

Welcome to

First Mennonite Church


Denver, CO



A Mother's Day Reflection

May 8, 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

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (J Zundel; arr. V Labenske)

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart (F Atkison; arr. V Labenske)

Welcome & Announcements

Mennonite Disaster Service Update

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Voices Together 419

Vs 1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father.
There is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not.
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness! Lord, unto me!

Vs 2 Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Vs 3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow;
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Call to Worship

Leader: Come! Let us worship and praise God.

People: The Lord is our shepherd, our guardian, and our guide.

Leader: Celebrate the many ways in which God cares for our lives.

People: Green pastures and silent still waters beckon us and comfort us.

Leader: Even though difficulties happen in our lives, still God is with us.

People: Even when it seems that the world has nothing to offer but suffering and pain, God surrounds us with God's love and bounty.

Leader: Surely God's mercy accompanies us on our journey.

People: And we will dwell in God's house forever.

All: Amen

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

Psalm 23

I am a child of God

I have everything I need.

This beautiful earth feeds my body.

You feed my soul.

You guide me in the ways of Life,

for You are Life.

And though I will walk through dark places, and eventually to death,
I need never be afraid.
For You are with me always,
In You I can find comfort.
With Your help, I can face whatever comes.
My joy overflows.
Your goodness and blessing will be with me
Every day of my life -- and forever.

♪ **Calm Me, Lord**

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

“A Mother’s Day Reflection”

♪ **Shepherd Me, O God**

VT 744

Refrain Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
Beyond my fears, from death into life.

Vs 1 God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,
I walk by the quiet waters of peace.

Vs 2 Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,
you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth;
my spirit shall sing the music of your name.

Vs 3 Though I should wander the valley of death,
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,
Your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.

Vs 4 You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred,
crowning me with love beyond my power to hold.

Vs 5 Surely your kindness and mercy follow me
all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore.

Chimes

Community & Sharing

Offertory

♪ *Children of the Heavenly Father* (Mother) VT 517

Vs 1 Children of the heav'nly Mother
safely in her bosom gather.
Nestling bird nor star in heaven
such a refuge e'er was given.

Vs 2 God her own doth tend and nourish,
in her holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things she spares them,
in her mighty arms she bears them.

Prayer & Benediction

Pastor Glenn Send Off

♪ *Shepherd Me, O God* VT 744

Refrain Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
Beyond my fears, from death into life.

Vs 1 God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,
I walk by the quiet waters of peace.

Congregational Sharing & Introductions

Pastoral Prayer

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.



After the Service

10:45am Fellowship Hour (Community Center)

Acknowledgements for Worship Resources

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Text: Thomas O Chisholm, *Songs of Salvation and Service*, 1923

Music: William M Runyan, *Songs of Salvation and Service*, 1923

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As I Went Down to the River to Pray

Text & Music: African American spiritual

Psalms 23

from "Psalms for a New World" by Christine Robinson (doubterpsalms.blogspot.com)

Calm Me, Lord

Text: David Adam, ©SPCK

Music: Margaret Rizza, ©1998 Kevin Mayhew, Ltd. (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

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Shepherd Me, O God

Text: based on Psalm 23; Marty Haugen, 1985, *Gather*, 1988

Music: Marty Haugen, *Gather*, 1988

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Children of the Heavenly Father

Text: Caroline VS Berg, *Tryggare kan ingen vara, Andeliga Daggdroppar*, 1855; trans. Ernst W Olson, *The Hymnal*, 1925, alt.; ©1953 Augsburg Fortress

Music: Swedish traditional, *Son Book for Sunday School*, 1871

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Total Praise

Text: Richard Smallwood

Music: Richard Smallwood; arr. Stephen Key

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Leadership for this Service

Worship Leaders: Florian Knowles and Glenn Balzer

Meditation: Glenn Balzer

Song Leader: Emily Martin

Musician: Romaine Anderson

MDS Update: Pastor Paul Johnson and friends

Children’s Time: Madeline and Vicky Mierau

Cover Photo: [John Moeses Bauan](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Sanctuary Arts: Jennifer Miller

Sound Tech: Randy Friesen

Video Tech: Derek Miller

Bulletin & PowerPoint Production: Marie Voth

Lead Usher: Ernie Kandel

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 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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