



First Mennonite Church of Halstead

January 25, 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! Great is the Lord, and wor-thy of praise.
wor-thy of glo-ry! Great are you, Lord, and wor-thy of praise.

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:

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 – Melanie Haspels

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 four lines of the verse, the second system covers the next four lines, and the third system covers the final four 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.

Worship Through Singing, Vol. 1, #310, © 1982, by the United Methodist Church

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

Jan. 25	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.	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups
	6:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
Jan. 26	7:00 p.m.	Worship Meeting
Jan. 28	5:00 p.m.	Kids Club
	6:00 p.m.	Wednesday Night Supper
	6:45 p.m.	Adult Bible Study
Jan. 29	9:00 a.m.	Prayer Team Meeting
	1:00 p.m.	Care Team Meeting
Feb. 1	10:30 a.m.	Communion
	12:00 p.m.	Beginning Bells Practice
	6:00 p.m.	Bob Ross Painting Party

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!

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. A survey form was emailed with the bulletin packet that can also be utilized to indicate your interest in participating.

The deadline for the February newsletter is tomorrow, Jan. 26.

Communion will be celebrated next Sunday, February 1, during the worship service.

The Hospitality Ministry invites you to participate in a Just-for-Fun Bob Ross Painting Party on February 1 at 6 p.m. We will provide painting supplies. Please reserve your spot by signing up on the bulletin board, as we are limited to the number of people that can fit in our space. We will follow along with one of Bob's painting tutorials using some modified supplies and paint. We're not going for perfection, just hoping for some fun and fellowship together. Please bring a snack to share!

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!

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 on Wednesday, February 4. Talk with Gregg if you have any questions.

On Tuesday, January 27 at 7 p.m., the Dyck Arboretum of the Plains Winter Lecture Series welcomes historian and land steward Steve Schmidt for a presentation on "Santa Fe Trail History 101." Schmidt is not only a thoughtful interpreter of characters and cultures along the trail, he is also an avid steward of the prairie ecosystem that preserves and shows off the remaining trail ruts. Experience Schmidt's passionate trail advocacy and learn how this historic pathway left a lasting mark on our state's history. The lecture will take place in the Prairie Pavilion at the Dyck Arboretum at 177 West Hickory in Hesston. Admission is \$5 and can be paid at the door or ahead of time at dyckarboretum.square.site/upcoming-events.

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.

CALLING FOR 2026-2027 MCC SALT PARTICIPANTS! MCC's Serving and Learning Together (SALT) program is a year-long, cross-cultural experience for young adults ages 18-30. Whether your interest is in a specific region of the world, specific country, type of work or a language, there are numerous possibilities waiting to be explored. There is no cost to participate and there is student loan assistance available. Dates: August 12th, 2026 – July 17th, 2027. Visit mcc.org/salt for more information, applications due Feb. 15.

MCC is recruiting Canner Operators to join its mobile meat canning team, which prepares about 600,000 cans of meat annually for global communities in need. These operators travel to 30 U.S. locations from October to April, managing machinery, operating steam and pressure vessels, coordinating volunteers, and ensuring compliance with USDA regulations. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until April 25 OR until position is filled. Apply online at mcc.org/careers. For more information, call 1-888-563-4676 or email marilyn timers@mcc.org.

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., Jan. 25 – Bethel College Music Department Honors Recital, 4 p.m., Administration Building chapel,

featuring first-year, sophomore and junior vocal and instrumental students who performed exceptionally during the fall 2025 semester. **Sat., Jan. 31 – Kauffman Museum annual Kansas Day event, "Flavor of Kansas," noon-4 p.m., museum parking lot and grounds.** Featuring food trucks, exhibits and activities, indoors and out, that look at Kansas foods and foodways. Programs include music by Queen Jack Jericho, poetry from Kansas Poet Laureate Traci Brimhall, and a presentation on foraging. For more information, see the Kauffman Museum Facebook page or kauffmanmuseum.org **Sat., Jan. 31 – Bethel College Academy of Performing Arts (BCAPA) 30th-anniversary event** featuring collaborative pianist Mory Ortman, emeritus professor of music Don Kehrberg and BCAPA instructors and students, 6:30 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center. Ticket purchase is required at Thresher Shop in Schultz Student Center, Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-5 p.m. **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:** Camp Mennoscah would love the opportunity to meet with you to discuss the needs that remain toward completion of the retreat center! Much as households, Sunday school classes, or entire churches "bid" on the opportunity to "buy" ice, ham, soft drinks, etc. for the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale, Camp Mennoscah also has specific needs to be met. Are you interested in helping us cross "Attic insulation" off the list? What about exterior concrete pads? Carpet? IT materials and installation? Lighting upgrades? To express your - or your church's

- interest in crossing these last few items off the list by March 31, text our Development office at 620.755.2583 to see what opportunities are still available.

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

- Praise God for the birth of Ruby Whorton!
- Pray for a quick return to health for any who are ill.
- Western District Conference: Pray that during this new year the Holy Spirit will open hearts and create new opportunities for connection, hospitality, and mission within our church planting communities.
- Mennonite Mission Network: The Taiwan Mennonite New Dawn Educare Center brings God's hope to people with intellectual disabilities by providing resources to help with independent living, personal development and health. Pray that the people they serve find belonging, purpose and hope.

SUNDAY INFORMATION

NURSERY TODAY	Marilyn Mueller, Tia Regier, Kalyn Ortman
PIANIST/ORGANIST	Kent Dick
OFFERING LAST SUNDAY	
Care Committee (Funeral Meal)	\$465.00
Church Budget	900.00
MCUSA	50.00
Wednesday Supper	79.00
Western District Conference	667.68
ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY	80
OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY	MC USA
NURSERY NEXT SUNDAY	Sara Smoker, Raquel Wilcox, Josie Whorton