

Welcome to

First Mennonite Church

Denver, CO



Where's Jesus?

***Grieving and regrouping when things
didn't go as planned***

May 16, 2021

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

Entering Worship

Welcome

God of the Bible

STJ 27

Vs 1 God of the Bible, God in the Gospel,
Hope seen in Jesus, hope yet to come,
You are our center, daylight or darkness,
Freedom or prison, you are our home.

Refrain Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.
Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.

Vs 2 God in our struggles, God in our hunger,
Suffering with us, taking our part,
Still you empow'r us, mothering Spirit,
Feeding, sustaining, from your own heart.

Vs 3 Those without status, those who are nothing,
You have made royal, gifted with rights,
Chosen as partners, midwives of justice,
Birthing new systems, lighting new lights.

Vs 4 Not by your finger, not by your anger
Will our world order change in a day,
But by your people, fearless and faithful,
Small paper lanterns, lighting the way.

Vs 5 Hope we must carry, shining and certain
Through all our turmoil, terror and loss,
Bonding us gladly one to the other,
Till our world changes facing the cross.

Children's Time

Vs 1 Let's walk together for a while, and ask where we begin
To build a world where love can grow, and hope can enter in,
To be the hands of healing, and to plant the seed of peace,

Refrain Singing welcome, welcome to this place.
You're invited to come and know God's grace.
All are welcome, the love of God to share,
'cause all of us are welcome here; all are welcome in this place.

Vs 2 Let's talk together of a time when we will share a feast,
Where pride and power kneel to serve the lonely and the least,
And joy will set the table as we join our hands to pray,

Vs 3 Let's dream together of the day when earth and heav'n are one,
A city built of love and light, the new Jerusalem,
Where mourning turns to dancing, ev'ry creature lifts its voice,

Announcements & Passing the Peace

Call to Worship

Welcome, God who is with us when we see you and when we don't.

We invite your presence this morning.

Come, all who are questioning, who are wandering, who are mourning
what is lost.

**We welcome your sadness, your confusion, your fears. Let us love God
and God's people today, whether we have any answers or not.
Amen.**

Invocation

Faith Reflection

Chimes

Scripture

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, “Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus— for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.”

So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.” So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Calm Me, Lord

Sing the Story 45 / VT 680

Calm me, Lord, as you calmed the storm;
Still me, Lord, keep me from harm.
Let all the tumult within me cease:
Enfold me, Lord, in your peace. (*repeat*)

coda Lord, enfold me in your peace.

Meditation

“Where’s Jesus? Grieving and regrouping when things didn’t go as planned”

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Hymnal: A Worship Book 627 / VT 647

Refrain There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Vs 1 Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.

Vs 2 If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus and say, "He died for all."

Chimes

Community & Sharing

Offering: *Hymn of Peace*

Vs 1 God of loving kindness righteousness and grace,
The source of possibilities, now gathered in this place
Plant peace and prayerful patience, give us a new device,
One of sure security, fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

Refrain Can we find true peace in following this Lord?
Could we see injustice and not reach for the sword?
We all long for the answers, yet know where they are found.
Peace lies waiting patiently beneath a thorny crown.

Vs 2 God of healing hearts and God of helping hands,
The source of possibilities, for friendship in our land,
Lead us to light and wisdom, lead us to right the wrongs,
Lead us to a promised land where ev'ryone belongs.

Vs 3 God of all creation, sky and blades of grass,
The source of possibilities, for those who dare to ask,
Your vine can reach the nations, your root can save the soul.
May we all grow toward your light so we can be made whole.

Prayer of the Church

The Lord lift you up, the Lord take your hand,
The Lord lead you forth, and cause you to stand,
Secure in God's word, seeking God's face,
Abounding in love, abiding in grace.

Benediction

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**Today's Guest Preacher: Pastor Amy Zimbelman** thoroughly enjoys serving as Conference Minister for Mountain States Mennonite Conference, supporting 17 churches and many passion ministries in Colorado and New Mexico. She has served as a pastor at Mountain Community Mennonite for 3 years, and has worked in refugee resettlement for about a decade. Pastor Amy holds a Master of Divinity from Duke Divinity School, and has also served in Zambia through Mennonite Central Committee and in South Dakota with Mennonite Voluntary Service. In South Dakota, she met her husband/best friend, Matt Zimbelman, and they live in Colorado Springs and have two young sons. She loves spending time with her family, cooking/eating food, board gaming with friends, going outside to walk or hike, learning about other cultures, hashing things out in long conversations, and trying to follow Jesus.

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### *God of the Bible*

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### *Let's Walk Together*

Text: Laurie Zelman

Music: Mark A Miller

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### *Calm Me, Lord*

Text: David Adam, ©SPCK

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### *There Is a Balm in Gilead*

Text & Music: African American spiritual

### *Hymn of Peace*

Text & Music: Timothy Shue, 1994

### *The Lord Lift You Up*

Text: Patricia J Shelly

Music: Patricia J Shelly; arr. Dennis Friesen-Carper

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## **Leadership for this Service**

**Worship Leaders:** Tim Kauffman, Claudia Aguilar, and Glenn Balzer

**Meditation:** Amy Zimbelman

**Music Coordinator:** Emily Martin

**Musicians:** Romaine Anderson, Emily Martin, and Moses Martin

**Children's Time:** Claudia Aguilar

**Sanctuary Arts:** Paul Johnson and Roberta Kandel

**Cover Art:** "Holy Spirit- God With Us" by Erin Wentorf

**Video Production Team:** Glenn Balzer, Claudia Aguilar, Paul Johnson, Marie Voth

*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.*

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Giving

Checks: Write a check to FMC and mail to 430 W 9th Ave, Denver CO 80204

Online: Go to www.fmcdenver.org/giving. You can make a one-time contribution or set up a recurring contribution by credit/debit card or through a direct withdrawal from your checking account.

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