

First Mennonite Church of Halstead

September 14, 2025

*Welcome to worship as we
celebrate Christian education and
focus on Jesus our Rock.*

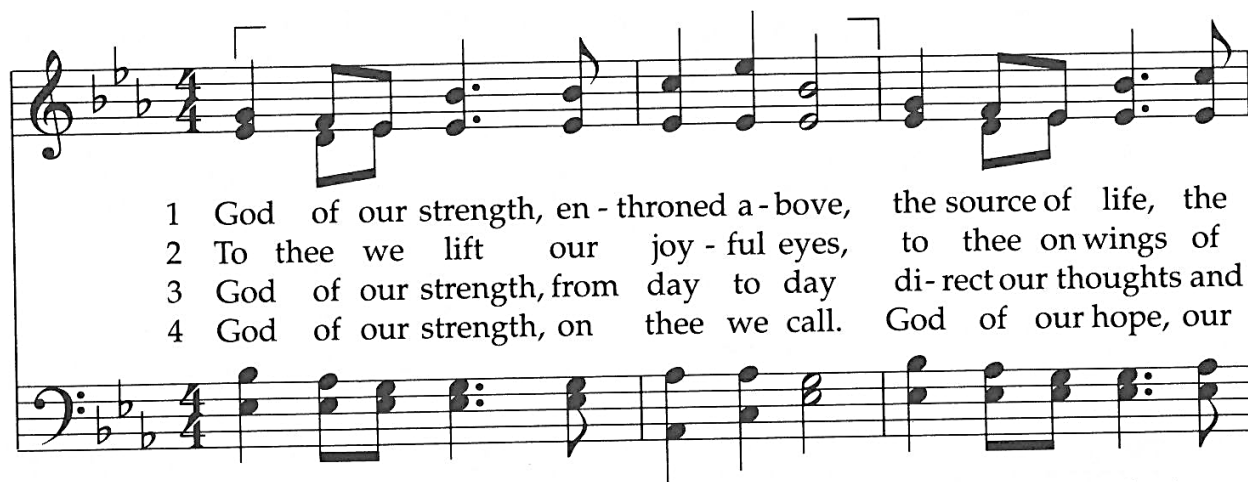
Gathering Music – Cindy Siemens

Welcome and Announcements - Denice Klassen

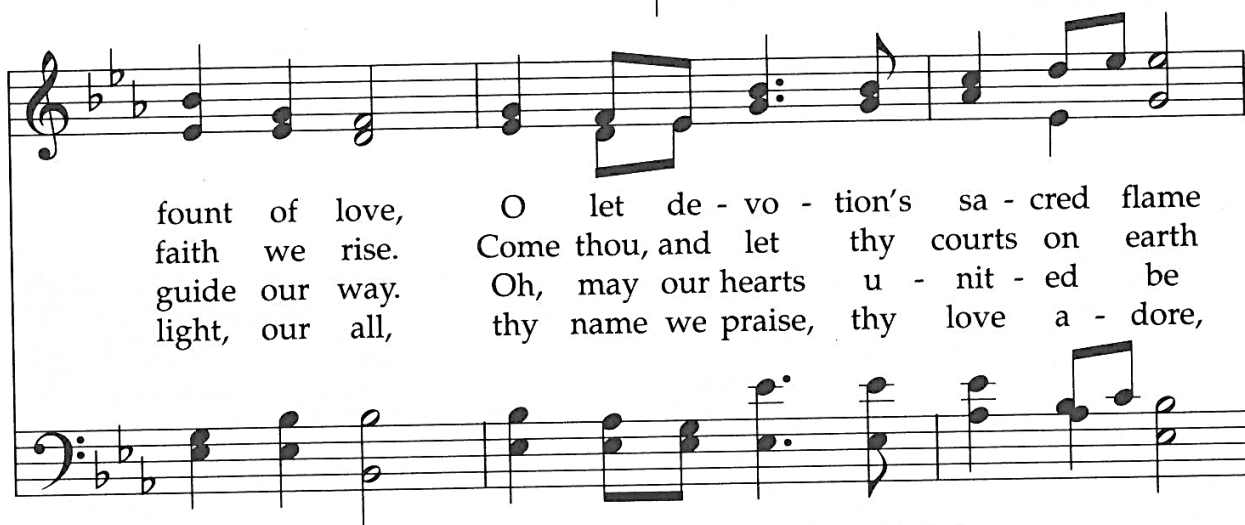
Centering Music – Cindy Siemens

***Call to Worship** - Pastor Steve
School Kit Blessing

Song – God of our strength – HWB #36

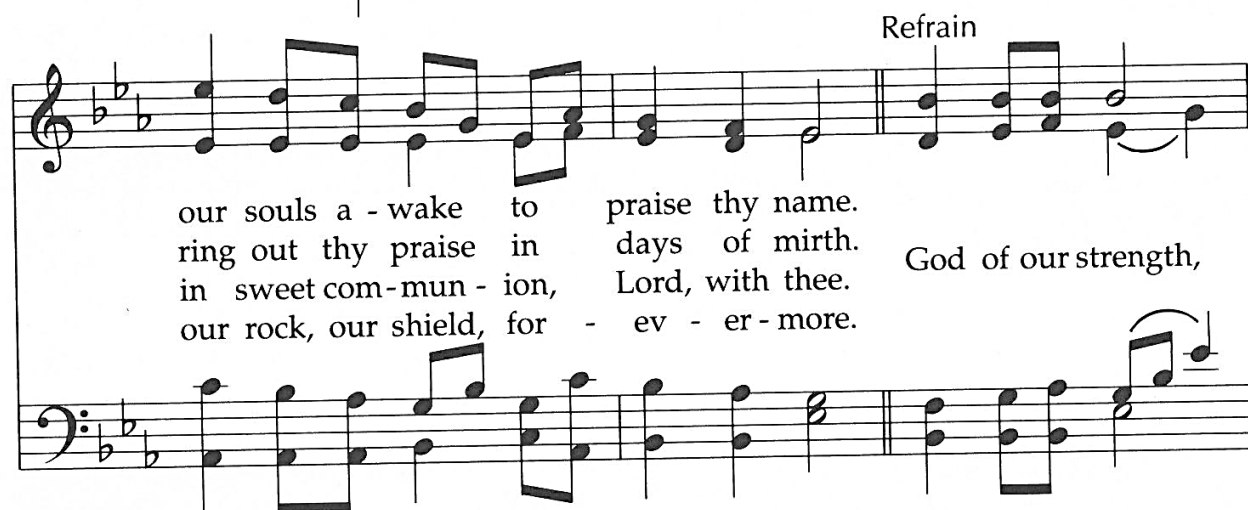


