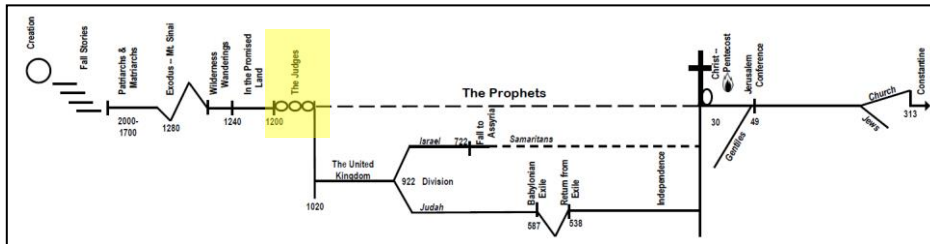


Bible Timeline & Artwork – Part 2

The Judges: The Bible's account of the human experience goes on. God's people have now developed a predictable pattern of behaving, called "the Judges Cycle": they forget God, slide into sin, become enslaved by outsiders, and cry out to God. God then raises up a judge who rescues the people and leads them back to God. Eventually the people forget God again... The circles drawn in the storyline represent the Judges Cycle.

Artwork: The story of Gideon is one of miracles and amazement. The bright colors used here help me to depict the amazement I feel to the viewer. The ground is wet (water), the fleece is dry, and Gideon can raise the fleece high and rejoice that morning. How amazing is God!



First Mennonite Church of Denver

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Claudia Aguilar, *Pastor* (claudiaar@fmcdenver.org)

Glenn Balzer, *Pastor* (glennb@fmcdenver.org)

Paul Johnson, *Facility Manager*

Anita Miller, *Faith Formation Administrator* (anitasmiller128@gmail.com)

Marie Voth, *Administrator* (mariev@fmcdenver.org)

Care Line Phone: 720-345-7722 (call or text): The care line will connect you with a member of the Congregational Care Team. Reach out to request prayer, a visit, or other support. All care is kept confidential. Questions? Contact Marylou Shelly or Glenn Balzer.

For announcements, see the **FMC Weekly** online or at the welcome center.

Welcome to

First Mennonite Church

Denver, CO



November 17, 2019

The End?

*That you may know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge,
so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*

Contemplative Worship Preparation 9:20 am

Teach Me Thy Truth Blue Hymnal 548
Spirit of the Living God Blue Hymnal 349
Heilig, Heilig, Heilig Blue Hymnal 75

Entering Worship 9:30 am

Welcome

Call to Worship (Congregation respond with the **bold print**.)

The Lord is continually creating something new.

We are part of that creation, renewed, redeemed, beloved.

Through all this change, God is with us.

Though we struggle and doubt, yet God is faithful.

Praise be to God who continually blesses us.

Let our hearts, our voices, and our spirits sing God's praises. AMEN.

Invocation

With Songs and Honors Handout in Pew

Announcements, Introductions, & Passing of the Peace

Children's Time

Call for Children: *Jesus loves me... they are sweet and he is strong...*

Children's Time

- Nursery care is available in B2 downstairs for children 1-4 years old.
- K-5 children participating in the Christmas program go to the Community Center for practice.

Gloria Blue Hymnal 204

Faith Reflection

Chimes

Scripture Luke 21:5-19

Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now Blue Hymnal 22

Meditation "The End?"

O God, Our Help in Ages Past Blue Hymnal 328

Chimes

Community and Sharing

Offertory

Sharing & Pastoral Prayer

Lord Thou Hast Been Handout in Pew

Benediction

Leadership for this Service

Meditation: Glenn Balzer

Worship Leader: Claudia Aguilar

Song Leader: Charlie Ferguson

Pre-Service & Offertory Music: Charlie Ferguson

Children's Time: Debb Reed

Usher Coordinator: Judi Nafziger

Safety Usher: Ralph Nafziger

Audiovisual: Evan Miller

Floral Arrangement: Meredith Egli

Cover Art: "Gideon's Fleece" by Erin Wentorf

Thanks to all who generously shared their attention and talents to make this service a time of encouragement and challenge in our walk of faith.

After worship in the Community Center

- ◆ Join us for refreshments and help support our youth
- ◆ Purchase grocery cards to help support the FMC Ministry Plan

Education Hour 10:45-11:45 am

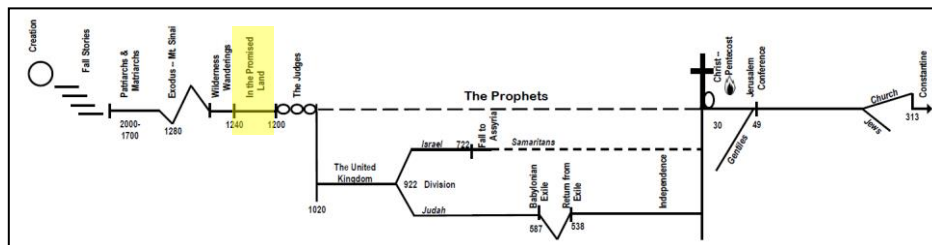
Children & Youth ages 2-18: (lower level)

Adult Education: (Sanctuary) Join the Leadership Board and the Finance Committee to receive an update on the 2020 Ministry Plan/Budget and pledges. There will also be an update about leadership for JYF and MYF.

Bible Timeline & Artwork – Part 1



“Joshua and Jericho”



Into the Promised Land/The Conquest: Traditionally difficult for Mennonites, this part of the story tells of the Israelites' arrival into Canaan. The people continue to learn what it means to worship one God, differentiate themselves from their neighbors, and struggle to have faith that God will provide.

The Bible Storyline would not be complete without at least one visual naming the presence of violence in the life of Israel and Christianity. We must reflect on challenging stories, just as life is filled with challenges. However, it should always be noted that Abraham, Moses, Joshua, Gideon, David, and others dared to hold faith in God above trust in their own military might. We must wrestle with all the violence we encounter locally and across the globe. How do we remember and provide a prophetic voice about putting God first?

Artwork: For this illustration, more than any of the other pieces, it is important to remember that these were commissioned for children. The raiding that is about to happen is not depicted but the victory that God has given to Joshua and his people is already at hand. As children see this piece, they can think on how God gave the people the land God had promised. But as adults, I ask you to reflect on the deeper themes of this story (the violence and conquest), and what that means for us today.