

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

February 22, 2009

Prelude Welcome

*Call to Worship *From Iona Abbey Worship Book*

L: Welcome to this worship place:

**P: House of prayer for many nations,
home to all who come.**

L: Welcome to this gathering place:

**P: Friend and stranger, saint and sinner
in all who gather here.**

L: Come with hope or hesitation;
come with joy or yearning;
all who hunger, all who thirst for life in all its fullest.

**ALL: Generous God and generous Savior
touch us through your Spirit.**

*Hymns: "Over my head" #18 STJ

"O breath on me, O breath of God" #46 STJ

Old Testament Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-15a

Children's Gathering Hymn: "Come and See" #20 HWB

Children's Time: Light through a prism

Hymn: "Christ upon the mountain peak" #232 HWB

Gospel Reading: Mark 9:2-9

Sermon: "Listening and Letting Go"

Moment of meditation

Song: "Fount of love, our Savior God" #354 HWB (vv. 1, 3, 4)

Congregational Sharing

Congregational Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours

now and forever. AMEN

Offering and Offertory

Announcements *(please give in writing to the pastor or worship leader)*

HWB: Hymnal Worship Book STJ: Sing the Journey

**Please stand if you are able*

Introduction of Guests

*Sending hymn: "Let there be light" #67 STJ

*Benediction

*Passing the Peace / Postlude

Community Time

- Fellowship time - 10:45-11:10 a.m.

- Children's music – 11 a.m., Room 201, education wing

- Christian Education – 11:15 – noon

Adult classes:

- The Spirituality of Imperfection - Room 201, education wing
- Spirituality and Health – Library

TODAY: The transfiguration

Worship leader: Barbara Beers

Sermon: Joetta Schlabach

Song leader: Phil Stoltzfus

Piano: Melissa Falb

Nursery volunteers: Gerald Schlabach & one volunteer needed

Fellowship Time: Nikki Fitch & Adam Nafziger

NEXT SUNDAY: Lent 1: God Provides for Creation (Gen 9:8-17)

Worship leader: Deedee Stevens Neal **Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach

Song leader: Pierre Gingerich-Boberg **Organ:** David Mayou

Nursery volunteers: Gregg Richardson & Cindy Bjork

Fellowship: Kathleen Harder & Donna Stucky

A staffed nursery for toddlers and children up to age 5 is located in the education wing. Please ask an usher if you wish to be guided to the nursery.

February 15: Attendance: 68 Offering: \$2,235

Thanksgivings: Successful surgeries & good prognosis for Julia and for Noah; men's retreat; Marcia's successful citizenship interview; life and contributions of Millard Fuller, founder of Habitat for Humanity; generosity of Shelly B's employer toward those in financial crisis

Concerns: Unjust treatment of Awa people in Colombia and Palestinians in West Bank and funding for CPT (Carol Rose); young girl, Stacy, in Jamaican orphanage (Pat); Paula's students; Peterson family; Darrell's colleague Floyd and others who were laid off; Shelly B's clients affected by financial crisis; Neil's father-in-law recovering from a broken hip and wrist; upcoming anniversary of the deaths of Dellis and Michael Schrock

A Bible Study Group (BSG) has organized to study the Acts of the Apostles. ALL are welcome each **Sunday morning from 8:30-9:30 a.m. in the Chapel at FMC.** We will use the *Believer's Church Bible Commentary*, which has an Anabaptist twist to the understandings of the Scripture. Questions can be directed to Donna Minter, Joan Kreider, Leslie Minkler, Greg Renstrom, and Dick Westby.

Faith Mennonite Church

Pastor: Joetta Schlabach

Ministry Staff Person: Michael Bischoff

Deacons: Kami Blackwell Kinney, Cleta Roth Gingerich,
Neil Okerlund, Beth Richardson, Hermann Weinlick

2720 East 22nd Street, Minneapolis, MN 55406 Ph: 612-375-9483
E: faithmc@faithmennonite.org Web: www.faithmennonite.org

FMC OFFICE HOURS: February 23-27

Pastor: Mon 12:30-4:30 p.m.; Wed & Fri 9-1; Thurs 9:30-3:30

Joetta is open to receiving phone calls at home on Mon and Wed from 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday is a study day.

Michael Bischoff: Thursday 9-noon

Office Assistant: Wednesday & Friday 8:30-1:30

Email all bulletin items before Thursday evening to:
faithmc@faithmennonite.org

Mennonite Mutual Aid (MMA) Sharing Funds provided \$475 in matching funds to support special needs in our church in 2008. We thank Tom Johnson for his service as MMA advocate for the past several years, and welcome Teresa Wasick to this role. Please contact Teresa for more information about the various mutual aid programs offered by MMA.

Council & Commission Members Retreat: All commission members and church council officers are encouraged to participate in a morning retreat, Saturday, March 14, 9-noon. We will consider ways to work effectively as commissions, do some cross-commission fertilization of ideas/plans, have time for individual commission work, and more. This will replace the March Council meeting.

Church Meetings and Events

February 24 – Lectionary Discussion Group, (Gen 17:1-7, 15-16; Rom 4:13-25;

Mk 8:31-38) 8:30 a.m., Trotter's, corner of Marshall & Cleveland, St. Paul

February 25 – Ash Wednesday Taizé Service, 7:30 p.m., FMC

February 26 – Goshen College Choir Performance, 7:30 p.m., Messiah

Lutheran Church, 2504 Columbus Ave S, Minneapolis

March 1 – Hymn Sing & Soiree, 4 p.m. St. Paul Mennonite Fellowship,

March 3 – Missions & Service, 1:30 p.m., FMC

March 3 – Women's Retreat Planning Meeting, 6 p.m., FMC

March 14 – Council & Commission Retreat, 9-noon, FMC

March 18 – Deacon's Commission, 9:30 p.m., Richardsons

March 21 – Musician workshop, led by Jane Ramseyer Miller, 9-noon, FMC

2 Kings 2:1-15a

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, 'Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?' When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over. When the company of prophets who were at Jericho saw him at a distance, they declared, 'The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha.'

Mark 9:2-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses,

(over)

who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

L: For the Word of God in Scripture,
For the Word of God within us,
For the Word of God among us,

All: Thanks be to God.

Announcements

“Race: The Power of an Illusion” All are cordially invited to a free presentation of this widely-acclaimed and stimulating film produced for PBS. The final 60-minute episode will be viewed and discussed **today, February 22** at 11am, 1pm and 5pm in Cowley Hall, St. Olaf Catholic Church, 215 South 8th Street, Mpls.

Immigration Prayer Vigil, today, February 22, 7 p.m. for the protection of immigrant families and the leadership of President Obama and Members of Congress to enact humane immigration reform. The vigil is part of a nationwide movement, **Prayer, Renewal and Action on Immigration**, to highlight the growing movement of faith communities working to bring humanity and compassion into the public dialogue on immigration. Lyndale United Church of Christ, 810 West 31st St., Mpls.

Goshen College Chamber Choir to give Twin Cities Concert You are invited to a worship service in song with the Goshen (Ind.) College chamber choir on **Thursday, February 26, 7:30 p.m.**, at Messiah Lutheran Church, 2504 Columbus Ave, Minneapolis. The 32-student ensemble, directed by Dr. Debra Brubaker, will present a sacred music journey through time and culture with the theme of “Encountering God's Hope.” This program is jointly hosted by Emmanuel Mennonite Church and Faith Mennonite Church. Melissa Falb & Katie Hochstetler are planning a post-concert reception for GC alumni and friends.