1 God of our strength, en - throned a - bove, the source of life, the
 2 To thee we lift our joy - ful eyes, to thee on wings of
 3 God of our strength, from day to day di - rect our thoughts and
 4 God of our strength, on thee we call. God of our hope, our

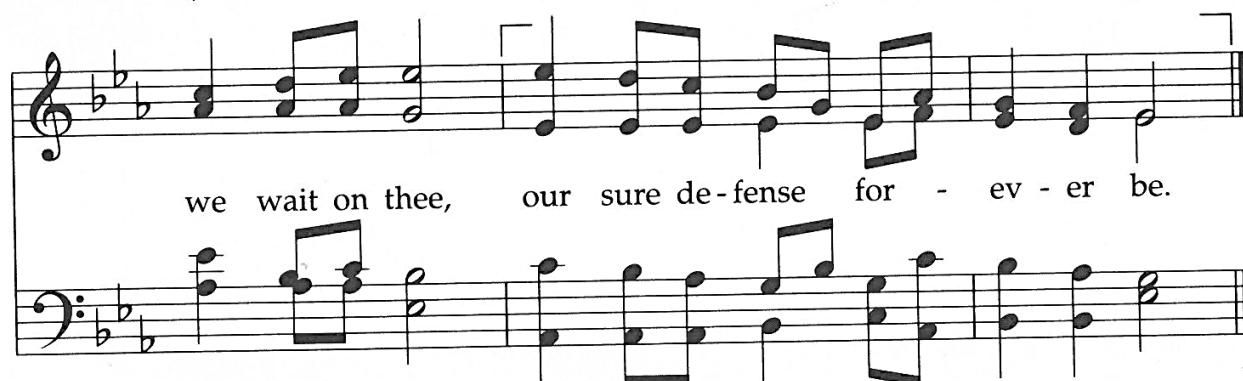


fount of love, O let de - vo - tion's sa - cred flame
 faith we rise. Come thou, and let thy courts on earth
 guide our way. Oh, may our hearts u - nit - ed be
 light, our all, thy name we praise, thy love a - dore,

