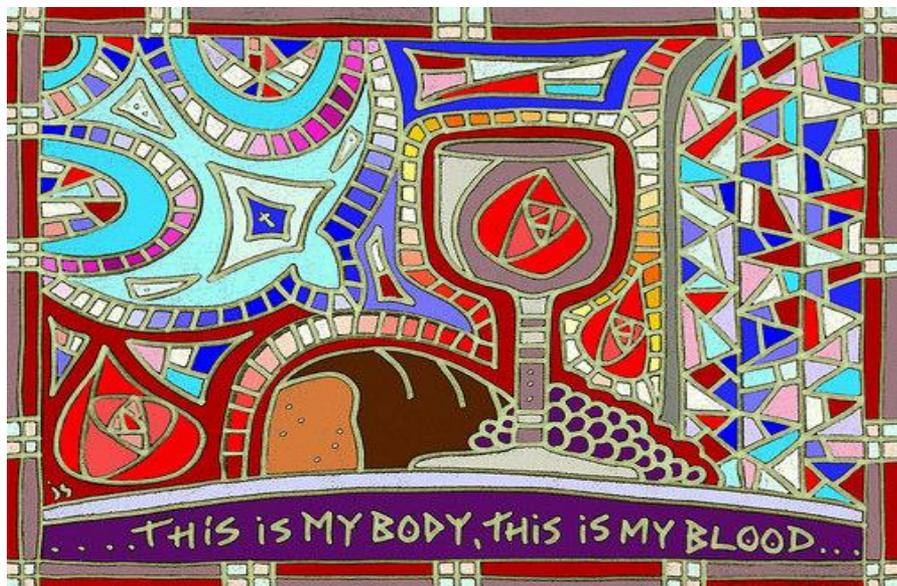


MANHATTAN MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

12.2.18

www.manhattanmennonite.org



SEEKING THE PEACE OF THE CITY!

First Sunday of Advent

WELCOME *introductions & announcements*

CALL to WORSHIP

There is an ember of hope

The fire of creation

The promise of God

To Adam

To Eve

To us

It glows in every heart

In every soul it seeks to burst into flame

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

SONG

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

We confess that we have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved others with Your fullness.

Forgive us. Forgive us and free us to live fully. Remove the barriers that we construct, and strengthen us to be a people doing the real, gritty, holy, graceful, loving Gospel work. In the name of the Holy Spirit, we pray.

(silent reflection... *one minute*)

Out of the wilderness a voice calls out.

Prepare ye the way of the Lord.

Prepare ye the way of love.

Prepare ye the way of forgiveness.

The Christ child was born in brokenness and despair.

The waiting is over. Christ may be born today in your heart.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are all forgiven.

SHARING PEACE

CHRISTIAN PEACEMAKERS TEAM REPORT

Israel/Palestine visit - Chihchun Yuan

OFFERING & SONG

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 3:1-6

MESSAGE

Surpassing Power

INVITATION to the CIRCLE

JOYS & CONCERNS

BREAKING the BREAD

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed, took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me".

PASSING the CUP

In the same way he took the cup also after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

COMMON PRAYER

Holy One: Your kin-dom come. Your will be done. On earth as it is in heaven. Nourish us and keep us mindful that *each bite of food contains the life of the Sun and the Earth. The whole universe is in a piece of bread.*¹ Transform us into a forgiven and forgiving people, a loving and beloved community; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, both personal and systemic. For yours is the kin-dom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

SENDING SONG

BLESSING

Like the valleys that *shall be filled*, fill our emptiness with the fullness of Your Love throughout this week and season.

Like the mountains made low, humble us with Your lavish love.

And by Your Spirit, O Jesus, inspire us to see your salvation! Amen. **And amen.**

Our Rhythm²

Here are a few notes from our current rhythm:

- Wednesday, December 12 at 6 PM – **Bible Study** at Menno House (followed by **Worship Arts** at 7 PM)
- Sunday, December 16 at 5 PM - **Lessons & Carols**

¹ Thich Nhat Hanh, *Happiness*

² manhattanmennonite.org/rhythm

Luke 3:1-6 (NRSV)

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

MVS & MCC Christmas Gifts!

This Christmas season please remember the MVS & MCC volunteers living at Menno House! Anh Nguyen at NY Cares; Kylee Schunn at Martin Luther MS; Madeline Wieler at Save the Children; Soren Docken at PowerMyLearning; and Abby Hershberger & Victoria Wiebe at MCC's UN office.

From gift cards to chocolate bars, individual gifts are always welcome, as are group gifts like invitations, Christmas cookies, or a donation to the VS' house budget. Gifts can be put beneath the tree at our Lessons & Carols potluck, or given earlier, and for donations to the VS budget please contact jessica.penner@gmail.com.