

## FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

May 2, 2010

Easter 5 ~ A New Commandment

### Prelude

### Welcome

**\*Call to Worship** – based on Revelation 21

L: Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away.

**P: And I saw the holy city, coming down out of heaven from God.**

L: A loud voice said: See, the home of God is among mortals. God will dwell with them; they will be God's peoples.

**P: God will be with them and will wipe every tear from their eyes.**

L: Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more.

**P: One seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.**

**ALL: To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.**

**\*Hymns:** "New earth, heavens new" #299 HWB (vv. 1-3)

"Praise the Lord who reigns above" #54 HWB

**Prayer of Confession:** #690 HWB

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

**Children's time:** "What money can do" ~ Jerry Kennel, MMA-West

**Song:** "Lord of all good" #60 STJ

### Offering and Offertory

**New Testament reading:** Acts 11:1-18; John 13:34-35

**Sermon:** "The command to love—the task of a lifetime"

**Testimony of something new** ~ Karen Wiebe

### Sharing at the Table in Communion

*We will gather at the tables at front and back in groups of 10-12 as the ushers guide. Please hold the bread /cup until all are served and then partake together. The bread is gluten free. The cup is grape juice. All who have made a public commitment to follow Christ and share in the life of Christ's body are invited to the table. Children may come to receive a grape and blessing.*

**Solo:** "Pan de Vida/Bread of Life"

**Congregational Sharing** *During Eastertide we will light a candle after each thanksgiving or prayer request is offered.*

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HWB: Hymnal Worship Book    STJ: Sing the Journey

**\*Please stand if you are able**

### 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

**Announcements** (please give in writing to worship leader)

### Introduction of guests

**\*Sung benediction:** "Ubi caritas et amor" #452 HWB

**\*Passing the Peace / Postlude**

### Community Time

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

- **Children's singing – 11 a.m.** Education wing chapel

- **Christian education – 11:15-noon**

**Adult sessions for the month of May** – Basement Fellowship Hall

**May 2** Stewardship –Jerry Kennel, director of Mennonite Mutual Aid (MMA)-West will lead the session.

**May 9** Report from those who served with Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) in New Orleans

**May 16** Sanctuary Design Ideas I--presented by Trustees Commission

**May 23** Sanctuary Design Ideas II--presented by Trustees Commission

**TODAY:** Easter 5: A New Commandment

**Worship leader:** Bob & Lauren Brown    **Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach

**Song leader:** Sara Yoder    **Piano:** Melissa Falb    **Flute:** Jennifer Wandersee

**Nursery volunteers:** Susan Weinlick & Gregg Richardson

**Fellowship:** Volunteers needed

**NEXT SUNDAY:** Easter 6: New Followers (John 14:23-29)

**Worship leader:** Gregg Richardson    **Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach

**Song leader:** Karen Wiebe    **Piano:** Cathy Smetana

**Nursery volunteers:** Dan Leisen & Jennifer Wandersee

**Fellowship:** Volunteers needed

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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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We thank Lauren Brown for preparing the visual elements for Easter tide. Throughout history and across cultures, birds have often been sacred symbols because they travel freely between heaven and earth. In the Christian tradition a bird is one of the symbols of the Holy Spirit. We are adding a new bird each week to emphasize our theme "New heaven's and a new earth."

## Faith Mennonite Church

Pastor: Joetta Schlabach

Ministry Staff Person: Kathleen Remund

Deacons: Kami Blackwell Kinney, Greg Renstrom  
Neil Okerlund, Beth Richardson, Hermann Weinlick

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### FMC OFFICE HOURS: May 3-7

**Pastor:** Mon 1-5; Wed 9-4; Thurs 10-4; Fri 9-noon. Joetta is open to receiving calls at home on Monday and Wednesday from 7-8:30 p.m.

**Ministry Staff Person:** Monday 1-3 p.m., Friday 9-Noon.

**Office Assistant:** Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

*Email all bulletin items before Wednesday evening to:*  
[faithmc@faithmennonite.org](mailto:faithmc@faithmennonite.org). Bulletin is finalized and printed on Thursday.

