



## Advent 3 – December 11, 2022

### **Restoration is Near - Tell What You Hear and See**

*This is a week of encouragement. We can be strong because the one who can truly restore us is coming. We have hope because of what we have already seen.*

#### **GATHERING**

Prelude

Opening Song

VT #57 *Holy Spirit, Come with Power*

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: Look, I am sending my messenger, go tell what you have seen!

**People: *God's awesome wonders fill the earth, the lost are found, the blind receive sight, the deaf hear, the lame walk, the poor are preached to, and those who are dead in spirit receive new life.***

Leader: Is this what you were expecting to see?

**People: *Blessed are they who trust in the Lord!***

Leader: For His yoke is easy, His burdens are light.

**ALL: *Great is Thy faithfulness!***

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Candle Lighting Song

HWB #172 *O Come, O Come, Immanuel* (Verses 1 & 6)

Candle Litany

Leader: Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is soon.

**People: *Tell what you hear and see: even now, like water in the desert, we see God's action all around.***

Leader: As we gather strength, we light this candle as a sign of Your love made visible among us.

**People: *Bring Your restoration to Your people, we pray.***

#### **PRAISING**

Praise Song

VT #217 *Hark! The Glad sound!*

Offering – General Fund

*Away in a Manger*  
Handbell Choir

## **HEARING GOD'S WORD**

A Shepherd Remembers

Scripture

Isaiah 35:1–10 (NRSV)

Message

***Tell What You Hear and See***

## **RESPONDING**

Song of Response

*Go Tell it on the Mountain*

Congregational Sharing/Prayer

## **SENDING**

Sending Song

STS #6 *Save Us, O Lord*

Benediction/Blessing

Postlude



**Message:** Pastor Nathanael Hofstetter Ressler

**Worship Leader:** Myron Weaver

**Song Leader:** Renee Koshmider

**A Shepherd Remembers:** Michael Yoder

**Candle Lighting:** Ken & Sue Nisly

**Offertory:** Handbell Choir

### PERMISSION TO PHOTOCOPY

Subscribers to Leader are welcome to photocopy and adapt worship materials

Songs used with permission: CCLI 465314

HWB-Hymnal Worship Book (blue)

TMH-The Mennonite Hymnal (red)

STJ-Sing the Journey (green)

STS-Sing the Story (purple)

VT-Voces Together (purple)

*The tapestry at the front represents our theme of Restoration as a process of assembling and bringing different pieces together as they should be to create a beautiful whole. Each week we will be adding a ribbon until the tapestry is complete.*

## **Upcoming Services:**

December 18: *Restoration is Near – Do Not Be Afraid*

God has promised to restore us and has acted in Jesus to further God's plan of restoration. Because of God's promise, we can act by asking for what we need and by stepping out in faith.

December 25: *Christmas Day – Sing for Joy: Your God Reigns*

(No Sunday School) The long-anticipated restoration is here and now. The same Holy Spirit that birthed Jesus is available to us. This is how a small baby can be good news for today's world.



**Please join us on Christmas Eve for a service of singing and celebrating Jesus' birth.**

The service will begin at 6:00 p.m.



- ✝ Pray for those in our congregation recovering from surgeries: *Becky Lubbers, Carol Sommers, Kami Sommers, and Sheryl Weaver.*
- ✝ Pray for the family of *Jerry Potter, Alta Bates' brother-in-law.* Jerry passed away December 1<sup>st</sup> and the funeral is Monday, December 12, at 1:00 p.m. at Maple Grove with calling hours prior to the service from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Pray that the family may find comfort and peace through Jesus during this time of loss.
- ✝ Pray for Tom Johnson's sister, *Brenda Richardson, recovering from a liver transplant.*
- ✝ Pray for peace and justice throughout the world. Pray for those affected by violence and hate.



**Offering Last Sunday, December 4**

**Attendance: 76**

General Fund	\$ 2,584.00
100-Year Book Sales	<u>240.00</u>
Total Offering	<u>\$ 2,824.00</u>

**Coffee Time & Informal Fellowship @ Church**

**Join us Sunday mornings before Sunday School – Everyone is welcome!**



If you would like to help with supplying donuts and/or baked goods, please get in touch with Barb Dutcher (for baked goods) or Perry Miller (for donuts). Two dozen donuts and homemade or store-bought baked goods are needed at the church by 9am on Sunday mornings. Thanks for your help!



