

Prayers and Praises

Mennonite Mission Network Tonight is Watch Night in many African-American communities. At midnight on Jan. 1, 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation became law. Though written 154 years ago, that law has not yet been completely fulfilled. Join Mennonite Mission Network in proclaiming and working toward salvation and justice for all people in the coming year.

VMMissions: Ask for a restful and refreshing home assignment in the U.S. for Steve and Bethany Horst, who serve in Thailand. Pray for a satisfying time for their children, Anjali, Emmanuel, and Tierzah, despite many transitions.

Pray for the local services for people in need: Love Inc., Shelter for Help in Emergency, Food Bank, Salvation Army, IMPACT – a justice ministry and PACEM- the initiative for the homeless.

Advent 4 focus: Rejoicing in God's comfort, we catch God's vision of shalom. We choose to join the Spirit that is already at work restoring creation.



Charlottesville
Mennonite
Church

701 Monticello Ave.
Charlottesville, VA 22901
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
Pastors: Roy & Maren Hange
Ph. (434) 293-8306
Email: cvillemenno@gmail.com
www.charlottesvillemennonite.org



Christmas: Yes! Let it be new

December 31, 2017

Gathering in God's presence

Pre-service music

Call to Worship based on Psalm 148

one: Yes!

We will give thanks and rejoice!

**all: We will praise the Lord from the heavens,
from the heights, and with the angels!**

one: We praise the Lord with the sun and moon!
We praise the Creator of the shining stars!

**all: Fire and hail! Snow and frost!
Mountains and hills! Fruit trees and cedars!**

one: Young men and women alike!

Children and the aged ones too!

Let us praise the name of the Lord.

all: Praise the Lord!

one: Yes! Let all things be new.

Lighting of candle

Opening Prayer

Hymns	It came upon a midnight clear	HWB 195
	The first Noel	HWB 199

Noticing God's presence

Children's story

Scripture Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Confession

O God,

*the waiting is over, the time has come:
you dwell among us!*

We marvel at the mystery of your birth.

We too are filled and guided by the Spirit

*as you open our eyes, our hearts,
and our arms to receive you.*

*"Yes", we say, and yet we confess that
instead of being drawn beyond our knowing*

*into the call of your infinite light,
we examine your coming
within the boundaries of our understanding.*

We confess that

*instead of marveling at the vastness of your mercy,
instead of rejoicing with Simeon and Anna,
instead of allowing your Spirit to move within and among us,
we resist the mystery of your presence.*

We confess our struggle to step forth

*with vulnerability, honesty, courage,
dreams, hope, and celebration
emanating from the depth of our hearts.*

Forgive us...

(silence)

Words of Assurance

O God, Immanuel,

In Jesus, the Christ you have come among us.

You have given us life and we are restored.

Hymn	Good Christian friends, rejoice	HWB 210
Scripture	Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40	
Sermon	Faithful memory, faithful hope	
Hymn	Brightest and best	STS 29

Responding to God's presence

Sharing of joys and concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Offering	Praise God	HWB 119
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Hymn	Christ, whose glory fills the skies	HWB 216
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Benediction - based on Isaiah 61

As you go, may you rejoice greatly in the goodness of our God.

May your whole being spring forth with joy.

May you not be silent.

May you not find rest

*until redemption shines like the dawn
and safekeeping glows like a burning torch.*

*May you be called by a new name,
and may you delight
in the presence of God. Amen.*

Today

Sermon: Roy Hange

Roy Hange

Upcoming Events

Jan 7	Communion	
Jan 23	Board of Elders	7:15 pm
Jan 24	Ad Council	7:00 pm
Feb 4	Annual SuperBowl party at the Alderfers	
May 18-20, 2018	Annual church retreat	

Announcements

Please email all bulletin announcements by Wednesday evening 8:00 pm. Please include the word "bulletin" in the subject line of the heading.

Please remember the church in your year-end giving as we have ongoing budget needs for our ministries. The year to date giving according to CMC Stewardship person: "Church donations are currently running \$10,000 behind budget."