

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE WILL NOT HAVE SUNDAY SCHOOL ON DEC. 6

Sunday's Service – December 6, 2020

Advent 2: On the Road to Repentance (From the Leader Magazine Worship Resources)

When the heart is moving in readiness, there is an openness to the "new"—perhaps the fresh thing God wants to do. To embrace the new requires a letting go of the past. Repentance means we are letting go and making space for God's new work in us.

Message: Nathanael Hofstetter Ressler

Worship Leader: Jill Liechty

Song Leader: Ruth Yoder

Children's Time: Nancy Beachy



GATHERING

Prelude

Opening Song

HWB #172 O Come, O Come Immanuel (Verses 1, 3, 5, 6)

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: Listen! A voice cries out in the wilderness:

People: Prepare the way of the Lord!

Leader: Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill made low.

People: Prepare the way of the Lord!

Leader: Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.

ALL: Prepare the way of the Lord!

Lighting of the Advent Candles

PRAISING

Songs of Praise

*Even So Come
Change My Heart, Oh God*

Prayer for Offering

Confession & Words of Assurance

Leader: We hear John the Baptist's cry in the desert and are called to repentance.

People: We will hear what God the Lord will say:

Leader: The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, but is patient, not wanting anyone to perish.

People: Revive us again, that we may rejoice in you. Show us your unfailing love, and grant us your salvation.

Leader: Salvation is near to those who fear God.

ALL: We receive this gift. Help us to walk in your way.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Time

Scripture

Isaiah 40: 1-11, Mark 1:1-8

Message

Exodus

RESPONDING

Song of Response

HWB #176 Comfort, Comfort, O My People

Congregational Sharing/Prayer

SENDING

Sending Song

STS #1 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Benediction/Blessing

Postlude



- ✝ Pray for Lois Bontrager who had knee surgery.
- ✝ Pray for Lesli Miller and her three children, Korey, Emma & Ayden, who are dealing with illnesses.
- ✝ Pray for Henry Sommers, Jr. who is dealing with cancer.
- ✝ Pray for Henry Sommers Jr's. brother Archie and his roommate who are both ill.
- ✝ Pray for John Hilmer (Mary Hilmer's son) who is dealing with cancer.

If you have a prayer request you would like included in Sunday's service, you may text Pastor Nathanael to have it included – please see the recent Maple Grove News that was emailed or mailed to you for the number.



Offering Last Sunday, November 29

Attendance: 43

General Fund	9,501.01
Lake Township Fish	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total Offering	<u>\$ 10,501.01</u>



The Ministry of Outreach would like to thank the congregation for your support of the two Christmas-giving projects Maple Grove participated in the last few weeks. The gifts and gift cards for Lighthouse Ministries in Canton and Love our Community in Hartville are greatly appreciated. God bless!



The Junior Youth (Grades 5-8) will be having a Christmas Party on Sunday December 13, right after church until 2:00pm. Lunch will be provided. Bring a wrapped \$5 gift for a gift exchange game. Contact Jade or Jill Liechty, Junior Youth Leaders, if you have any questions.

REMINDER: Family Ministry has freezer meals available for those in need in the refrigerator at the church. These can be taken to someone in need, whether it's someone in the church, or a neighbor or a friend coming home from the hospital, or a situation where someone could just use some help. The meals are ham & scalloped potatoes and rigatoni. Fruit slush is available for dessert. All are labeled with heating instructions. To take a meal to someone, please let Cindy in the church office know what meal you are taking and who it is going to. If you have any questions, please contact a member of Family Ministry – Sheryl Weaver, Charla Sommers, Kathy Cartner, Marsha Miller

From Ministry of Gifts Discernment

Thank you to our new committee members for your willingness to serve beginning January 1st!

<u>Committee</u>		<u>Term Expires end of year</u>
Building & Grounds	AJ Geiser	2023
	Savanah Hofstetter Ressler	2023
	John Raber	2023
Charity	Marty Miller	2027
Family Ministry	Marsha Miller	2022
	Vee Miller	2022
Food Committee	Becky Lubbers	2022
Lake Center Christian School Corporation Members	Scott Sommers	2021
	Jen Geiser	2025
	Mike Sommers	2025
Ushers	Nancy Beachy	2022
	Leroy Sommers	2022

The Ministry of Gifts Discernment would like to thank our members who finish up their terms the end of this year. Your willingness to serve contributes to Maple Grove living out its mission of being "Disciples of Jesus revealing His Kingdom through love, spiritual growth, and service together."

Child Abuse Awareness Policy

Maple Grove's policy on Physical & Sexual Abuse of Children states all volunteers who are involved with children and youth are required to receive a copy of this policy and sign a form confirming they have read and understand the policy. If you received a letter from the Ministry of Congregational Care in regards to Child Abuse Awareness, please return your signed form to the church office by Sunday, December 13th. Thank you!



Don't forget to save your Acme receipts to benefit Lake Township FISH! A

collection box for the receipts is under the mailboxes at the church. A percentage of the cash back amount printed on the bottom of each receipt will be donated to FISH.

Thank you – Ministry of Outreach

Mennonite Church USA's (MC USA) 2020 Advent at Home devotional, "We Wait for Jesus," is now available for [free download](#). The annual guide for home-based worship provides daily and weekly scripture readings, prayers and activities for individuals and families observing the season of anticipation leading to the birth of Jesus. Paper copies of the devotional are also on the literature rack at the church.





MCC asks for support for Central American Hurricane Recovery

Not one hurricane, but two hurricanes within two weeks have caused extensive flooding in Honduras, Guatemala and Nicaragua. Hurricanes Eta and Iota have destroyed crops and forced people from their homes. MCC is working with churches and community organizations to provide emergency food, hygiene supplies and cleanup support. Join us as we help these communities recover. You can donate online at mcc.org/eta-iota-relief, by phone at (888)563-4676, or by mail at MCC, 21 S. 12th St., PO Box 500, Akron PA 17501.

LIVE ONLINE CONCERT: The Steel Wheels & Girl Named Tom

Join the Pennsylvania Relief Sale on **Sunday, December 6 at 8 p.m.** for a free online concert to support Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)'s work, featuring an opening performance by [Girl Named Tom](#) followed by an hour-long concert from musical group [The Steel Wheels](#). Songs and stories will highlight MCC's work around the world. You can access the concert on December 6 at charityauction.bid/Concert2020. The program will include an intermission with opportunities to financially support the programs and mission of MCC.

Prayer request: Ohio Conference invites you to remember its Gifts Discernment Ministry Team in your prayers. Composed of 11 members, the team is currently working on finding volunteers to fill vacancies for the next Conference year. Please pray for wisdom and discernment as they continue their work.

To include something in the newsletter, please contact Cindy by noon on Wednesday – thank you!

Church Information:	2121 Smith Kramer St. NE, Hartville, OH 44632	Phone: 330-877-2400
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Nathanael Hofstetter Ressler:	Pastor (pastornathanael@maplegrovemennonite.org)	
Terry Shue:	Associate Pastor	
Cindy Fleming:	Church Secretary (Secretary@maplegrovemennonite.org)	
Ministry of Congregational Care:	Paul Bontrager, Dan Dutcher, Ruth Miller, Gary Sommers	
Prayer Chain Contacts:	Jen Geiser and Kami Sommers	