

# 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 Laura Steingard, Organist  
“O, Come, All Ye Faithful” Burkhardt  
“Lo, How a Rose E’re Blooming” Burkhardt  
“He is Born the Divine Christ Child” Radice  
“Silent Night, Holy Night” Leavitt  
“Glory to God in the Highest” Pergolesi  
“Joy to the World” Burkhardt

Welcome & Call to Worship Pastor Seth Miller

“Angels we have Heard on High” HWB 197  
*(As families are comfortable, children are invited to come forward during stanza 4.)*

Children’s Focus Pastor Andrea Wall

Advent Candle Lighting: Joy Pastor Seth Miller  
Lighting of the Third Fourth Candle

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” HWB 212

Congregational Prayer Pastor Gene Thieszen

Scripture Reading: Matthew 1:18-25 (NRSV) Pastor Andrea Wall  
Leader: This is the Word of God, for the people of God.  
**People: Thanks be to God!**

Message **“Fear of a Ruined Reputation”** Pastor Andrea

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” HWB 201

Announcements Pastor Seth Miller

Offering to God: Central Plains Mennonite Conference  
*(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 Andrea Wall

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” HWB 178

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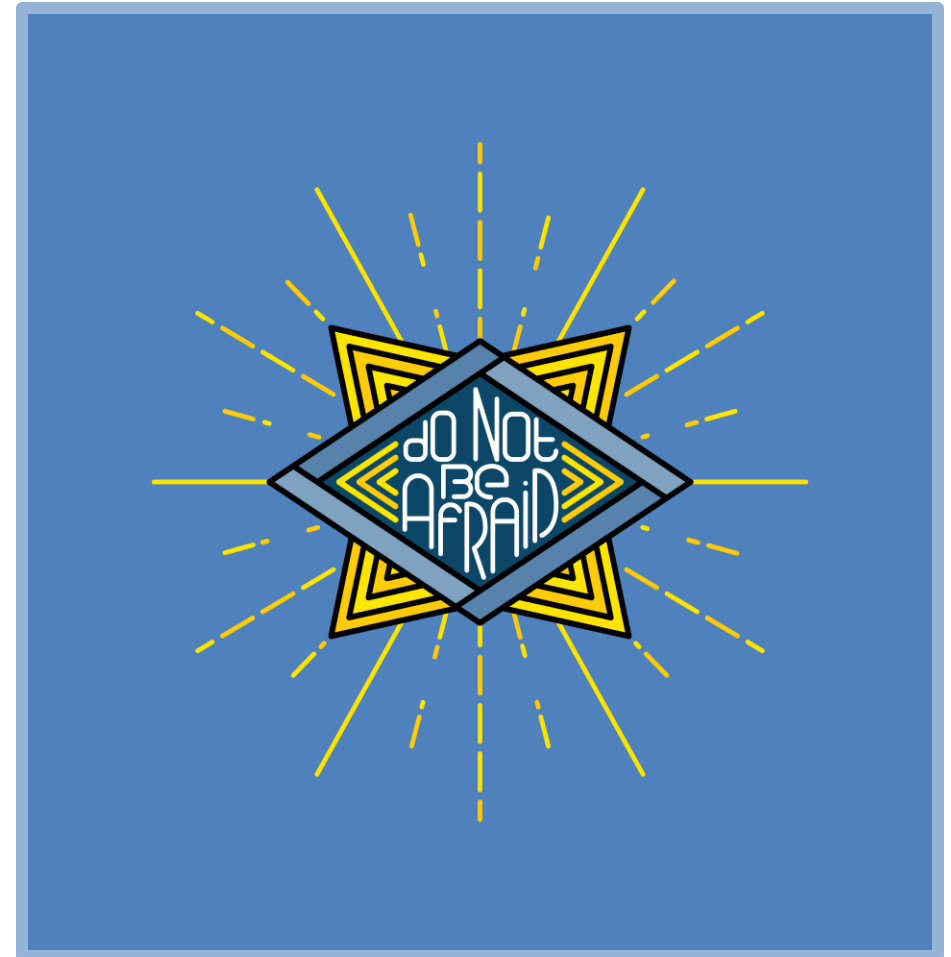
All are invited to participate in the Christian education hour.



Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
 Phone: 402-723-4562  
 Email: [bethesda@mainstaycomm.net](mailto:bethesda@mainstaycomm.net) or  
[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 painted the nativity figures for Advent season!



BETHESDA MENNONITE CHURCH  
 HENDERSON, NEBRASKA

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2020, 9:30 A.M.  
 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
 “FEAR OF A RUINED REPUTATION”