

Welcome to

# **First Mennonite Church**


*Denver, CO*



## **Prudent or How Much is Too Much?**

**May 1, 2022**

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

We invite you to join the congregation in singing the songs marked with .

## Entering Worship

### Pre-Service Music

*All Creatures of Our God and King* (arr. Keveren)

*All Creatures of Our God and King* (arr. Weekley & Arganbright)

### Welcome & Announcements

#### *What is This Place*

#### Voices Together 22

Vs 1 What is this place where we are meeting?

Only a house, the earth its floor,  
walls and a roof sheltering people,  
windows for light, an open door.

Yet it becomes a body that  
lives where we are gathered here,  
and know our God is near.

Vs 2 Words from afar, stars that are falling,  
sparks that are sown in us like seed.  
Names for our God, dreams, signs, and wonders  
sent from the past are what we need.

We in this place remember and  
speak again what we have heard:  
God's free redeeming Word.

Vs 3 And we accept bread at his table,  
broken and shared, a living sign.  
Here in this world, dying and living,  
we are each other's bread and wine.

This is the place where we can  
Receive what we need to increase:  
God's justice and God's peace.

## Call to Worship

Leader: Break open our hearts this morning to hear your word, O God.

**People: Let our fears be vanquished, our spirits restored!**

Leader: Come and let us worship with great joy!

**People: Let us drop the things of the past which weighed us down!**

Leader: God is about to do something new in our lives!

**People: Let God's will become strong in our lives.**

**All: Amen**

## Passing the Peace

♪ ***My Hope Is Built*** (vs. 1, 2, 4)

**VT 621**

Vs 1 My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*Refrain* On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand,  
All other ground is sinking sand.

Vs 2 In ev'ry rough and stormy gale,  
My anchor holds within the vale.  
When all around my soul gives way,  
He then is all my hope and stay.

Vs 4 When he shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh, may I then in him be found.  
Dressed in his righteousness alone,  
Faultless to stand before the throne.

## 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

**John 12:1-8**

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

♪ *There Is a Line of Women*

VT 546

Vs 1 There is a line of women extending back to Eve  
whose role in shaping hist'ry God only could conceive;  
and though through endless ages their witness was repressed,  
God valued and inspired them through whom the world was bless'd.  
So sing a song of Sarah- to laughter she gave birth;  
and sing a song of Tamar who stood for women's worth;  
and sing a song of Hannah who bargained with her Lord;  
and sing a song of Mary who bore and bred God's Word.

Vs 2 There is a line of women who took on pow'frul men,  
defying laws and scruples to let life live again;

and though, despite their triumph, their stories stayed untold,  
God kept their number growing, creative, strong, and bold.  
So sing a song of Shiphrah with Puah close at hand:  
engaged to kill male children, they foiled the king's command;  
and sing a song of Rahab who sheltered spies and lied;  
and sing a song of Esther preventing genocide.

Vs 3 There is a line of women who stood by Jesus' side,  
who housed him while he ministered and held him when he died;  
and though they claimed he'd risen, their news was deemed suspect  
till Jesus stood among them, his womanly elect.  
So sing a song of Anna who saw Christ's infant face;  
and sing a song of Martha who gave him food and space;  
and sing of all the Marys who heeded his requests  
and now at heaven's banquet are Jesus' fondest guests.

## **Meditation**

## **"Prudent or How Much is Too Much?"**

### **♪ Bless the Arms That Comfort**

**VT 527**

Vs 1 Bless the arms that comfort, strong to shoulder care,  
gentle in their healing, reaching through despair.  
Bless the hands that labor Martha's daily deeds;  
Mary's precious ointment, balm for diff'rent needs.

Vs 2 Bless the ears that listen, sharing joys and fears-  
laughing in our triumphs, weeping with our tears.  
Bless the eyes whose wisdom sees through pride's façade,  
cherishing our weakness with the heart of God.

Vs 3 Bless the feet that follow, like Naomi's Ruth-  
constant friend through sorrow, speaking holy truth:  
Though our journeys lead us far in time and space,  
God anoints companions, ministers of grace.

