

Welcome to

First Mennonite Church

Denver, CO



Baccalaureate

May 30, 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

Passing the Peace

Uyai mose (Come All You People)

Voices Together 2

Shona Uyai mose, tinamate Mwari; (x3)

Uyai mose zvino.

(Tinamate Mwari)

Uyai mose, tinamate Mwari; (x3)

Uyai mose zvino.

English Come all you people, come and praise your Maker; (x3)

Come now and worship the Lord.

(Come and praise your Maker)

Come all you people, come and praise your Maker; (x3)

Come now and worship the Lord.

Announcements

Invocation

Call to Worship

VT 1036

Lay one brick at a time,

take one step at a time;

we can be responsible

only for the one action

of the present moment.

But we know that God will take them

and multiply them,

as Jesus multiplied

the loaves and fishes.

Children's Time

I Bind My Heart This Tide

Hymnal: A Worship Book 411 / VT 556

- Vs 1 I bind my heart this tide to the Galilean's side,
To the wounds of Calvary, to the Christ who died for me.
- Vs 2 I bind my soul this day to the neighbor far away,
And the stranger near at hand, in this town, and in this land.
- Vs 3 I bind my heart in thrall to the God, the Lord of all,
To the God, the poor one's friend, and the Christ whom he did send.
- Vs 4 I bind myself to peace, to make strife and envy cease.
God, knit thou sure the cord of my thralldom to my Lord! Amen.

Faith Reflection

Scripture

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. Again, if two lie together, they keep warm; but how can one keep warm alone? And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Together

VT 389

- Vs 1 I will sing with you, my fam'ly; will you sing with me?
I will sing with you, my fam'ly; will you sing with me?
The notes won't always come out as I'd like,
But I will learn to see the log in my own eye.
God, I'll surrender. Bring us together, bring us together.
- Vs 2 I will sing with you, my neighbor; will you sing with me?
I will sing with you, my neighbor; will you sing with me?
My words will be imperfect, but I'll try.
Bringing my assumptions to the light, I'll pray,
God, I'll surrender. Bring us together, bring us together.

Vs 3 I will sing with you, my rival; will you sing with me?
I will sing with you, my rival; will you sing with me?
Diff'rence is a place where God is found.
In seeking peace, we're walking onto holy ground.
God, we surrender. Bring us together, bring us together.

Vs 4 We will sing our song together; sing in harmony.
We will sing our song together, whether two or three.
Jesus feels our pain; he sets us free.
The Spirit's given us this song of hope to sing:
God, we surrender. Bring us together, bring us together.
Bring us together, bring us together.

Meditation & Charge to the Graduates

Teach Me Thy Truth

HWB 548 / VT 776

Vs 1 Teach me thy truth, O mighty One, from sin, O set me free.
Prepare my life to fill its place in service, God, for thee.

Vs 2 Accept my talents, great or small, choose thou the path for me.
Where I shall labor joyously in service, God, for thee.

Vs 3 Help me to show thy glorious way that leads in hope to thee,
Till other souls their joy shall find in service, God, for thee.

Vs 4 Grant me thy grace for ev'ry task until thy face I see,
Then ever new shall be that joy in service, God, for thee.

High School Class of 2021

Katie Rose Friesen Birky

Tomas Gibson

Alijah Hill

Tessa Holliday

Eli Longacher

Elena Stutzman

Community & Sharing

Prayer of the Church

Offering

Go, My Children

HWB 433 / VT 830

Vs 1 “Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love’s baptismal river,
I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.

Vs 2 Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son’s story,
Here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgive, at peace and pure.

Vs 3 Go my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love, and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit’s power filled you,
Here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”

Benediction

Sizohamba naye (We Will Walk with God) Sing the Journey 78 / VT 815

Xhosa Sizohamba naye, wo wo wo, sizohamba naye.
Ngomhla wenjabula sizohamba naye.
Ngomhla wenjabula sizohamba naye.

English We will walk with God, wo wo wo, we will walk with God.
We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.
We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.

Baccalaureate is historically a worship service honoring God through the recognition of those earning high school, college, or post graduate degrees. This morning we celebrate Baccalaureate Sunday as an acknowledgment that God has graced us with the abilities to teach, learn, and grow “in stature and wisdom” (Luke 2:52). Baccalaureate services challenge us to bless God through the developing of the gifts we have been given. We are invited to acknowledge that our abilities are not just for personal use but God-given gifts to be shared in community. As we approach the transitions that graduations signify, our Baccalaureate worship affirms that God is with us throughout all our days.

Acknowledgements and copyright

Uyai mose (Come All You People)

Text: Shona; Alexander Gondo; transc. And English paraphrase I-to Loh, 1986

Music: Alexander Gondo; arr. John Bell, ©1994 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications)

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“Lay one brick at a time”

By Dorothy Day, *The Catholic Worker*, 1957

I Bind My Heart This Tide

Text: Lauchlan M Watt, *The Tryst: A Book of the Soul*, 1907, alt.

Music: J Randall Zercher, 1965, *The Mennonite Hymnal*, 1969, ©1965 J Randall Zercher

Together

Text: Nathan Grieser, 2014, rev. 2018

Music: Nathan Grieser; acc. Jonathan Landis

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Teach Me Thy Truth

Text: Edith Witmer, 1937, *Life Songs No. 2*, 1938, alt.

Music: Walter E Yoder, *Life Songs No. 2*, 1938

Go, My Children

Text: Jaroslav J Vajda, ©1983 Concordia Publishing House

Music: Welsh traditional, *Musical and Poetical Relics of the Welsh Bards*, 1784

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Sizohamba naye (We Will Walk with God)

Text: Xhosa; traditional Swazi; trans. John L Bell, alt.

Music: traditional Swazi, transcr. Swedish Youth Exchange project, “Meeting Swaziland”

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Leadership for this Service

Worship Leaders: Jennifer Miller and Julia Boschmann, and Glenn Balzer

Meditation & Charge: Claudia Aguilar

Graduate Interviews: Glenn Balzer

Music Coordinator: Nikki KandeLind

Children's Time: Nikki KandeLind and family

Sanctuary Arts: Paul Johnson and Roberta Kandel

Video Production Team: Nikki KandeLind, 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.



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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