

---

## THIS WEEK

Details at [http://www.fmcdenver.org/Community\\_Life/FMC\\_Weekly](http://www.fmcdenver.org/Community_Life/FMC_Weekly)

**Today, Sunday, Dec. 18, 12:30 PM**

- **ConnectMC – Worship led by Vern Rempel and musicians, in Sanctuary**

Wednesday

- Choir Practice, 7:00 PM

Thursday

- Round Table, 10:15 AM
- Thursday PM “Circle of Trust” Worship, 7:00 PM

Saturday

- Choir practice, TBA
  - **Christmas Eve Service, Music begins at 4:30 PM, Worship at 5:00 PM**
- 

### About First Mennonite Church

First Mennonite Church is affiliated with the Mennonite denomination. The Mennonites are named for Menno Simons, one of our early church leaders, and are rooted historically in the “Anabaptist” movement (Switzerland, 1525). Some primary Anabaptist values then and now are following Jesus Christ in life through service, rejection of violence, living simply and joy in participatory worship.

Pursuing God’s dreams by the power of the Holy Spirit, in the way of Jesus Christ.

~ *Vision of Mountain States Mennonite Conference*

### Vision: Healing and Hope

God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace, so that God’s healing and hope flow through us to the world.

~ *Vision Statement of Mennonite Church USA*



Welcome to

First Mennonite Church

*Denver, Colorado*



***December 18, 2011***  
***Fourth Sunday of Advent***  
***“New Stories of Love”***

Worship 9:30 AM  
Education Hour 11:00 AM

*May this be a place of hope and transformation for all who enter here.*



**First Mennonite Church of Denver**

[www.fmcdenver.org](http://www.fmcdenver.org) 303-892-1038

For more information about our congregation, please visit our Welcome Table in the foyer. If you are not receiving the FMC Weekly, a weekly e-newsletter from the church, go to the church’s website at [www.fmcdenver.org](http://www.fmcdenver.org) to subscribe.

Look for the box in the upper right corner and enter your information.

If you would like a pastoral visit or if you have something you want the congregation to be notified about, please contact the church office.

**Church Staff** (general email: [fmcdenver@aol.com](mailto:fmcdenver@aol.com))

**Vern Rempel**, Pastor ([fmcdenververn@aol.com](mailto:fmcdenververn@aol.com))

**Tory Doerksen**, Pastor ([fmcdenvertory@aol.com](mailto:fmcdenvertory@aol.com))

**Jane Dick**, Interim Pastoral Care ([fmcdenverjaned@aol.com](mailto:fmcdenverjaned@aol.com))

**Carol Swartzendruber**, Interim Pastoral Care ([fmcdenvercarol@aol.com](mailto:fmcdenvercarol@aol.com))

**Karen Martin**, Congregational Administrator ([fmcdenverkaren@aol.com](mailto:fmcdenverkaren@aol.com))

**Linda Welty**, Administrative Assistant ([fmcdenverlinda@aol.com](mailto:fmcdenverlinda@aol.com))

## **Gathering Music**

Music for meditation

*My soul is filled with joy – STJ 13*

## **Opening**

Welcome

Call to Worship

*Hark the glad sound – HWB 184*

*Angels we have heard on high – HWB 197*

Invocation

Introit

*(The prayer cloth will be given to someone in our congregation as a sign of our prayers for them.)*

Children's Time

## **Centering**

*What child is this – HWB 215*

Following the sung verses, please hum one more verse.

Chimes sound three times:

For what is old, for change, for that which is new

Lighting the advent candles - Mel Stjernholm and Tyler Kauffman

## **Exploring**

Bible Reading – Psalm 89: 1, 2

I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;

With my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;

Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

Meditation – “The Soul of Christmas”

## **Living**

Adult Choir – *Betelehemu*

Olatunji, Via - arr. Wendall Whalum

*We are glad that we have a Father to trust.*

*We are glad that we have a Father to rely upon*

*Where was Jesus born?*

*Where was He born?*

*Bethlehem, the city of wonder.*

*That is where the Father was born for sure.*

*Praise, praise, praise be to Him.*

*We thank thee, we thank Thee, we thank Thee for this day,*

*Gracious Father.*

*Praise, praise, praise be to Thee,*

*Merciful Father.*

Congregational Sharing and Prayer

Introductions

Offering

Offering of Life – Ministry Network: Bereavement  
Char Hostetler, Cindy Kauffman, & Carol Swartzendruber

## **Sending**

*Joy to the world – HWB 318*

Benediction

Postlude – *Little Drummer Boy*, Gary Wahl & Friends

Greet each other with “Good Morning, Friend”

\* *When congregation is asked to stand, please stand if you are able.*

## **Leadership for this Service**

Worship Leader – Mel Stjernholm

Meditation – Vern Rempel

Song Leader & Choir Director – Emily Martin

Gathering Music – Sara Michael

Introit & Offertory – Brenda Dockery & Sara Michael

Children's Story – Roberta Kandel

Introit Procession – Ellen Conrad

Core Usher – Lonny Gardner

Flowers - Lola Hershberger

Thank you to all who have given generously of their attention and talents  
to make this service a time of encouragement  
and a challenge in our walk of faith.

***Celebrate FMC's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with cake  
after the worship service in the Community Center.***

***Christmas Hymn Sing & Anniversary Storytelling – 11:00 AM***

***Education Hour for Children and Youth – 11:00 AM***