



First Mennonite Church of Halstead

February 1, 2026

As the apostle Paul reminds us in Ephesians (4:4-6), we come together as one body in the one Spirit, trusting in one hope through the one Lord Jesus Christ and the one God and Father of all. Welcome to worship!

Gathering Music – Kent Dick

Come, Let Us Join Our Friends Above – arr. Edward Broughton

Welcome and Announcements - Chuck Haspels

Birthday Blessing & Offering

Centering Music – Kent Dick

Larghetto – Mark Davis

Call to Worship – Pastor Steve

***Worship Through Singing – *Great is the Lord* - HWB #87**

Refrain

Great is the Lord, he is ho-ly and just, by his pow-er we trust in his

love. Great is the Lord, he is faith-ful and true, by his

mer-cy he proves he is love.

1 Great is the Lord, and
2 Great are you, Lord, and

wor-thy of glo-ry! wor-thy of glo-ry! Great is the Lord, and Great are you, Lord, and wor-thy of praise. wor-thy of praise.

Chords: B^b/C, F, B^b/C, D, G, G/F, E, Am

Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice:
 Great are you, Lord; I lift up my voice, I lift up my voice:

Chords: Dm, Dm⁷/G, G, G⁷, 1 Am, Am/G, 2 C

Great is the Lord! Lord!
 Great are you, Lord! Lord!

***Worship Through Singing – *May the Peoples Praise You* –**
 Lyrics Projected

Covenanting

Offering & Offertory – MCC Relief Sale
Blest Be the Tie That Binds – John Troutman

Scripture – Psalm 133 (p. 970)

Children's Time – Casey Jacob

Worship Through Singing – *How good a thing it is* - HWB #310

VERSE 1

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are arranged in four parts, with each part having a corresponding line of music. The first system covers the first two lines of the verse, the second system covers the next two lines, and the third system covers the final two lines. The piano accompaniment is a simple harmonic support for the vocal lines.

1 How good a thing it is, how
2 As per - fume, by its scent, breathes
3 And like re - fresh - ing dew that
4 God grants the choic - est gifts to

pleas - ant to be - hold, when all God's peo - ple
fra - grance all a - round, so life it - self will
falls up - on the hills, true u - nion sheds its
those who live in peace; to them such bless - ings

live as one, the law of love up - hold!
sweet - er be where u - ni - ty is found.
gen - tle grace, and deep - er love in - stils.
shall a - bound and ev - er - more in - crease.

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Worship Through Singing – *We Are the Body of Christ* – Lyrics Projected

Time of Anointing & Prayer

Response Song – *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* - VT #831

Capo 3: (D) F (A7) C7 (D) F (D7) F7 (G) Bb

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in
 2 We share each oth - er's woes, each oth - er's
 3 When we a - sun - der and part, it gives us
 4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we

(D) F (A) C (A7) C7 (D) F (A) C (A7) C7

Chris - tian love. The fel - low - ship of kin - dred
 bur - dens bear, and of - ten for each oth - er
 in - ward pain, But we shall still be joined in
 shall be free, and per - fect love and friend - ship

(D) F (G/D) Bb/F (D) F (G) Bb (D/A) F/C (A7) C7 (D) F

minds is like to that a - bove.
 flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 heart, and hope to meet a - gain.
 reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

***Closing Prayer**

*Sending Song – The Lord Lift You Up - VT #832

Swing: ♩ = ♩ ♩

The Lord lift you up, the Lord take your

(D) E (D7) E7 (Em/G) F#m/A (A7) B7

hand, the Lord lead you forth, and cause you to

(B) C# (B7) C#7 (Em7) F#m7 (A7) B7

stand, se - cure in God's word, seek - ing God's

(F#m) C#m (Bm) C#m (Em) F#m (A7) B7

face, a - bound - ing in love, a - bid - ing in

1 (D) E Last time (D) E (G) A (D) E

grace. The grace.

*Benediction

*Postlude – Kent Dick

Lead On, O King Eternal – arr. Lani Smith

*Please stand if you are able

CHURCH CALENDAR

Feb. 1	10:30 a.m.	Covenanting & Anointing Service
	12:00 p.m.	Sr. High Youth Group Fundraiser Lunch
	12:30 p.m.	Annual Church Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Bob Ross Painting Party
Jan. 28	5:00 p.m.	Kids Club
	6:00 p.m.	Wednesday Night Supper
	6:45 p.m.	Adult Bible Study
Feb. 8	10:30 a.m.	Communion
	12:00 p.m.	Beginner Bells practice
	6:00 p.m.	Sr. High Youth Group

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There are many things happening TODAY! We will have our annual covenanting and anointing service during the worship service. After worship, the Senior High Youth Group will have lunch for us as a fundraiser for their upcoming trip to Snow Camp at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp. Then, the Annual Meeting will begin around 12:30 p.m. Plan to participate in these important events in the life of our church!

The Just-for-Fun Bob Ross Painting Party is tonight at 6 p.m.

If you signed up to attend, please remember to bring a snack to share!