Refrain



our souls a - wake to praise thy name.
 ring out thy praise in days of mirth. God of our strength,
 in sweet com - mun - ion, Lord, with thee.
 our rock, our shield, for - ev - er - more.



we wait on thee, our sure de - fense for - ev - er be.

Song – Rejoice, the Lord is king – HWB #288

1 Re - joice, the Lord is king! Your Lord and King a -
 2 Je - sus the Sav - ior reigns, the God of truth and
 3 His king - dom can - not fail, he rules o'er earth and
 4 Re - joice in glo - rious hope, Je - sus the judge shall

dore! Mor - tals, give thanks and sing and tri - umph
 love. When he had purged our stains he took his
 heav'n. The keys of death and hell to Je - sus
 come and take his ser - vants up to their e -

ev - er - more. Lift up your heart, lift
 seat a - bove. Lift up your heart, lift
 now are giv'n. Lift up your heart, lift
 ter - nal home. We soon shall hear th'arch-

up your voice, re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice.
 up your voice, re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice.
 up your voice, re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice.
 an - gel's voice, the trump of God shall sound, re - joice!

Third Grade Bible Presentation – Melanie Haspels

Offering & Offertory – Hesston College

Scripture – Isaiah 26:1-4 (p. 1096)

Children's Time – Melanie Haspels

A nursery is available in the basement for children aged 4 and younger following Children's Time.

Teacher Recognition & Commissioning – Pastor Steve
VT #964

Worship Through Singing

Holy Forever – Lyrics Projected

Rock of Ages – Lyrics Projected

Congregational Prayer – Pastor Steve

Message – Pastor Steve

Building on the Rock

***Response Song** – *Cornerstone* – Lyrics Projected

***Closing Prayer**

RECEIVED 11/17/2000

1 Take my life, and let it be con - se - crat - ed,
2 Take my hands, and let them move at the im - pulse
3 Take my voice, and let me sing, al - ways, on - ly
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold; not a mite would
5 Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no
6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its

1 Lord, to thee. Take my mo - ments and my days; let them
 2 of thy love. Take my feet, and let them be swift and
 3 for my King. Take my lips, and let them be filled with
 4 I with - hold. Take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry
 5 long - er mine. Take my heart, it is thine own, it shall
 6 trea - sure store. Take my - self, and I will be ev - er,

1 flow in cease-less praise, let them flow in cease-less praise.
2 beau-ti-ful for thee, swift and beau-ti-ful for thee.
3 mes-sa-ges from thee, filled with mes-sa-ges from thee.
4 pow'r as thou shalt choose, ev-'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.
5 be thy roy-al throne, it shall be thy roy-al throne.
6 on-ly, all for thee, ev-er, on-ly, all for thee.

***Benediction**

***Postude** – Cindy Siemens

*Please stand if you are able

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sept. 14	10:30 a.m.	Christian Education Sunday
	12:00 p.m.	Potluck
	6:00 p.m.	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups
	6:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
Sept. 15	7:00 p.m.	Council meeting
Sept. 16	7:45 a.m.	Early Birds Breakfast
Sept. 17	5:00 p.m.	Kids Club
	6:00 p.m.	Wed. Night Supper
	6:45 p.m.	Adult Bible Study
	8:00 p.m.	Choir practice
Sept. 21	10:30 a.m.	Mission Sunday
	12:00 p.m.	Lunch (provided)
	1:00 p.m.	Givens family update & presentation

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The rose on the organ this morning is in honor of Larry Flickinger's 90th birthday on Sept. 20. Happy Birthday Larry! Additionally, Larry and Carrol will celebrate their 71st wedding anniversary on Friday, Sept. 19. Congratulations!

