

Welcome to

First Mennonite Church

Denver, CO



Responses in the Wilderness

March 6, 2022

*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

Pre-Service Music

Fairest Lord Jesus (arr. John Carter)

For the Beauty of the Earth (arr. Mark Hayes)

Welcome & Announcements

♪ *Here in This Place*

Voices Together 10

- Vs 1 Here in this place, the new light is streaming;
now are the shadows vanished away.
See in this space our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, our spirits inflame.
Call to us now, and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound of our name.
- Vs 2 We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry.
We are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
gather us in, the proud and the strong.
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly;
give us the courage to enter the song.
- Vs 3 Here we will take the wine of compassion;
here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here we become the people you fashion:
children of God, to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine ever flowing,
give us to eat the bread that is you.
Nourish us well, and guide us in growing
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Vs 4 Not just in buildings, dim and confining;
not in some heaven, lightyears away:
here in this place, the new light is shining;
now is the dawning and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever;
gather us in and make us your own.
Gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

♪ ***Come, Christians, Join to Sing***

VT 28

Vs 1 Come, Christians, join to sing Alleluia! Amen!
loud praise to Christ we bring; Alleluia! Amen!
let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;
praise is his gracious choice. Alleluia! Amen!

Vs 2 Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen!
let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!
Christ is our guide and friend on whom we can depend:
His love shall never end. Alleluia! Amen!

Vs 3 Praise yet our Christ again, Alleluia! Amen!
life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!
on heaven's blissful shore, his goodness we'll adore,
singing forevermore, Alleluia! Amen!

Call to Worship

Leader 1: We follow Jesus

People: into the wilderness.

Leader 1: We follow Jesus

People: in rejecting the temptations of power.

Leader 1: We follow Jesus

People: in freeing the oppressed.

Leader 2: We proclaim this Good News!

Passing the Peace

♪ *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

VT 98

- Vs 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible, hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
- Vs 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might,
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
- Vs 3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.
- Vs 4 Great God of all glory, great God of all light,
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

Invocation

♪ *Call for Children: Jesus Loves Me*

VT 516

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

Children's Time

♪ *Alleluia*

VT 650

Faith Reflection

Chimes

Scripture

Luke 4:1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished.

The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread."

Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours."

Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

♪ *Come, Gracious Spirit*

VT 371

Vs 1 Come, gracious Spirit, heav'nly Dove,
 with light and comfort from above.
 Come, be our guardian and our guide;

o'er ev'ry thought and step preside,
o'er ev'ry thought and step preside.

Vs 2 Lead us to Christ, the living Way,
 nor let us from his pastures stray.
 Lead us to holiness, the road
 that we must take to dwell with God.
 That we must take to dwell with God.

Vs 3 Lead us to heav'n, that we may share
 fullness of joy forever there.
 Lead us to our eternal rest,
 to be with God forever bless'd,
 to be with God forever bless'd.

Meditation

"Responses in the Wilderness"

♪ *At the Dawn of Your Creation*

VT 179

Vs 1 At the dawn of your creation, God, you spoke: "Let there be light!"
 You divided earth from heaven, you created day and night.
 You made sunbeams dance with shadows, you created energy!
 Peaceful evenings, bright tomorrows, all began with "Let there be!"

Vs 2 By your word, you formed creation: dry land, water, ocean breeze.
 Soon there burst forth vegetation: plants with fruit, majestic trees,
 rain and snow and changing seasons, creatures filling land and sea.
 God, your very good creation all began with "Let there be!"

Vs 3 When you made us as your children, sending us throughout your lands,
 you commanded, "Have dominion, care for earth; it's in your hands."
 Yet we hurt this world you've given; we harm earth and sky and sea.
 We forget it's your creation, you, who once said, "Let there be!"

Vs 4 At this joyful celebration, may we hear your word anew:
 may we care for your creation, knowing it's a trust from you.

Just as daily there's a dawning, bringing light to all we see,
so we daily hear your calling, you, who once said, "Let there be!"

Chimes

Community & Sharing

Offering

By Smouldering Embers, from Fireside Tales, Op. 61 (Edward MacDowell)

Prayer & Benediction

♪ *This Is My Song*

VT 710

Vs 1 This is my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is:
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
But other hearts in other lands are beating
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

Vs 2 My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
And sunlight beams on clover leaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
And skies are ev'rywhere as blue as mine.
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.

Vs 3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's kingdoms,
Your kingdom come; on earth your will be done.
O God, be lifted up till all shall serve you,
And hearts united learn to live as one.
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations.
Myself I give you; let your will be done.

Congregational Sharing & Introductions

Pastoral Prayer

There is more love* somewhere.
There is more love somewhere.
I'm gonna keep on till I find it.
There is more love somewhere

**Additional verses: hope, peace, joy*



After the Service- Fellowship Time

Join us in the Community Center for fellowship and refreshments.

Acknowledgements for Worship Resources

Here in This Place

Text: Marty Haugen, 1981, *Gather*, 1988, alt.

Music: Marty Haugen, 1981, *Gather*, 1988

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Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Text: Christian H Bateman, *The Sacred Song Book for Children*, 1843

Music: Spanish traditional; arr. David Evans, 1927

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Text: Walter C Smith, *Hymns of Christ and the Christian Life*, 1867, alt.

Music: Welsh traditional, *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839

Jesus Loves Me

Text: Anna B Warner, 1859

Music: William B Bradbury, *The Golden Shower*, 1862

Alleluia

Text: Hebrew traditional, ca. 4th c. BC; translit. Greek, ca. 3rd c. BC

Music: from the singing of George Mxadana; transcr. John L Bell, transcr. ©1990 WGRG,
Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications)

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Come, Gracious Spirit

Text: Simon Browne, *Hymns and Spiritual Songs*, 1720, alt.

Music: William B Bradbury, *The Jubilee*, 1858

At the Dawn of Your Creation

Text: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, ©2011 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Music: attr. B F White, *Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm. Joan Fyock Norris, ©1989 Joan Fyock
Norris

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This Is My Song

Text: stanzas 1, 2 Lloyd Stone, ©1934, 1962 Lorenz Publishing Company; stanza 3 Georgia
Harkness, ©1964 Lorenz Publishing Company

Music: Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr. *The Hymnal*, ©1933, 1961 Presbyterian Board of Christian
Education

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There Is More Love Somewhere

Text & Music: African American traditional

Leadership for this Service

Worship Leaders: Annika Stutzman, Isabel Mullett, Glenn Balzer

Meditation: Darren Knowles

Song Leader: Charlie Ferguson

Musicians: Romaine Anderson and Sonia Graber

Children’s Time: Barb Stutzman

Sanctuary Arts: Paul Johnson and Roberta Kandel

Sound Tech: Nikki KandeLind

Video Tech: Steve KandeLind

Cover Photo: by [Dulcey Lima](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Bulletin & PowerPoint Production: Marie Voth

Lead Ushers: Ralph & Judi Nafziger

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**

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