

Benton Mennonite Church

December 27 2020 *Christmas Sunday*

Worship leader: Jerrol Shaum

Song leader: Lyn Buschert

Children's focus: Mary Ann Weber

Today

- No children's Sunday school.
- 9:30 am: Worship through Zoom. Follow the invitation found in the email. Contact Doug for assistance.

Order of worship

Welcome and invocation

Video *O come, all ye faithful*

Call to worship

Candle lighting *Hope is a candle*

Songs *Silent night*

Lo, how a rose

Angels we have heard

Video *Christmas story*

Song *Oh, beautiful star*

Congregational sharing and prayer

Introductions and announcements

Reprise *O come, all ye faithful*

Closing song *Joy to the world*

Breakout rooms

Next Sunday

- Doug will preach on Epiphany, "How was God revealed to you this year?" connected with Matthew 2:1-12; Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12; Psalm 72:1-7,10-14.
- Worship leaders: Gloria Showalter and Patty Nofziger
- Song Leader: Lyn Buschert

Announcements

Here at Benton

BMC folks haven't been able to enjoy eating together for a while and it looks like it will be several months before we can do so again. In the meantime, Mary Ann Weber decided to spend her holiday vacation time compiling people's favorite potluck recipes and then making them available so that we can think about each other as we cook and enjoy eating the dishes. Along with recipes, please include some brief stories. Where did you find the recipe? Why is it a favorite to make for potluck? The final compilation will be a simple Word or pdf document. Mary Ann would like to receive recipes by Monday December 28, but if you would like to contribute but are unable to do so by then, let her know. Send recipes to maweber815@yahoo.com.

Thanks for the nice plant that was delivered from the Benton church. It is nice to be remembered at times like these.

~Merv Swartzentruber

Our longtime congregational coach/overseer, Ron Kennel, is retiring at the end of the year. Consider sending words of appreciation and thanks to: Ron & Judy Kennel, 3120 Mallard Lane, Goshen IN 46526.

From the pastors – Doug and Brenda:

This was a tumultuous year, with a pandemic, a reckoning with racism, and political instability. In the midst of this turmoil, we can still trust God's coming into our world. God will be at work in surprising places among and through those who are at the edges and who we think of as not having any power at all. As Mary the mother of Jesus sings in Luke 1:52: "You have deposed the mighty from their thrones and raised the lowly to high places."

So let us honor the mighty one born in humble surroundings, placed in a feeding trough among animals, because there was no

room in the inn. As God keeps turning our world upside down, may we look to the feeding troughs rather than the thrones, and rejoice at the new life being born.

The pastors continue on vacation for most of this week, though Doug will work on Thursday and Saturday. Call either pastor's cell phone with pastoral concerns. Steve Johns will be in the office on Thursday.

Thank you for your continuing support of the work of the church. You can send checks to the church office, authorize automatic payments from your account, or use the donate button on the website.

Estimated attendance for December 20: 72

Announcements can be sent to office@bentonchurch.org or called into the office. All information is due by 7pm, Thursday.



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office@bentonchurch.org

Pastors:

Brenda H Meyer, x203 | brenda@bentonchurch.org

Douglas D Kaufman, x202 | doug@bentonchurch.org

The logo for Benton Mennonite Church features the name "Benton" in a large, bold, blue sans-serif font, with "Mennonite Church" in a smaller, blue sans-serif font below it. To the right of the text is a stylized graphic of three overlapping, curved, light blue waves that sweep from the top left towards the bottom right.

Benton
Mennonite Church

*We will love as Jesus loves,
pursuing God's peace
at the river and
at the table.*