

Welcome to

## ***Rochester Mennonite Church***

**January 7, 2018**

**Sunday Morning Worship** **9:00 AM**  
Jo Ann Brunner, Worship Leader      David Brunner, Song Leader  
Rev. Galen Penner, Pastor

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### **GATHERING AND PRAISING**

**Words of Welcome**  
**Call to Worship** (bulletin cover)  
**Lighting the Advent Candles**  
**Hymn** #16 (HWB)  
*God is here among us*  
**Confession** (bulletin cover/unison)  
**Invocation**  
**Hymn** #29 (STS)  
*Brightest and best*  
**Hymn** #32 (STS)  
*Oh, beautiful star of Bethlehem*

### **SHARING AND PRAYING**

**Joys, Concerns and Announcements**  
**Prayer Hymn** #120 (STS)  
*Somebody prayed for me*  
*(vs. 1-3)*  
**The Prayers of the People**

### **HEARING GOD'S WORD**

**Scripture Reading** Mark 1:4-11

**Children's Hymn** #544 (HWB)

*Jesus loves me*

**Children's Story** Kim Leichty  
**Sermon**

*A Dearth of Imagination*

### **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

**Hymn** #545 (HWB)

*Be thou my vision*

**Offering Ourselves and our Gifts to God**  
(Monthly Giving – Channel One)

**The Offering Hymn** #116 (STS)

*I saw a tree by the riverside*

**The Offering Prayer** #95 (STJ)  
**Hymn**

*I want to walk as a child of the light*

### **BLESSING AND SENDING**

**Wisdom and Wonder** Paula Harms & Naomi Kennel

**Benediction**  
**Doxology** #119 (HWB)

*Praise God from whom*

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*The Rochester Mennonite Church is a congregation that welcomes people to join our community of faith so that they may grow in their personal understanding and relationship with God. Members and guests are appreciatively welcomed to this service of worship.*

## Announcements

**If you have announcements** to be included in the bulletin, please get them to Galen, preferably with the exact wording you wish to use, not later than Thursday morning. Also please indicate how long you wish to have the announcements included in the bulletin.

**The sign-up** sheet for being a worship leader, song leader, and doing the children's story for the next several months is available. Please sign up as you feel led.

### **Responsibilities for Next Sunday (January 14):**

- Set-up – Daniel Leichty
- Worship Leader –
- Song Leader –
- Children's Story –
- Adult Sunday School – David Brunner

**Our annual Congregational Meeting** will be held on January 28 (2018) following our morning worship service. We will not be having Sunday School that morning.

**Pray for the Pastoral Leadership Committee** meeting on Wednesday and Thursday of this week at Swan Lake camp in South Dakota.

**Pray for SeBAH students** who will start their Pastoral Project course and for Professor Tony Brun. Pray that God's presence be with them and may wisdom be upon throughout this course.

**As Mennonite Church USA**, we're embarking on our Journey Forward in this new year. We invite prayers that we may seek the beauty and hope of God's spirit drawing us into this community of faith. Let us continue joining our voices in song, in prayer, in fellowship—that even the mountains and the hills may join.

**Prepare/Enrich: A Premarital and Marital Workshop: Feb. 10, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.** at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana. Led by Delores Friesen, Ph.D., this workshop prepares pastors, counselors, spiritual directors and mentors to help couples strengthen and enrich their relationships.

**The movie – The Occupation of the American Mind** – will be shown from 2 – 4 p.m. on Sunday, January 21, at the Rochester Public Library Auditorium. This is sponsored by the Southeast Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers.

**On February 18**, a member of the Christian Peacemaker Team from Palestine will be speaking here in Rochester. More information will be forthcoming.

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### *Rochester Mennonite Church*

(The Rochester Mennonite Church meets in the chapel of Christ United Methodist Church, located at 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 4<sup>th</sup> Street SW. The chapel is located in the northeast corner of the building.)

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