

# DO NOT BE AFRAID

*During Advent, there are instances throughout the Christmas story where the words “do not be afraid” are spoken. We will dig into what each character’s particular fears may have been as they were told that they had been chosen for a greater purpose and we will look at the many ways God’s promises of His presence are steadfast even in times of doubt and confusion.*

Prelude Marilyn Kroeker, Pianist  
 “Winter Snow”  
 “Light of the World”  
 “Pure” PH 36

“I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day” Powerhouse

Welcome & Call to Worship Pastor Gene Thieszen

**Responsive Reading**

Leader:	We have heard the story of Jesus Christ with joy and anticipation.
<b>People:</b>	<b>We have come to worship.</b>
Leader:	We have our hearts to prepare room for his coming.
<b>People</b>	<b>We have come to worship.</b>
Leader:	We open our ears to hear the choirs of angels proclaim his holy birth.
<b>People:</b>	<b>We have come to worship.</b>
Leader:	We open our lives to God’s greater plans for us.
<b>People:</b>	<b>We have come to worship.</b>
Leader:	Through the grace of God’s Holy Spirit,
<b>People:</b>	<b>We have come to worship Christ, the newborn King!</b>

“Hark! The Glad Sound!” HWB 184  
*(As families are comfortable, children are invited to come forward during stanza 3.)*

Children’s Focus Pastor Andrea Wall

Advent Candle Lighting: Peace Pastor Andrea Wall  
 Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

“Oh, How Shall I Receive Thee” HWB 182

Congregational Prayer Pastor Gene Thieszen

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26-38 (NRSV) Pastor Seth Miller  
 Leader: This is the Word of God, for the people of God.  
**People: Thanks be to God!**

Message **“The Fear of Revision”** Pastor Seth Miller

“The Angel Gabriel” HWB 180

Announcements Pastor Gene Thieszen

Offering to God: Mennonite Church USA/Mission Network  
*(Offering may be given online through the Easy Tithe app on our website, using your banks online bill payment feature, mailed to Bethesda Mennonite Church, or dropped in the offering boxes at the doors as you exit.)*

Benediction Pastor Seth Miller

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” HWB 178

We welcome all members to participate in the final vote for the Deacon election as well as a vote to affirm Chelsea Vaught as our Pastor of Worship and Congregational Care immediately following the worship service this morning. To our visitors, we thank you for your patience as we conduct this brief business meeting.

Kelly Kliewer, Congregational Moderator

All are invited to participate in the Christian education hour.

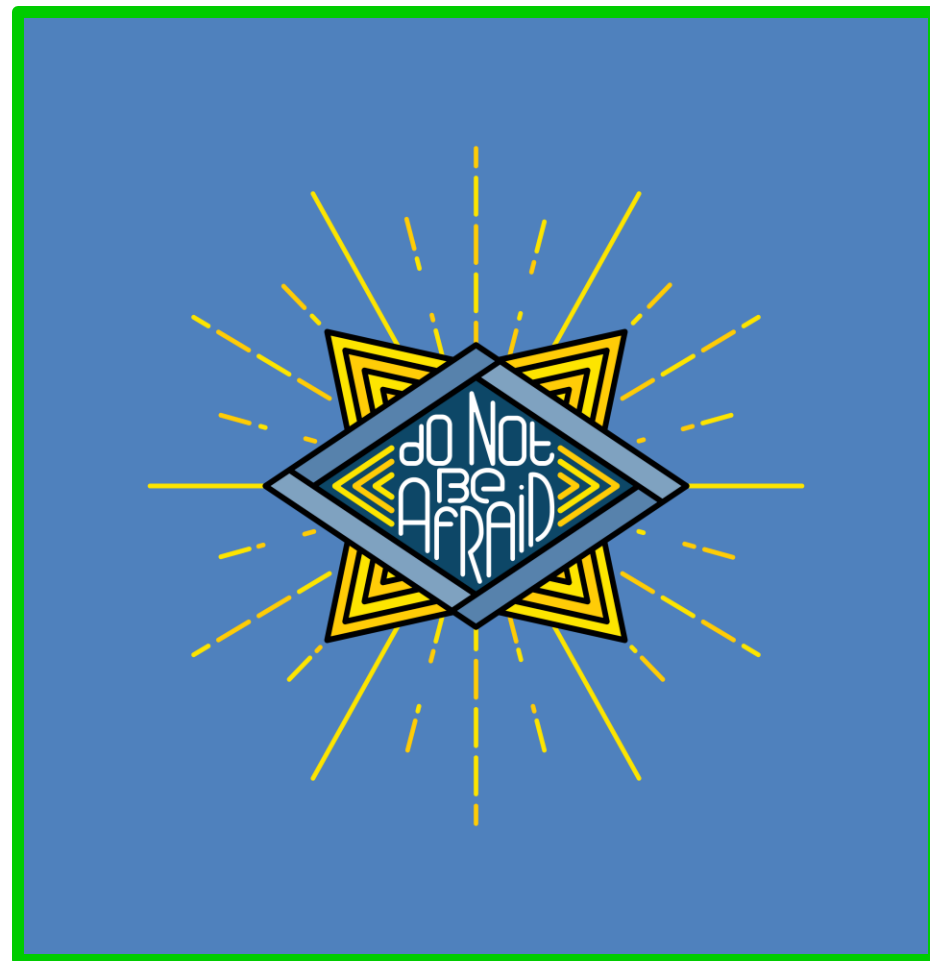
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[treasurer@bethesdamc.org](mailto:treasurer@bethesdamc.org)  
Website: [www.bethesdamc.org](http://www.bethesdamc.org)

- When you are unable to attend worship, please join us via...
  - Radio at KOOL 103.5 FM
  - Livestream at <http://bethesdamc.org/watch-live>
  - Cobalt Cable Channel 3207
- Hearing Impaired Worshipers: If you need hearing assistance, feel free to sit in the front center seating to take advantage of our Hearing-Loop system. Williams units are also available in the rear of the sanctuary for your use.
- When you desire pastoral care outside of office hours, please call:
  - Pastor Seth Miller: 717-824-5998 (cell) or email [seth.miller@bethesdamc.org](mailto:seth.miller@bethesdamc.org)
  - Pastor Gene Thieszen: 580-660-5796 (cell) or email [pastor.gene95@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.gene95@gmail.com)
  - Pastor Andrea Wall: 402-710-3195 (cell) or email [andrea@mainstaycomm.net](mailto:andrea@mainstaycomm.net)
- In addition to assistance from Bethesda pastors and deacons, domestic abuse support services are available to victims. Call (toll-free) 1-877-388-4673, 24 hours/day.

A big thank you to York Printing Company, LLC and the families who are painting the nativity figures for Advent season!



BETHESDA MENNONITE CHURCH  
HENDERSON, NEBRASKA

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020, 9:30 A.M.  
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
"FEAR OF REVISION"