**It's not too late to join Maple Grove's Christmas Choir!**



All are invited to join Maple Grove's Christmas choir to sing special music for the service on December 18<sup>th</sup>. Choir practice is Sunday, December 11, at 9:15 a.m. All ages are welcome to join! If you have any questions, please talk to Ruth Yoder or Renee Koshmider.

**There will be puzzle time in the Fellowship Hall at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 14.**

Come and work on a puzzle with us or just enjoy the company! Anyone is welcome to come and participate. If you have any questions, contact Savannah Hofstetter Ressler.



**As you shop for the holidays, don't forgot to save your Acme grocery receipts.**

Acme will give a percentage of the cash back amount printed on the bottom of each receipt to FISH. The program runs through December 24, 2022. A box is available under the mailboxes for the receipts – thanks for your support of this project! *Ministry of Outreach*

**Family Ministry has freezer meals available for those in need.**

These can be taken to someone in the church or a neighbor or a friend who could use some help. The meals are in the freezer in the church kitchen and labeled with heating instructions. There is frozen Rigatoni, Sausage & Potato Soup, Apple Crisp, and there are fruit slushes left as well.

Please let Cindy in the church office know what you are taking and who it is going to.

If you have any questions, please contact a member of Family Ministry

– Barb Dutcher, Marsha Miller, Vee Miller, Sheryl Weaver

**Lighthouse Ministries has an exciting matching gift opportunity of \$19,600!**

From now until December 31, every dollar given to the Lighthouse will be matched dollar-for-dollar (up to \$19,600), doubling your impact! Please prayerfully consider giving a gift to help us reach our goal of raising \$39,200. Your partnership in our work and your investment in the children living in our SE Canton neighborhood means the world to us. You can give a gift easily at

[www.cantonlighthouse.org/donate](http://www.cantonlighthouse.org/donate) or by mailing a check to Lighthouse Ministries at 1931 3rd St SE, Canton, OH 44707.

**Support Adriel's Angel Tree Project:** Each \$25 donation will sponsor a Christmas gift for an Adriel foster youth or Bridges young adult. Please help Adriel reach their \$5,000 goal to assure that each Adriel foster child and Bridges young adult receive a Christmas gift from their wish list in time for the holiday. Visit [Adriel Angel Tree](#) to make an online donation or mail a check with the memo "Angel Tree" to Adriel at PO Box 188 West Liberty, OH 43357.

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

Church Information: 2121 Smith Kramer St. NE, Hartsville, OH 44632 Phone: 330-877-2400

Website: [www.mgmennonite.org](http://www.mgmennonite.org)

Facebook – Maple Grove Mennonite Church Group

(send updates to Pastor Nathanael, Jill Liechty or Julie Yoder)

Nathanael Hofstetter Ressler: Pastor ([pastornathanael@maplegrovemennonite.org](mailto:pastornathanael@maplegrovemennonite.org))

- Office Hours: Monday 9am-12pm; Tuesday thru Thursday-1-3pm; Friday-Sabbath

Cindy Fleming: Church Secretary ([Secretary@maplegrovemennonite.org](mailto:Secretary@maplegrovemennonite.org))

- Office Hours: Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday – 8am-1pm

Ministry of Congregational Care: Paul Bontrager, Dan Dutcher, Clara Sommers, Gary Sommers

Prayer Chain Contacts: Jen Geiser and Kami Sommers

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES AVAILABLE**

**Adult Classes**

Women's Class: Room 1-Education Side  
Mixed Intergenerational Class: Room 2-Education Side  
Men's Class: Room 9-Hallway  
Mixed Post-High/20's-40's: Basement

**Children/Youth Classes**

PreK-4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Rooms 7-8  
Jr. Youth (Grades 5-8): Rooms 3-4  
Youth (Grades 9-12): Youth Room-Basement