

Welcome to

First Mennonite Church


Denver, CO



Am I My Brother's Keeper? Or Who Are the Lepers in YOUR Life?

May 29, 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

Prelude Music

Jesus, Lover of My Soul (by Joseph Parry; arr. John Carter)

Welcome & Announcements

Could It Be That God is Singing

Voices Together 42

Vs 1 Could it be that God is singing and these notes are my reply
 To the God-light warm within me, joining earth and sea and sky?
 Surely mercy has a cadence- I can feel it in my soul!
 Surely justice builds a chorus, making all God's children whole!

Vs 2 Have you carried heavy silence, have you let old sorrows win,
 Or proclaimed psalms of forgiveness, but not offered them within?
 Oh, the Spirit, she was singing even when we could not hear
 Her abundant streams of living, waiting for us to come near.

Vs 3 Hallelujah for my Jesus, for his life's surprising course!
 May I, too, live bold resistance to injustice, hate, and force.
 Surely peace, it has a cadence, asking all of what we bring!
 And if music is God breathing, take a holy breath and sing!

Call to Worship

VT 902

Leader: Praise to God who has given us life.

People: Blessed be God for the gift of love.

Leader: Praise to God who forgives our sin.

People: Blessed be God who sets us free.

Leader: Praise to God who kindles our faith.

People: Blessed be God, our strength, our hope.

Passing the Peace

Invocation

♪ **Call for Children: *As I Went Down to the River to Pray* (vs. 3) VT 453**

As I went down to the river to pray, studyin' about that good old way,
and who shall wear the starry crown, good Lord, show me the way.
Oh, children, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.
Oh, children, let's go down, down to the river to pray.

Children's Time

♪ ***As I Went Down to the River to Pray* (vs. 3) VT 453**

As I went down to the river to pray, studyin' about that good old way,
and who shall wear the starry crown, good Lord, show me the way.
Oh, children, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.
Oh, children, let's go down, down to the river to pray.

Faith Reflection

Chimes

Scripture

Luke 10:25-37

On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

"What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"

He answered, "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind' and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

"You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where

the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii [which was the usual daily wage of a day laborer] and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him."

Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

Scripture

Mark 1:40-42

A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, "If you are willing, you can make me clean."

Jesus was indignant. He reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cleansed.

♪ *There Is More Love Somewhere* (vs 1, 2)

VT 804

Vs 1 There is more love somewhere.
 There is more love somewhere.
 I'm gonna keep on till I find it.
 There is more love somewhere

Vs 2 There is more hope somewhere.
 There is more hope somewhere.
 I'm gonna keep on till I find it.
 There is more hope somewhere

Meditation

**"Am I My Brother's Keeper?...
Or Who are the Lepers in YOUR Life?"**

♪ ***There Is More Love Somewhere*** (vs 3, 4)

VT 804

Vs 3 There is more peace somewhere.
There is more peace somewhere.
I'm gonna keep on till I find it.
There is more peace somewhere

Vs 4 There is more joy somewhere.
There is more joy somewhere.
I'm gonna keep on till I find it.
There is more joy somewhere

Chimes

Community & Sharing

Offertory

Song for Peace (by Tim Shue)

Benediction

♪ ***Total Praise***

VT 633

Lord, I will lift mine eyes to the hills,
knowing my help is coming from you.
Your peace you give me in time of the storm.
You are the source of my strength. You are the strength of my life.
I lift my hands in total praise to you.

Amen, amen. Amen, amen.

Amen, amen. Amen, amen.

Congregational Sharing & Introductions

Pastoral Prayer

♪ ***The Lord Lift You Up***

VT 832

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.

After the Service

10:45am Fellowship Hour (Community Center)

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## Acknowledgements for Worship Resources

### *Could It Be That God Is Singing*

Text: Becca J R Lachman, ©2004 Becca J R Lachman, rev. 2018

Music: *Southern Harmony*, 1854; arr. Alice Parker, ©2008 Alice Parker

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### “Praise to God who has given us life”

By The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia, *A New Zealand Prayer Book*, 1988

### *As I Went Down to the River to Pray*

Text & Music: African American spiritual

### *There Is More Love Somewhere*

Text & Music: African American traditional

### *Total Praise*

Text: Richard Smallwood

Music: Richard Smallwood; arr. Stephen Key

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### *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 Leader:** Rachel Barnes

**Meditation:** Charlie Ferguson

**Pastoral Prayer:** Barb Stutzman

**Song Leader:** Emily Martin

**Musician:** Romaine Anderson

**Children’s Time:** Rachel Barnes

**Sanctuary Arts:** Jennifer Miller

**Sound Tech:** Nikki KandeLind

**Video Tech:** Steve KandeLind

**Lead Usher:** Ernie Kandel

**Cover Art:** “Go and do likewise” by [Jorge Cocco Santángelo](#)

**Bulletin & PowerPoint Production:** 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

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

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