

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

May 15, 2011 ~ Easter 4

Turn to Jesus, Go with the Spirit

Prelude

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Shepherding God, we smell the green of your pastures

People: and long for rest;

Leader: we see the sparkle of your quiet waters

People: and yearn to be refreshed.

Leader: To you we lift our empty cup.

All: *Fill us with goodness and mercy beyond measure. Amen*

***Hymns:** “The Lord’s my Shepherd” (insert)

“Christ who left his home in glory” #283 HWB

Hearing the Word

Prayer for illumination

New Testament reading: Acts 2:42-47

Children’s gathering song: “Come and see” #20 HWB

Children’s time: “The joy of getting together” - Marcia Siggelkow & Joetta Schlabach

Song: “Gentle shepherd, come and lead us” #352 HWB

Gospel reading: John 10:1-10

Sermon: “Sheepfolds, the shepherd and the gate”

Hymn: “Christ from whom all blessings flow” #365 HWB (vv. 1, 2, 3)

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Congregational Prayer & Lord’s Prayer

Our Father/Mother 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 & Offertory

Announcements (please give in writing to worship leader)

Introduction of guests

***Sending hymn:** “I am weak and I need thy strength” #553 HWB

HWB: Hymnal Worship Book STJ: Sing the Journey

**Please stand if you are able*

***Benediction**

L: You have turned from fear to the risen Jesus. Thought you have not seen him, believe.

All: *We go with the Spirit, receiving the outcomes of our faith—new birth into a living hope.*

***Passing the Peace / Postlude**

Community Time

- 10:30 **Fellowship time – Fellowship Hall**

- 10:45 **Children’s singing time / activities** – Chapel, education wing

- 11:00 **Education for all ages**

Adult Education: Songs for our 50th Anniversary – Fellowship Hall

In honor of Faith’s 50th Anniversary, singer/songwriter Bret Hesla has composed several pieces for congregational singing with guitar or piano accompaniment. He will lead us in singing through these remarkable compositions. Bret’s music is singer-friendly, regardless of one’s musical ability. Song texts are based on our anniversary theme and scripture passages.

TODAY: Easter 4: Scattered and gathered

Worship leader: Tyler Zabriskie

Sermon: Joetta Schlabach

Song Leader: Phil Stoltzfus

Organ: Jim Kuebelbeck

Ushers: Darrell Martin & Nikki Nafziger

Nursery: Gregg Richardson & Matthew Hendricks

Fellowship: Sandra & Richard Westby

NEXT SUNDAY: Easter 5 / Children’s Day

Worship leader: Joetta Schlabach

Sermon: Kathy McGinley

Song Leader: Pierre Gingerich-Boberg

Piano: Melissa Falb

Ushers: Shawn Helmeke & Rhonda Martin

Nursery: Andy Martinson & Mark Kaufman

Next Sunday, the final day of our education program for this year, we will celebrate **Children’s Day**. During worship **Kathleen McGinley**, manager of the Ten Thousand Villages store in St. Paul will speak about children’s lives in various countries where product items are made. She will also give a **report of her participation in a recent learning tour in Cambodia and Laos** during the **adult education hour**. At noon, weather permitting, we will enjoy a potluck picnic at Matthews Park (rain venue: fellowship hall). **The picnic organizing group is: Adam & Nikki Nafziger (coordinators), Jenny Wandersee, Teresa Wasick, Donna Minter and Bruce Brunner, and Travis Lusk** (if any of you will not be here, please arrange a substitute or contact Arlene Geissinger or Alisa Bardo-Martinson, Fellowship Commission).

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.

Acts 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

John 10:1-11

Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

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

Yeshi Lemu is a candidate for the degree of Master of Public Health in Environmental Education at the University of Minnesota and will take part in commencement on May 16. She invites her FMC family to **join her in celebrating this occasion** at her home at 384 Nebraska Avenue, St. Paul on **Tuesday, May 17, beginning at 5 p.m.** Please let her know if you plan to attend.

FMC Soup Group, 1st Monday, 2nd Tuesday, 3rd Thursday & 4th Friday of every month. This is an opportunity for our church community to share meals together on a regular basis. Anyone from the congregation is welcome to come (and to bring friends and family if they would like). Soup and bread provided:

- **Thursday, May 19th** – home of Marybeth Luing, 2119 Franklin Ave SE, Mpls. 55414. **Please RSVP by Wednesday noon**
- **Friday, May 27th** – home of Shelly and Matthew Hendricks

If you would like to host a soup group in June, please contact Aryn Baxter.

Two financial updates for your consideration:

- The deacons have distributed most of the funds in the Deacons Fund and would invite designated contributions as you are able. This fund is used for emergency or special needs for individuals or families within the congregation and also in the community.
- At our annual meeting in February, we set a goal of raising \$36,000 by the beginning of June, in order to move ahead with plans to paint the sanctuary later this summer. We still have \$10,450 to raise in the next two weeks. The trustees invite your contributions.

The Missio Dei Community invites participants to a first "Rootworks" course, a practically-focused learning experience that brings together a scholar, a practitioner, and a trained facilitator to help bridge the gap between theory and life. "**The Economics of Jesus**" will explore the radical implications of Jesus' economic teachings for our own context(s). **Friday, May 27, 4 p.m. to Sunday, May 29, 3 p.m.**, the Missio Dei "Oratory" (space above the garage), 2717 South 8th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55454. Meals are included in the conference. Registration is by donation. Details at: <http://rootworks.eventbrite.com/>