Communion will be celebrated next Sunday, February 8, during the worship service.

Congratulations to Garrett and Maranda Whorton on the birth of their baby girl, Ruby Kristine Whorton. Ruby arrived on Friday, January 16. We celebrate God's gift of Ruby with you!

If you would be willing to help provide meals for people in our congregation at different times, please let Melanie know so that you can be added to an email list alerting people of opportunities as they arise.

Would you like to play with a bell choir? Let Casey know!

Maybe you have played in the past or maybe you have never read music at all. There are intergenerational opportunities to interest all abilities every spring and fall. Just ask!

Save the Date! Our Verenike supper will be on Saturday, Feb. 28, from 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. Sign-ups for food and workers will be coming soon!

There will be an Easter cantata this year, and all those interested in singing are invited to participate. The cantata will be performed on Saturday, April 4, in the evening to allow for more community participation. Rehearsals for the cantata will begin this Wednesday, February 4. Talk with Gregg if you have any questions.

Buhler Mennonite Church's Annual Chicken Noodle Soup Supper is on Wednesday, February 11, and will be a carryout meal featuring chicken noodle soup, bread and pie. Orders will be accepted through Wednesday, February 4, by calling or texting 620-664-7699 with the number of meals you want to order. Pickup will be at the north entrance of the church from 4 to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, February 11. Enter from the south side parking lot on B Street to pick up your meals. This is a freewill offering with all proceeds going to MCC Meat Canner and Outreach Meals. Checks may be made out to Buhler Mennonite Church. Cash donations will also be accepted that evening. Note the change in traffic direction.

Pine Village invites you to join them for their Anchor's Banquet on Saturday, Feb. 28, in Pine Village Wellness Center. Dinner will begin at 6 pm with entertainment by "Open Road" and Woven." Tickets are \$100 and all the proceeds will go to the Memorial Home Endowment Fund. Make your reservations online at www.pinevillageks.org or by calling Pine Village at 620-345-2901. The reservation deadline is Monday, February 23.

Save the Date: The 2026 Western District Assembly will be held on Aug 7-9, 2026, at Iglesia Luz del Evangelio, Dallas, TX, with activities for all ages, worship, fellowship and delegate sessions. Lodging will be at area hotels. Check <https://mennowdc.org/2026-annual-assembly/> for more details in the coming months! Also note that according to WDC's Resolutions Policy, any proposed resolution that is a "church statement" for consideration by delegates should be submitted to the WDC Resolutions Committee a minimum of 120 days prior to the delegate assembly (In 2026, that date is April 10).

Bethel College Updates: Sun., Feb. 1 – The Bethel College Chamber singers present a program entitled "Resound!", 4 p.m., Shalom Mennonite Church (800 E. First St., Newton). **Now in the Regier Art Gallery** in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College: "Reclaiming My Roots," works by Marco Hernandez Guillen from Wichita State University, through Feb. 12. Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun. 2-4 p.m. **Life Enrichment**, the series at Bethel College for adults age 60 and older, resumes for the spring semester on Wednesday, Feb. 4, with Larry Hatteberg of KAKE TV, Wichita, and Joe Fred Perez of Brownsville, Texas. See <https://www.bethelks.edu/academics/life-enrichment/> for details and a link to the complete spring schedule. **Camp Mennoscah Update:** The reason that Camp Mennoscah was able to immediately begin repairs on the retreat center was because we maintained a healthy reserve fund. But what would happen if a similar repair was needed today? If each of our donor households gave just \$20/month over the next 12 months, our reserve accounts would be replenished and ready to respond to the next emergency building repair. And our website allows you to easily set-up a monthly recurring investment to do just that. Visit CampMennoscah.org, or text "RECURRING" to our Development office at 620.755.2583 to begin the process.

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

- Praise God for the birth of Ruby Whorton!
- Pray for a quick return to health for any who are ill or recovering from surgeries.
- Western District Conference: Give thanks for participants joining the zoom book-study of Woven: Nurturing a Faith Your Kid Doesn't Have to Heal From, hosted on zoom by WDC's Kids Meet Christ program this spring. Pray for all caregivers, parents, families and ministry leaders seeking to nurture healthy faith in children.
- Mennonite Mission Network: Pray for the people of Venezuela, and Mennonite Mission Network's partner Network of Mennonite Missions of Venezuela, amid the political instability caused by the

forceful removal of Venezuela's president by the U.S. last month. Pray that the new governmental leaders will reflect the will of the Venezuelan people and bring peace to the country.

SUNDAY INFORMATION

NURSERY TODAY Sara Smoker, Raquel Wilcox, Josie Whorton

PIANIST/ORGANIST Kent Dick

OFFERING ON JAN. 18

Care Committee (Funeral Meal)	\$465.00
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Church Budget	900.00
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MCUSA	50.00
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Wednesday Supper	79.00
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Western District Conference	667.68
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ATTENDANCE ON JAN. 18	80
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OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY Church Budget

NURSERY NEXT SUNDAY Ruth Mueller, Maranda Whorton, Megan Ortman