



Hutterthal Mennonite Church

Christ-centered - Living, Relating, Serving

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The Peaceable Kingdom: A Worship Experience July 6, 2014

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

L: Gather, not with heart and mind full of answers, but with a willingness to engage the questions:

P: What is justice? What is peace? How do we “love God and neighbor?” Who are our “enemies?” In what ways do I – do we – continue to perpetuate violence in its myriad forms?

L: Let God speak into the uncertainty; allow God’s vision to bring light to your eyes.

P: God, may we taste and see that You are good.

ALL: Let us hold loosely to ourselves that we may cling more fully to You and to one another.

L: Gather, the firstfruits of God’s peaceable kingdom,

ALL: the body of Christ – a proclamation of justice, a pronouncement of peace.

Opening Prayer

Hymn: HWB no. 323, *Beyond a Dying Sun*

Children's Time: Seek & Pursue
Psalm 34: 11-14 (Pew Bible p. 297)

Time of Confession

L: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the Messenger who announces peace!

P: But, our feet are soiled with the things that make not for peace, but strife. We have broken covenant and spoken lies, engaged in gossip and called it concern, cursed God and neighbor alike, and spoken in ignorance and anger rather than pursuing understanding and speaking the truth in love.

ALL: Lord, forgive us of our sins.

Silent Prayers of Confession

L: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the Messenger who announces peace!

P: But, we have engaged in the ugliness of violence in its myriad of forms: war, yes, but also the perpetuation of poverty for our own personal gain, the simple refusal to be neighborly ... our selfish, even self-righteous, insistence on having our own way.

ALL: Lord, forgive us of our sins.

Silent Prayers of Confession

L: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the Messenger who announces peace!

P: But, we have preferred to announce and bolster our privilege, a growing sense of entitlement, opinion at the expense of truth, justice at the expense of "law," and faith at the expense of the "body politic."

ALL: Lord, forgive us of our sins.

Silent Prayers of Confession

L: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the Messenger who announces peace!

P: We are broken, and yet mended by the grace of God. We are sinners who have been blessed to receive forgiveness.

ALL: God's grace has covered us. We are forgiven!

L: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the Messenger who announces peace!

Worship Music:

Time of Offering

Offertory Invitation

Sharing Our Gifts

Offering Prayer

Hymn: HWB no. 226, *You Are Salt for the Earth*

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 10: 33 – 11: 16 (Pew Bible p. 364)

Silent Meditation

Message A Peaceable Kingdom

Hymn: STJ no. 51, *As Tranquil Streams*

Benediction

L: We have gathered, not with heart and mind full of answers, but with a willingness to engage the questions:

P: What is justice? What is peace? How do we “love God and neighbor?” Who are our “enemies?” In what ways do I – do we – continue to perpetuate violence in its myriad forms?

L: We depart now knowing God has spoken into the uncertainty, God's vision bringing light to our eyes.

P: We have tasted and seen that God is good. We go from here holding loosely to ourselves that we may cling more fully to You and to one another.

ALL: We are the firstfruits of God's peaceable Kingdom, the body of Christ – a proclamation of justice, a pronouncement of peace.

Postlude

Worship Assistants: Paige Zachariasen (organ), worship music arranged by Jarrod & Joani Kramer and Todd Jones (worship leader, children's time & message)

PRAYER CONCERNS/PRAISES

- **Andrew Koerner** (in Japan with MMN Youth Venture)
- **Carol Detweiler** (undergoing treatments)
- **Heather VanMeveren** (wife of Pastor Shane at Bethany Mennonite)

- **From CPMC:** Pray that the children of our conference would sense the presence of God in their lives and grow in the knowledge of God's love. Pray also for those who write curriculum and teach Sunday School.
- **From MMN:** Caleb Yoder is teaching congregational and upper-level courses on biblical study and Anabaptist theology in Ecuador. Pray for energy and inspiration as Caleb helps provide leadership for a new church in Calderón and adds preaching and administration responsibilities to his normal course load.

TODAY:

9:00am: Gathering 58:6

Greeters: Steve Mendel & Moses Glanzer

Coffee Time: Norman & Darlene Hofer

MW July project: Cash - The Banquet (S. Falls) or Gospel Mission

Children's Sun. School project: Swan Lake Christian Camp

NEXT SUNDAY:

Greeters: Aaron & Marcella Glanzer

Piano: Amy Hofer Vetch

Music: Worship Committee

Coffee Time: Gordon & Alvina Hofer

Communion & Benevolent Fund Offering

THIS WEEK:

Wed.: Youth gathering, 7:00pm

Congregational Meeting re: Proposed Sanctuary Updates, 7:30pm

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 20: Youth Breakfast fund-raiser

July 26: S.D. MCC Relief Sale (Freeman Community Center)

Aug. 3: "First Things" Bible Study, 11:10am

If you would like to **follow the adventures of Andrew Koerner** and others who are participating in Youth Venture Japan, check out the BlogSpot

<http://youthventurejapan.blogspot.org>.

On **Sunday, July 13**, we will be collecting a **special offering** for the **Benevolent Fund**. This fund is maintained and distributed by the Deacons of Hutterthal and is used for members and friends of our congregation who are experiencing acute financial need due to illness, job loss, or other hardships. If you are experiencing such need we ask that you speak with one of the Deacons (Monica Clem, Todd Koerner, or Monica Hofer) who

can confidentially assist you. A basket will be placed in the foyer for this special collection. In addition to the Benevolent Fund Offering, during worship on **July 13**, we will celebrate **Communion**. This celebration reminds us that we do not participate in the Christian life in isolation, but are blessed to be in fellowship with Jesus Christ and with one another in an ongoing ministry of loving reconciliation. Our celebration of Communion is open to all who have a saving relationship with Jesus Christ and we encourage and invite you to join us at the table of our Lord as we share the bread and the cup together.

"First Things" Bible Study Offered: The Deacons invite you to participate in a special study of Creation and "First Things" throughout the month of August. The study will include a DVD presentation during the Sunday School hour (starting promptly at 11:10am in the sanctuary) followed by a simple fellowship meal and discussion in the Fellowship Hall. Fifth Grade through Adults will find this to be an intriguing study covering "Dinosaurs and Dragons," "The Mystery of Ancient Man," "The Relevance of Creation," "Global Flood," and "Biblical Authority."

The **Deacons would like to very briefly meet with ALL Sunday School teachers** this morning immediately following worship at the front of the Sanctuary.

Rural Revival will meet on Monday, **July 7 @ 8pm** in the Freeman Public Library. All are invited to attend. (www.ruralrevival.com)

S.D. MCC Relief Sale: More information in your mailbox

Noodle making: Tuesday, **July 8th** at Pioneer Hall, starting at 9:00 a.m. Individuals are needed to run the pasta machines in assembly-line fashion. Snacks will be provided, but please bring your own sack lunch. Questions may be directed to Judy at 729-2480 or Karol at 648-3290.

Silent auction and bake sale to **assist Pastor Shane & Heather VanMeveren with medical expenses: Thursday, July 17 from 10:00am –4:00pm** and will be held at **Shane Vetch's Modern Woodmen** office in Freeman. If you would have an item to donate to the silent auction or if you would like to donate a baked good item, please contact Jennifer Thompson.