Please join us for a potluck following the Worship service today. Visitors and senior citizens are invited to go through the line first.

I am so very thankful for my church family and have appreciated your prayers, texts, emails, cards, meals and caring thoughts following my back surgery in August. I know my recovery is going well because of those prayers! Thank you again for your support. -Debbie Nightingale

Attention choir members! The choir will be practicing the next two Wednesdays (Sept. 17 & Sept. 24) at 8:00 p.m. We plan to sing during the Worship service on September 28. Please plan to join us! More fall dates for the choir and the bell choir will be shared soon.

Join us next Sunday for Missions Sunday. Weldon Martens, a former pastor at Grace Hill Mennonite in Whitewater, will bring the morning message. A sandwich lunch will be provided following the service, after which Weldon will share about his Just Peace Pilgrimage to Calais, France, where he spent time with our mission partners Joseph and Rachel Givens. Come learn more about the Givens' life and ministry in France, as they provide shelter and support to migrating people seeking refuge as they journey to England. *The offering next Sunday is designated for the church budget. If you desire to support the Givens work, just indicate that on your check or envelope.*

Junior and Senior High Youth Groups resume meeting tonight from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at the church. Junior High is for students in grades 6-8 and Senior High is for students in grades 9-12.

Women's Bible Study begins tonight and meets from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. in the New Covenant classroom in the basement. The workbooks will be available tonight for those who signed up earlier. If you would like to still attend, you are welcome to do so!

Adult Bible Study will begin this Wednesday, Sept. 17, at 6:45 p.m. following a supper at 6:00 p.m. This year we will be using Gospel in Life, a DVD series by Timothy Keller. This study explores how the gospel shapes every part of our lives—our hearts, our communities, and even the way we engage with the world. Each session includes teaching, Scripture, and discussion—join us!

The Central Kansas Master Chorale will present a Madrigal Festival with pianist Karen Unruh. Please join us for this concert directed by Dr. Joel Garber. This free event will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 14 at Hesston Mennonite Church, 309 S Main Street, Hesston, KS. Admission is free, donations

encouraged. For more information, visit the chorale website at www.centrankansasmasterchorale.org.

The Gospel Echoes Team will be holding their annual prison ministry banquet on Tuesday, Sept. 23, at 6:30 p.m. at the Pleasantview Activity Center, 5015 S. Dean Rd., Hutchinson. The evening will include

a home-style dinner, music by the Harvest and Mercy Road teams and a prison ministry presentation. For tickets, contact Dale and Miriam Lehman at 620-694-9823.

Mennonite Church of the Servant in Wichita invites folks to join a fall book study focusing on Drew Strait's book, *Strange Worship: Six Steps for Challenging Christian Nationalism*. We will be meeting on zoom every Wednesday evening in October at 7 p.m. If you would like to join these sessions, email Itschlosser@yahoo.com and a zoom link will be sent to you at the end of September.

The Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association annual banquet will be held on October 18 at 5:00 p.m. at the Burrton City Auditorium (203 N. Burrton Ave., Burrton, KS). Peter Buller, recent Bethel College graduate, will speak about his experience this summer at Reba Place in Chicago. Musical entertainment will be provided by the Schwisters. RSVP by October 11 to Dave Stucky at bigdstucky@gmail.com or text or call 620-532-4408. The cost of the banquet is \$25 and can be paid at the door or online at www.swissmennonite.org.

Bethel College Updates: Tues., Sept. 16 – Bethel College Chamber Orchestra concert, Kris Hilding, director, 7 p.m., Memorial Hall. **Now through Sept. 25** in the Regier Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College – “Decororator,” works by Jordan Buschur. Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 2-4 p.m. **Oct. 2-5** – Fall Festival at Bethel College. A link to a complete list of activities was emailed with the bulletin packet.

Hesston College Updates: An exhibit titled “Travelogue of Photos Presenting the Connection to Home and the Allure of Away” featuring the work of Hesston College student photographer Audrey Befort will be featured in the Regier-Friesen Gallery from

September 1 to 28. Exhibit hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, and admission is free. **Sept. 26-28** – Hesston College Homecoming. A full schedule of events is available at hesston.edu/homecoming. **Oct. 2-5** - "Journey to the Poles of Inaccessibility," a new comic fantasy play by Craig Pospisil. Performance times are Thursday through Saturday at 7 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online at hesston.edu/bookstore or by calling 620-327-8104.

