

Willow Springs Worship

January 5, 2025 9:30 a.m.

Welcome and Call to Worship – Anna

Call to worship - based on Luke 2:41–52

Leader: Jesus, grant that we may learn from
you as long as we live,

**People: that we would mature in wisdom
and years.**

Leader: Just as you listened and questioned,
grant us humility

**People: that we would sit among the
teachers.**

Leader: We look to you, Emmanuel,

All: Jesus, teach us how to learn.

Candlelighting – Sarah and James

Reader 1: We never stop facing opportunities
to learn.

Reader 2: We learn through successes and
achievements; we learn through
mistakes and failures.

Reader 1: In our learning, we can also mentor
others and model wisdom along the
way.

(Candlelighting of the Christ candle)

**All: Like a tree, may we grow in faith and
wisdom with roots spreading deep to
provide grounding, and rings of growth
showing our continued learning.**

Songs – Phil Kaufmann

Children's time – Beth Gerig

Scriptures – Luke 2:41-52, Psalm 2:7-8

**Sermon/Input – Nurturing Faith: From
Whom Do We Learn?**

Marilyn Eigsti

Songs: In the Temple

VT #776 Teach Me Thy Truth

Andy Krabill

Song

Sharing and prayer – Ellen Davis-Zehr

Song

Announcements

Sending Blessing

based on Psalm 2:7

Hear the Lord's decision:

"You are my child.

Today I have become the One
who nurtures and protects you."

Go then, growing and learning,
as beloved children of God.

Sending Song

Calendar

Jan. 8 Church Board meeting, 7:30 pm

Jan. 10 Mennonite Women, 9:30 am

Jan. 12 Input by Maiga Muga

Together on the Journey: This week's Advent theme is **Nurturing Faith: From Whom Do We Learn?** God provides spaces for us to ask questions; God provides mentors and teachers along the way to help us grow in wisdom and faith. Where do we go to learn and be challenged? How do we nurture growth in others? The plant and tree slice beside the Christ candle symbolizes our theme of growing in faith and wisdom.

Volunteers are needed to help transport the Living Water youth between Princeton Amtrak and Menno Haven the weekends of Jan. 10-12 (9 people) and Jan. 17-19 (17 people). Transportation will be needed Friday evening and Sunday midday. Let Anna know if you are willing to help.

12/17 transitional pastor update: IMC minister Bryan Miller has heard back from a potential candidate who has said no to exploring this position. The next step is for Bryan to meet with our church leadership after New Year's.

January 21, 2025 will mark the 500th anniversary of the first re-baptism event that started the Anabaptist movement. There will be various commemoration events across the broader church. Jacob Landis is exploring having some events across the northern Illinois region. Please let Jacob or Anna Zehr know if you would like more information and have interest in helping plan events.

Willow Springs Missional Giving emphasis for Jan. is Freedom House. If you would like to give to the organization, write a check to Willow Springs and **make a notion on the memo line.** Thank you for supporting organizations ministering to many.

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) volunteers are in western North Carolina responding to the impacts of Hurricane Helene with equipment to move debris, mud, and downed trees. MDS is accepting donations for the recovery effort. Visit [MDS.org](https://www.mds.org) to see the latest volunteer needs or to make a donation. Check donations can be mailed to Mennonite Disaster Service, 583 Airport Road, Lititz, PA 17543. Write "Hurricane Helene" on the memo line. Continue to pray for the people impacted by storms and for the volunteers as they respond.

If pastoral care is needed, please contact an Elder: Dale Bachman, Ellen Davis-Zehr, Pam Kaufmann, or Elvin Krabill

Luke 2:41-52

The Boy Jesus at the Temple

41 Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. **42** When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. **43** After the festival was over, while his parents were

returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. **44** Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. **45** When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. **46** After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. **47** Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. **48** When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

49 "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?"^[a] **50** But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

51 Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. **52** And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

Psalms 2:7-8

7 I will proclaim the LORD's decree:

He said to me, "You are my son;
today I have become your father.

8 Ask me,
and I will make the nations your inheritance,
the ends of the earth your possession.