

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH  
March 29, 2009  
*Lent 5: Our Lives Are In Your Hands*

**Prelude**  
**Welcome**

**\*Call to Worship**

L: Listen carefully, God's people,  
to what God is whispering today.

**Right: God loves us in spite of our poor choices.**

**Left: and accepts us though our actions fall short of our intentions.**

L: God sees our mistakes and chooses to forgive,

**Right: creating in us new hearts**

**Left: and tenderly mending our broken spirits**

*All: With God, change is possible.*

*Life, not death, has the last word.*

**Hymns:** "You are all we have" #29 STJ  
"God of grace and God of glory" #366 HWB

**Readers' theatre:** (Jeremiah 31 and John 12)

**Prayer of Confession:** Psalm 51:1-6; 9-12 (insert)

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

**Children's Time:** "Bath time"

**Hymn:** "Go, my children" #433 HWB (vv. 1-2)

**Gospel reading:** John 12:20-32

**Sermon:** "God's Hospice"

**Hymn:** "In the bulb" #614 HWB

**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*)

**Introduction of Guests**

**\*Sending hymn:** "O God Who Gives Us Life and Breath" #483 HWB

**\*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

**Women's choir** will rehearse during the education hour today.

**11:30-12:45 - Quilt Viewing** — You are invited to view and select a quilt top to sponsor for this Fall's MCC Relief Sale at Emmanuel Mennonite Church, 725 E. 25th Street, Minneapolis.

**2:30-4:30 - Immigration forum** — A panel from different faith perspectives will discuss how the values of justice and respect apply to the connections between immigration and food. Faith Church along with several groups is sponsoring this forum, to be held in the Faith Church sanctuary. (Fliers at back of the sanctuary.)

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**TODAY:** Lent 5: God leads from failure to life

**Worship leader:** Joetta Schlabach

**Sermon:** Alisa Bardo-Martinson

**Song leader:** Gregg Richardson

**Piano:** Sandra Westby

**Nursery volunteers:** Minke Sundseth & Marcia Siggelkow

**Fellowship:** Dick & Sandra Westby

**NEXT SUNDAY:** Palm/Passion Sunday (Mark 14-15)

**Worship leader:** Deedee Stevens Neal

**Song leader:** Herman Weinlick

**Piano:** Melissa Falb

**Nursery volunteers:** Gerald Schlabach, Dan Leisen & One Volunteer

**Fellowship:** John Ratigan & Kristin Green

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*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.*

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## Faith Mennonite Church

Pastor: Joetta Schlabach

Ministry Staff Person: Michael Bischoff

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

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### FMC OFFICE HOURS: March 30-April 3

**Pastor:** Monday 1:30-5; Wed & Thurs 10-5; Friday 8:30-1:00.

**Michael Bischoff:** Thursday 9-noon

**Office Assistant:** Wednesday & Friday 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

*Email all bulletin items before Thursday evening to:*

[faithmc@faithmennonite.org](mailto:faithmc@faithmennonite.org)

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**March 22:** Attendance: 85      Offering: Not Recorded

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**Final Soup & Silence - Wed., March 25** Come for a simple soup supper, followed by a time of centering prayer. FMC Chapel.

**6:00-6:30 p.m.** – Soup & Bread, **6:30-7:00 p.m.** – Prayer

### Church Meetings and Events

April 4 – Worship commission, 9-11 a.m., Schlabach's

April 6 – Missions & Service, Commission, 9 a.m., FMC

April 7 – Fall Retreat Committee, 5 p.m., Schlabach's

April 9 – Maundy Thursday supper and service, 6-7 p.m., Fellowship Hall  
*Please sign up to bring soup, bread, or fruit*

April 10 – Community Good Friday Service, noon, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31<sup>st</sup> Street

April 12 – Easter Breakfast (8:30 a.m. *Please bring an egg dish, rolls/muffins, or fruit.*) & worship (no Christian education)

April 13 – Church Council, 7 p.m., FMC chapel

April 15 – Deacon's Commission, 9:30 a.m., Richardson's

April 25 – Pan-African Community Organization Fund-raiser, 4-7 p.m., FMC

### Psalm 51:1-6; 9-12

In your goodness, O God, have mercy on me; with gentleness wipe away my faults. Cleans me of guilt; free me from my sins. My faults are always before me; my sins haunt my mind. I have sinned against you and no other— knowing that my actions were wrong in your eyes.

Your judgment is what I deserve; your sentence supremely fair. As you know I was born in guilt, from conception a sinner at heart. But you love true sincerity, so you teach me the depths of wisdom.

Please do not stare at my sins; blot out all my guilt. Create a pure heart in me, O my God; renew me with a steadfast spirit. Don't drive me away from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from me.

Once more be my savior; revive my joy. Strengthen and sharpen my still weak spirit. Amen.

### John 12:20-32

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—"Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.'

L: For the Word of God in scripture,  
for the Word of God among us,  
for the Word of God within us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Announcements

**Join in a celebration for Lucie Johnson** (former member) Tuesday, **March 31** at 5:30 p.m. at Good Earth Restaurant in Roseville, 1901 West Highway 36. RSVP to Cindy Bjork by Sunday, March 29, cbjork2003@yahoo.com or 612-338-2547. Hope to see you there!

**The Seward Concert Band** is presenting its Spring Concert on Thursday, **April 2, 7:30 p.m.**, at the South High School Auditorium Tickets: Adults \$6, Seniors \$5, Students \$4.

**Wilderness Wind offers canoe trips, cabins, a yurt, and retreats** this summer. A Mennonite camp based in Ely, Minnesota near the Boundary Waters, an encounter with the Creator and creation is perfect for families, friends, and youth groups. New this year - a Writer's Retreat canoe trip with Jeff Gundy, Survival Skills (outdoor challenges) with Cheryl Mast, Seniors in Denial canoe trip, and a Quilter's Retreat. Check [www.wildernesswind.org](http://www.wildernesswind.org) or call 316-217-1129.

**Seward Longfellow Restorative Justice Partnership** builds community by bringing youth offenders, victims, community members and trained facilitators together in a conference to repair the harm done by the youth offender and promote healing, accountability and reconciliation. We need people who have a stake in Seward or Longfellow neighborhoods to volunteer at the conferences as a community member or a trained facilitator. Our next facilitator training will be **April 24-26**. Registrations due April 1; form at back of sanctuary. Contact Michele Braley at 612-338-6205 x108 or [michele@sng.org](mailto:michele@sng.org) for more information about the program and how you can become involved.

**Prayer Request** — Mennonite Mission Network workers George and Tobia Veith request prayer for deep and lasting heart changes in emerging leaders in the Macau Mennonite Church as they participate in ongoing training for personal spiritual growth and to be effective small group leaders.

**Spring women's retreat, May 8-9**, Carondelet Center, St. Paul. Brochures were distributed in mail boxes last Sunday. Please complete and return registration forms by April 12. Direct questions to the planning group: Erin Geiser, Rhonda Martin, Leslie Minkler, and Joetta Schlabach

**One Voice Mixed Choir – Spring Fever Auction & Cabaret 2009, Saturday April 4**, 6:00 pm Silent Auction, 7:30 pm Show and Live Auction. Zuhrah Shrine Center, 2540 Park Ave. S., Minneapolis. For more information go to [www.ovmc.org](http://www.ovmc.org) or call 651 298-1954.