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**Julie Cross** will begin work in the church office this week as the new Administrative Coordinator. She lives in the neighborhood and is excited about working for and with us. Julie will typically work Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. If you live near the church or are passing through the neighborhood, please stop in to meet and greet her; she's anxious to get acquainted!

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**April 25:** Attendance: 87      Offering: \$910; \$35 designated

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### Church Meetings and Events

May 4 – Christian Education Commission, 7:30 p.m., church office

May 7–8 Women's Retreat, Carondelet Center

May 12 – Feed My Starving Children, Eagan site, 8-9:30 p.m.

May 19 – Deacon Commission, 9:30 p.m., Richardson's

May 19 – Church Council, 7 p.m., chapel

May 22 – May Birthday Brunch, 9:30 a.m., Schlabach's

May 23 – Pentecost / Children's Day / Final day of Christian education

May 26 – Missions & Service, 7 p.m., chapel

## Announcements

### Sunday afternoon events:

- **Faith Action for Immigration Reform, 2:30-3:00 p.m., Ramsey County Adult Detention Center**, 425 Grove Street, St. Paul.  
To learn about our monthly Faith Actions or meetings, our visitation project, contact [interfaithimmigration@gmail.com](mailto:interfaithimmigration@gmail.com).
- **Sophia Harder Kouay invites you to the Spring Concert** of Angelica Cantanti Youth Choirs, Sunday, at 2 pm, at St. Michael Lutheran Church in Bloomington. The church is located at 9201 Normandale Blvd. in Bloomington. Free admission.

### Great opportunity to clean your closets and garage for a good cause!

The FMC Missions & Service Commission has enlisted Dick Westby to coordinate FMC participation in the **May 14-15 Seward Garage Sale**. All proceeds will be given to **Community Emergency Service**, which is raising funds for a much-needed building renovation to better serve their clients. **How can you get involved?** 1) Start gathering things you'd like to donate for the sale; 2) Watch for a sign-up sheet to volunteer for a 2-hour shift (this could be a great service opportunity for older children and a parent); 3) Consider making baked goods to sell.

**Ordination Ceremony of Shuji Moriichi** – Shuji Moriichi, a former FMC member and spouse of Ruth Johnston, will be formally ordained in the Minnesota Council United Church of Christ, **May 8 Sat. 3 p.m.** The service of ordination will be held at **St. Mark's United Church of Christ 8630 Xerxes Ave. S., Bloomington**; [www.stmarksuccmn.org](http://www.stmarksuccmn.org), refreshments will follow. FMC members and friends are warmly invited to participate in this event. Shuji works as Chaplain/Director of Spiritual Care and Director of Organizational Learning at Cerenity of South St. Paul, a long-term care campus.

### Note to those who signed up for Feed My Starving Children.

On **May 12**, time is 8:00 to 9:30 pm. at the Eagan facility. If anyone is interested in meeting at the church to carpool, let Leslie Minkler know by email [lrminckler@yahoo.com](mailto:lrminckler@yahoo.com) or speaking with her in church. Who is willing to drive and who would like a ride?

**STAR Scholarships for FMC Participants** – There are four scholarships available for those in the FMC community who are interested in participating in the Strategies for Trauma Awareness and Resilience (STAR) workshop this coming June 23-27. If you have questions about the STAR program or the application process, you may email Kathleen Remund at [minstaff@faithmennonite.org](mailto:minstaff@faithmennonite.org) or leave a message for her at the FMC office.

**South Minneapolis potlucks have returned.** We meet each Friday at Powderhorn Park on 35th Street and 15th Avenue at 6 p.m. Please bring a dish to share and your own table service. Cancelled if raining.– *Kristen Green*

### Acts 11:1-18

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, 'Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?' Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, 'I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." But I replied, "By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth." But a second time the voice answered from heaven, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, "Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved." And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, "John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?' When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, 'Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.'

### John 13:34-35

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

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.**