

An Advent Prayer of Hope:

Father God, every word in scripture points to the gift of hope that we have because of Jesus. The Christmas story wasn't the beginning of that message of hope, because the Old Testament is full of glimpses of your plan to redeem your people and restore them into a relationship with you, but we are able to truly begin to see and understand just how great your love for us is when we read the story of Jesus' birth in scripture.

Help us to see that you are with us today, too. Nothing is too difficult, too messy, or too dirty for you. Jesus came to give us the gift of eternal life through the salvation that only you, our Heavenly Father, can give. That first Christmas, you gave us the gift of hope wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. Thank you, Father, for your immeasurable gift. In Jesus' precious name, we pray. Amen.

Sermon Notes:

Access Zion's online giving option at https://zionmennoniteoregon.org/GIVE or scan:





Zion Mennonite Church

A congregation of Mennonite Church USA

Growing together as a Christ-centered community, worshipping God, extending our Anabaptist branch into our world, bearing the lasting fruit of discipleship, and planting the seeds for God's reign through hospitality, service and reconciliation with God and others.



Prelude **GATHERING**

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Advent Reading and Candle Lighting

Congregational Singing

Hope Is a Candle (VT 211)

Come, We That Love (VT 31)

Offering Blessing

Passing the Peace

WORD

Congregational Singing

Bless'd Be the God of Israel (VT 223)

We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer (VT 34)

Children's Time

Scripture Presentation: Daniel 3:1 (2-7), 8-30

Sermon **RESPONSE**

Response Song:

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom (VT 196)

Prayers of the People

SENDING

Benediction

Prelude: Kristin Oakes Worship Leader: Ken Kauffman Song Leader: Jani Vanpelt

Children's Time: Cynthia Hockman-Chupp

Speaker: Steve Bomar

Thank you for joining us in worship today. Please contact our Church Office if you would like to be included in our church correspondence, if you would like prayer, or a pastoral visit. zionmc@canby.com | 503-651-2274

Sunday

8:30am Potluck Fellowship Breakfast 9:00am Sunday School Classes for all ages

10:15am Worship Service

12:00pm 5th Sunday Senior Lunch at Jarboe's in Canby

This Week

Tue, 10:00am Bible Study via Zoom

Thu, 9:00am Zion Mennonite Women Gathering

Nursery Schedule

This week: Eliza Gingerich, Jenna Oyer Next week: Jani Vanpelt, Mary Masingila

Budget Report:

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11/23/25 Offering: \$1,135.00

Year End Giving Update:

Thank you for your generous support of Zion again this year! There are four Sundays left in 2025, and we need approximately \$48,000 to meet our anticipated expenses. Also, if you would like to donate to the Roof Fund, Vecinos or Vida Feliz Senior Center in Bolivia as part of your year-end giving, please write those checks to Zion with the specific fund noted in the memo. All other charitable donations should be sent directly to the organization of choice.

Upcoming Holiday Events

Canby High School Cantalinas

Sunday, December 7 | 10:15AM worship service

Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 14 | 10:15AM worship service

Senior Christmas Tea

Wednesday, December 17 | 2-4PM

Sing Your Own Messiah

Saturday, December 20 | 4PM

Christmas Eve Service

Wednesday, December 24 | 6PM

New Years Eve Party

Wednesday, December 31 | 8-11PM



ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW BOOK STUDY CLASS TOPIC

The Sunday School class that meets in the East Skylight Room began a new book today, but it's not too late to join! The book is *How We Learn to Be Brave - Decisive Moments in Life and Faith* by Mariann Budde. We ask that class attenders obtain their own books, which can be bought, checked out from a library, or by downloading an audio version.

SPOT MARY & JOSEPH

Advent season is here and you are invited to watch for Mary and Joseph as they journey toward Bethlehem. Each Sunday they make a different stop somewhere in the sanctuary, lobby, or lobby entryway. If you spot Mary and Joseph, please keep it quiet (so others can keep looking) and leave them where they are so they can continue on their journey. Young attenders who spot Mary and Joseph can quietly tell Pastor Jana where they are for a small treat each week.

TRIM THE TREE WITH MCC!

Join Mennonite Central Committee in spreading joy to families and communities worldwide this December. Select from: Chickens \$12, Ducks \$15, Clean Water \$25, Keeping Girls in School \$50, or Hope \$ of any amount. Children will collect your donations each week during Children's Time and place them in the appropriate donation bucket. Any donations by check should be made out to Zion and have MCC Giving Tree specified on the memo line.

NINETY-ONE SCHOOL DECEMBER EVENTS

The annual Ninety-One Food Drive and Giving Tree are running now through December 12. If you would like to participate in the food drive, they are looking for baking it are a breakfact items.



items, breakfast items, pasta, peanut butter, rice, beans, canned chicken, tuna, canned soup, fruit and vegetables. You may place these items on the floor by the glass doors near the office. If you are interested in the Giving Tree, scan the QR code or send an email to: 91givingtree@gmail.com. Questions can be directed to Stephanie Moyer.