## **Chimes**

# Community & Sharing

## Communion & Offertory

*It is Well With My Soul* (arr. Keveren)

*Fairest Lord Jesus* (arr. Weekley & Arganbright)

*Abide with Me* (arr. Weekley & Arganbright)

## Prayer & Benediction

### ♪ *Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

VT 812

Vs 1 Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,  
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.  
The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended  
the fruits of this service in all who believe.  
The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching,  
shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
Your grace did invite us, your love shall unite us  
to work for your reign and to answer your call.

Vs 2 With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,  
the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.  
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,  
embracing the children of each tribe and race.  
With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us,  
unite us as one in this life that we share.  
Your grace did invite us, your love shall unite us  
give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

## Congregational Sharing & Introductions

### Pastoral Prayer

### ♪ *Siyahamba (We Are Marching)*

VT 793

*Xhosa* Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos',  
siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'.  
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos',  
siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwen, khanyen' kwenkhos'.

Siyhamba, hamba, siyahamba, (Oh!) hamba,  
siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwen, khanyen' kwenkhos'.  
Siyahamba, hamba, siyahamba, (Oh!) hamba,  
siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'.

*English* We are marching in the light of God;  
we are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching in the light of God;  
we are marching in the light of, the light of God.  
We are marching, marching, we are marching, (Oh!) marching,  
we are marching in the light of, the light of God.  
We are marching, marching, we are marching, (Oh!) marching  
we are marching in the light of God.



**After the Service**

- 10:45am Fellowship Hour** (Community Center)
- 10:45am Kid's Spring Fair** (outside- south patio)
- 11:00am MYF lunch** (Sun Room/B2)

# Acknowledgements for Worship Resources

## *What Is This Place*

Text: Huub Oosterhuis, *Zomaar een dak boven wat hoofden*, 1968; trans. David Smith, ©1967 OCP Publications

Music: *Nederlandtsche Gedenckclanck*, 1626; harm. Bernard Huijbers, harm. ©1984 TEAM Publications, OCP Publications

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## *My Hope Is Built*

Text: Edward Mote, ca. 1834, *Hymns of Praise: A New Selection of Gospel Hymns*, 1836, alt.

Music: William B Bradbury, 1863, *Devotional Hymn and Tune Book*, 1864

## *Jesus Loves Me*

Text: Anna B Warner, 1859

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

## *There Is a Line of Women*

Text: John L Bell, ©2002 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

Music: Charlene Nafziger, ©2019 Charlene Nafziger

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## *Bless the Arms That Comfort*

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, ©2001 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Co.)

Music: Gustav Holst, 1906

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## *Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

Text: Omer Westendorf, *People's Mass Book*, alt. ©1964 World Library Publications, Inc.

Music: Welsh traditional; harm. anon.

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## *Siyahamba (We Are Marching)*

Text: Xhosa; South African traditional; English trans. Gracia Grindal

Music: South African traditional; arr. *Freedom is Coming*, 1984

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# Leadership for this Service

**Worship Leaders:** Barb Stutzman, Darren Knowles, and Glenn Balzer

**Meditation:** Glenn Balzer

**Song Leader:** Sonia Graber

**Musicians:** Vicky Mierau, Faye Yoder, and Andi Gingerich

**Children’s Time:** Rachel Barnes

**Communion Servers:** Ralph & Judi Nafziger; Maxine Martin & Joe Fretz

**Communion Bread Maker:** Jan Parks

**Sanctuary Arts:** Jennifer Miller and Rachel Barnes

**Sound & Video Tech:** Nikki & Steve KandelLind

**Bulletin & PowerPoint Production:** Marie Voth

**Lead Usher:** Angie Nofziger

*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 drop in the offering box.

**Online:** Visit [www.fmcdenver.org/giving](http://www.fmcdenver.org/giving) or scan the QR code to the right. Make a one-time contribution or set up a recurring contribution with a credit/debit card or a direct withdrawal from your checking account.



**Text GIVE** to 720-680-0700



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