

Yes! Let it Be!

We celebrate Advent for the four Sundays before Christmas through Epiphany. "Advent" is a version of a Latin word that means "coming."

We set aside this time to prepare ourselves to celebrate the coming of Jesus to the world. For many people Advent (like Lent) is a time of spiritual renewal and refocusing. It can also be a time of repenting, as

John the Baptist called people to do to
"prepare the way of the Lord."

This year's Advent theme is, "Yes! Let it Be!" We are invited to express a sense of prayerful desire to participate in God's activity.

This week's Advent Scriptures: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-2, 10-14;
Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

Focus statement: Drawn by the light, we, like the magi, are sent forth in new directions. We are empowered to be God's illuminating presence in the world. Arise, shine, for the mystery of Christ has been revealed!

As you travel through the Advent season, look for the ways in which God is calling you to participate in God's activity. Listen for the times when you are called to do God's work.



Happy Birthday!



Keep these people in your prayers as they celebrate another year of life!

Contact the church office for a list of upcoming birthdays



Friendship Mennonite Church

January 7, 2018

Welcome

Opening Song

Call to Worship

Advent Candlelighting

Songs of Praise

Children's Moment

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon: *"Let it Be Declared: Jesus is the Light"* Brother Dan Hooley

Responding Song

Congregational Sharing & Prayer

Offering

Announcements

Benediction

Sending Song

Visiting this week?

Welcome to Friendship Mennonite Church!

We are so glad you've joined us for worship! We hope you find a place to belong and consider joining us in God's mission. We are looking for people to join us who are interested in learning more about Jesus, becoming a disciple and finding out God's purpose in life!

Announcements

- **News and Happenings** A variety of church agencies send us updates on a regular basis. This month, see an update from MAMA Project, the newest copy of The Mennonite, and updates from Bethel College and Eastern Mennonite University – these can all be found in the magazine rack. Also check out thank you notes from L’Arche Cleveland and Meals on Wheels on the bulletin board in the foyer.
- **Gathered and Sent** Ohio Conference invites you to a conference focused on growing as a good news community. Join us as we grow in our culture of mission, receive practical training (in evangelism and discipleship) and cultivate partnership and relationship. This workshop will take place on March 8-9 at Bluffton University before Ohio Conference’s Annual Conference Assembly. Register online at ohiomennoniteconference.org
- **Dinner and a movie** Mennonite Central Committee invites you to an anti-oppression workshop held on January 20 from 3:00-7:00pm at Friendship Mennonite Church. We will view 13th, a documentary about the prison system in the United States and the history of racial inequality. Dinner will be served following the movie combined with discussion on how we all can work towards building a more just and equitable society. Members and attendees of Lee Heights Community Church in Cleveland will be joining us for the workshop. Please RSVP to BrookeStrayer@mcc.org by January 17 or let Cara Speros know that you are planning to attend by January 16.
- **2018 Annual Church Life Meeting, January 28.** All FMC members and attenders are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting as we will be discussing important matters concerning the church's future and life together as well as approving our 2016 budget. We will provide pizza, please bring a finger food side dish or dessert to share. Thank you!
- **Additional giving from last Sunday:** Penny Power Offering: \$27.00; Love Fund: \$50.00; Meals on Wheels: \$15.00; MCC Meat Canner: \$40.00.

Serving Our Church Today

Worship Leader: Amy Gingerich

Song Leader: Rhonda Savage

Piano: Elizabeth Jones

Usher: Chris Savage

Sunday School Nursery: Todd Miller

Greeter: Mary Wright

Worship Nursery: April Mather

A/V Team: Eric Miller

Sunday Building Trustee: Gingerich Claassen Family

Serving Next Sunday

Worship Leader: Ryan Hurley

Song Leader: Jonathan Witmer-Rich

Usher: Eric Miller

Greeter: Ryan Claassen

SS Nursery: L & R Hurley

Worship Nursery: Amy Gingerich

A/V Team: Ben Speros

Sunday Building Trustee: Witmer-Rich Family

Looking Ahead

Sunday, January 14

Leadership Team Meeting after Worship

Saturday, January 20

MCC Dinner & Movie 3-7 pm

Sunday, January 28

Church Life Meeting

Giving for Last Sunday

Church Offering:

\$8946.00

Weekly Budget:

\$1463.00

Friendship Mennonite Church

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