:15 via Zoom through **January** and possibly longer. Thank you and be safe.

CMF Church Council

CMF WORSHIP ~ SERVING DECEMBER 13, 2020

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Coordinator: | Diane M. |
| Worship Leader: | Nathan W. |
| Speaker: | Randy M. |
| Music Coordinator: | Greta H. |
| Children's Time: | Jane P. (pre-church) |
| Scripture Reader: | Jaimi W. |
| Monologue: | Eli S. |
| Attendance: | Connie B. |
| PowerPoint: | Maggie S. |
| Zoom Host: | Rebecca B. |

CMF ONGOING ZOOM GROUPS

CMF SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE ~ Sundays morning at 10:15;

Worship starts at 10:30

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/371911727?pwd=bEdOMTgOR1NqK2NRMXdBNklpVG1Sdz09>

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Password: 180430

CMF SOCIAL HOUR ~ Thursday evenings at 7:00

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/308580590?pwd=Sk9heDZSUm1NamlsWE1VE5tbThpQT09>

Meeting ID: 308 580 590

Passcode: 752912

ADULT FORUM ~ Monday mornings at 10:00

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83996398199?pwd=UjFVdINFc0lXek1rNmJxeU1zTUJ1QT09>

Meeting ID: 839 9639 8199

Password: 921626

CMF SINGLES GROUP ~ Wednesdays at 12 noon

Join Singles Group Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89174011887?pwd=bmJzVjgyL09iSkFvVlVQzZ3FBdHhCZz09>

Meeting ID: 891 7401 1887

Password: 655449

Phone: 1 301 715 8592

CMF Men's Group ~ Third Saturday morning at 8:00

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86871094702?pwd=M3VUTU5mdWRcRXJwNFRKaHNOeGIBQT09>

Meeting ID: 868 7109 4702

Passcode: 311459

Congregational Announcements

Please send announcements to the office by noon Friday.

Sunday, Dec. 13 Youth Formation Class meets via Zoom at 5:00 p.m. Contact Suzanne Marie for Zoom info.

Monday, Dec. 14 Pastoral Search Committee meets via Zoom at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 19 CMF Men's Group meets via Zoom at 8:00 a.m. Contact Jim Miller for more info.

from *Book of Mercy* by Leonard Cohen

Poem 1

I stopped to listen, but he did not come. I began again with a sense of loss. As this sense deepened I heard him again. I stopped stopping and I stopped starting, and I allowed myself to be crushed by ignorance. This was a strategy, and didn't work at all. Much time, years were wasted in such a minor mode. I bargain now. I offer buttons for his love. I beg for mercy. Slowly he yields. Haltingly he moves toward his throne. Reluctantly the angels grant to one another permission to sing. In a transition so delicate it cannot be marked, the court is established on beams of golden symmetry, and once again I am a singer in the lower choirs, born fifty years ago to raise my voice this high, and no higher.

Poem 43

Help me in the rain, help me in the darkness, help me at my aimless table. Bend me down to the rain, and let the darkness speak to my heart. Blessed are you who speaks from the darkness, who gives a form to desolation. You draw back the heart that is spilled in the world, you establish the borders of pain. Your mercy you make known to those who know your name, and your healing is discovered beneath the lifted cry. The ruins signal your power; by your hand it is broken down, and all things crack that your throne be restored to the heart. You have written your name on the chaos. The eyes that roll down the darkness, you have rolled them back to the skull. Let each man be sheltered in the fortress of your name, and let each one see the other from the towers of your law. Create the world again, and stand us up, as you did before, on the foundation of your light.

Poem 50

I lost my way, I forgot to call on your name. The raw heart beat against the world, and the tears were for my lost victory. But you are here. You have always been here. The world is all forgetting, and the heart is a rage of directions, but your name unifies the heart, and the world is lifted into its place. Blessed is the one who waits in the traveler's heart for his turning.