Camp Mennoscah Updates: Registration for the Fall Scrapbook and Crafts Retreat, October 10-12, is open.

Activities and lodging will be in the dining hall and bunkhouses. The link to register was emailed with the bulletin packet. **Camp Mennoscah's Annual Meeting** will be held at Hope Mennonite Church (868 N. Maize Rd., Wichita) on October 19 at 6:30 p.m. All are invited to attend. A silent auction for a few items will also take place. **Volunteers are needed for groundwork.** This could be mowing, trail maintenance, string trimming, poison ivy and sticker plant control, or likely any number of other things. Contact us at 620-297-3290 to discuss opportunities!

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

- Western District Conference: Pray for WDC staff, congregational leaders and members who will gather in Texas this Saturday, September 20, for Preparing the Way for Children in Worship, a day of fellowship, worship and learning hosted by Kids Meet Christ, WDC's program to support congregations reimagining worship to better engage children.
- Mennonite Mission Network: Pray for Kate Widmer as she shares with supporting congregations and individuals about her work alongside members of a French Mennonite congregation that reaches out to women and children in low-income neighborhoods. May she also find rest and renewal during this time in the United States.

SUNDAY INFORMATION

NURSERY TODAY

Jason Mueller, Kaitlen Ortman, Eli Wilcox

PIANIST/ORGANIST

Cindy Siemens

OFFERING LAST SUNDAY

Church Budget	2,745.00
Hesston College	50.00
MCUSA	100.00
Wednesday Supper	42.00
Western District Conference	992.00

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

82

OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY

Church Budget

NURSERY NEXT SUNDAY

Marilyn Mueller, Maranda Whorton, Emmit Jacob

Christian Education Volunteers

2024-25

Praise God for the following people who nurtured our children and youth last year. Christian education cannot happen without willing and dedicated volunteers. Please take the time to thank them for their efforts!

Sunday School

Little Blessings

Teachers: Ruth Mueller

Helpers: Janet Ortman, Diana Torres

Pre-school

Teachers: Lauren Mueller, Casey Jacob

Helpers: Sara Smoker, Tia Regier, Marilyn Mueller

Grades K-2: Brocia Mueller, Betsy Davis, Kaitlen Ortman,
Lauren Mueller

Grades 3-5: Kaitlen Ortman, Chuck Haspels, Raquel Wilcox

Grades 6-8: Melanie Haspels, David Mueller

High School: Jason Smoker, Jason Mueller, Jesse Mueller

Youth Leaders

Jr. High: Jason Mueller, Lauren Mueller, Jesse Mueller

Sr. High: David Mueller, Brocia Mueller, Erica Schlender

Kids Club

Kaitlen Ortman, Melanie Haspels, Jason Smoker, Steve Wilcox,
Lauren Mueller, Amy Buchholz, Debbie Nightingale, Sandy Allen

Christian Education Volunteers

2025-26

Praise God for the following people who have agreed to serve as Sunday school teachers, youth group leaders and Kids Club leaders for the upcoming year. We are grateful for their talents, enthusiasm, and dedication. Please join the Nurture Ministry in praying for them as they serve our children and youth.

Sunday School

Little Blessings: Ruth Mueller

Pre-school: Casey Jacob, Lauren Mueller

Grades K-2: Sara Smoker, Raquel Wilcox, Erica Schlender

Helper: Amy Buchholz

Grades 3-5: Kaitlen Ortman, Betsy Davis, Raquel Wilcox

Grades 6-8: Melanie Haspels, Kaitlen Ortman

High School: Jason Smoker, Jesse Mueller

Youth Leaders

Jr. High: Jason & Lauren Mueller, Bret & Casey Jacob

Sr. High: David Mueller, Brocia Mueller, Erica Schlender

Kids Club

Kaitlen Ortman, Melanie Haspels, Jason Smoker, Steve Wilcox, Amy Buchholz, Casey Jacob