

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

March 11, 2012

Third Sunday of Lent

Prelude

*Call to Worship (from Psalm 19)

Leader: The instructions of the Lord are perfect; they revive our souls.
The decrees of the Lord are trustworthy; they make us wise.

People: The precepts of the Lord are right; they bring us joy.

Leader: The Lord's commands are clear; they give us insight for living.

**All: God has given us gifts more valuable than gold,
sweeter than honey in the honeycombs.**

*Hymns: "God is here among us" #16 HWB

"O, that I had a thousand voices" #84 HWB (v. 1,2,5)

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 20:1-21

Epistle Reading: I Corinthians 1:19-25

Children's gathering song: "Come and see" #20 HWB

Children's time: "The Story of Ruby Bridges"

Hymn: "All who love and serve your city" #417 HWB

Gospel Reading: John 2:13-22

Music: Sonata No. 1 in G minor for Unaccompanied Violin, Presto J.S. Bach

Sermon: "Jesus, the man of valor"

Hymn: "Strong, righteous man of Galilee" #540 HWB

Prayer of Confession

Jesus, we confess that our pride and greed have led us
to break God's laws and to disrespect God's house.

We wear crosses of gold and silver,
and worship in beautiful buildings.

Yet you do not live in houses made by human hands,
but in the people you have called.

Make us foolish enough to follow in your footsteps,
weak enough to draw all our strength from you. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Leader: God of mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Congregational Prayer

Offering & Offertory

Announcements (please give in writing to worship leader)

Introduction of guests

***Sending hymn:** "Renew your church" #363 HWB

***Benediction**

***Passing the Peace / Postlude**

Community Time

10:40 a.m. Fellowship time

11:00 a.m. Christian education classes for all ages. Visitors welcome.

Adult ed. classes: Theological Explorations in the chapel; Jubilee Justice and Sabbath Economics in the fellowship hall; Parenting Support Group (theme: "family time") in the sanctuary.

12:00 p.m. All-church potluck, fellowship hall. Everyone welcome!

2:00 p.m., Benefit Concert for Seward Longfellow Restorative Justice Partnership, sanctuary. Musicians Linda Breitag, Sophia Breitag, Chris Semanchin Jones, Ray Makeever, Robin Nelson. Folk songs, songs of peace, roots music, Celtic fiddling, sing-along. Donations accepted.

TODAY: Jesus Cleanses the Temple

Greeter: Aryn Baxter

Ushers: Rhonda Martin & Cori Skogerboe

Worship leader: Alisa Bardo-Martinson

Sermon: Richard Westby

Reader: Matthew Blackwell Kinney

Song Leader: Gregg Richardson

Piano: Jim Kubelbeck

Violin: Phil Stoltzfus

Nursery: Aryn Baxter & Shelly Hendricks

Shoveling: *volunteer needed*

Fellowship buddy: Jenny Wandersee

NEXT SUNDAY: Fourth Sunday of Lent (*John 3:14-21*)

Greeter: Shelly Hendricks

Ushers: Aine McCarthy & Darrell Martin

Worship leader: Adam Nafziger

Sermon: Joetta Schlabach

Song Leader: Karen Wiebe

Piano: Melissa Falb

Fellowship: Kristin Green

Fellowship buddy: Richardsons

Nursery: Mark Kaufman & Hermann Weinlick

Shoveling: *volunteer needed*

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.

March 5:

Attendance: 85

Offering: not yet recorded

Faith Mennonite Church
Pastor: Joetta Schlabach
Ministry Staff: Phil Stoltzfus
Deacons: Aryn Baxter, Shelly Hendricks,
Donna Minter, Adam Nafziger, Neil Okerlund

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FMC office hours: March 12-16

Pastor: Mon 8:30-4:30; Wed & Thurs: 9:30-5. Tuesday is a study day.

Ministry Staff: Mon 10-3:30; Wed 1:45-7; Thurs 10-5

Email bulletin items by Wednesday evening. Bulletin is printed on Thursday.

Today, 1:00-2:00 p.m. (after the potluck, before the concert), help **distribute flyers in the neighborhood** for the sustainability fair. See Phil Stoltzfus, Melissa Hochstetler, or Richard Westby.

Saturday, March 17, 1-5:00 p.m., Neighborhood Sustainability Fair, in the fellowship hall. If you still have something you'd like to add to the fair, email Phil at minstaff@faithmennonite.org. We have a good group of volunteers already—now people are needed to come participate, and bring: plastics (#1-7) and consumer electronics to recycle, seeds and clothes to swap, bikes that need fixing, fabric and objects for a collective weaving project, dryer lint to make firestarters, household sustainability ideas to share. Things you might see at the fair: Donut Collective, Seward Coop, Birchwood Café, cooking classes, drawing for free DoItGreen books, numerous environmental groups.

Church Meetings and Events (online calendar at: www.faithmennonite.org)

March 12 – Missions & Service, 5:00 p.m., chapel

March 13 – Soup Group, 6:00 p.m., Katie Hochstedler's

March 14 – Church Council, 7:00 p.m., chapel

March 15 – MN Arms Spending Alternatives Prjct, 6 pm, fellowship hall

March 17 – March Birthday Brunch, 9:30-11 a.m., Joetta Schlabach's

March 17 – **Neighborhood Sustainability Fair**, 1-5 pm, fellowship hall

March 18-24 – MDS Trip to Minot, ND

March 20 – **Bethel College Concert Choir**, 7:30 p.m., sanctuary

March 21 – FMC Artisans and Crafters, 7:00 p.m., library

March 28 – April newsletter deadline, noon, email Gregg Richardson

Exodus 20:1-21

Then God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin." Then the people stood at a distance, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.

I Corinthians 1:19-25

For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

John 2:13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews

then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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

Soup Group upcoming dates in March:

• **Tuesday, March 13**, 6 p.m., home of Katie Hochstedler & Nicki Morgan. RSVP by Monday evening (include any dietary restrictions).

• **Friday, March 23**, 6 p.m., soup and board games, at the church.

If you are interested in hosting in the future, please sign the sheet in the foyer or contact Aryn Baxter.

Saturday, March 17, 9:30 a.m., at Joetta’s, **March Birthday Brunch**, for those with March birthdays & their families. **Sign-up** sheet in back.

Bethel College (KS) Concert Choir is performing at FMC on **Tuesday, March 20 at 7:30 p.m.** We are **looking for volunteers to provide pots of soup and cookies** for the choir, as well as volunteers to set up/serve/clean up. **Sign-up sheet** and **color posters to put up** on the back table.

Reception afterwards sponsored by BC alums. –*Fellowship Commission*

Easter Choir rehearsals. Sopranos, altos, tenors, basses (and those of you in-between), we need you all for our Easter Sunday choir! Anna Gambucci has selected a celebratory piece which we can learn in a couple sessions: **Sunday, March 25** at 12:05; **Sunday, April 1** at 11:50.

Rehearsals will be 30-40 minutes. Join us for one or both. Questions? Email Anna.

Darrell & Cynthia offer their **thanks for the generous contributions of vitamins** for their upcoming trips to Haiti & Belize. More than two dozen bottles were donated! Cynthia left for Haiti on Friday and appreciates your prayers for safety and the healing work of the medical team.

March 2012 Minnesota Foodshare Campaign. Food shelf use in the Cities is up 97% since 2008. You can help by **donating nonperishable food and hygiene items during this month.** Grocery bags, with lists of needed items attached, will be available on March 18 or 25 at the church. Deadline for returning bags is April 1. You can also write a check to CES with a note “for Minnesota Food Share” and put it in the offering plate.

–*Susan Weinlick*