

Welcome to

# **First Mennonite Church**


*Denver, CO*



## **Are Dead Trees Really Dead?**

**July 3, 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

*Fiddlers Waltz*

*Over the Waterfall*

*Westphalia Waltz*

### Welcome & Announcements

#### *Come, We That Love*

**Voices Together 31**

Vs 1    Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known.  
      Join in a song with sweet accord,  
      Join in a song with sweet accord,  
      And thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne.

*Refrain* We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion.  
      We're marching upward to Zion, the beautiful city of God.

Vs 2    Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God,  
      But children of the heav'nly king,  
      But children of the heav'nly king  
      May speak their joys abroad, may speak their joys abroad.

Vs 3    The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets,  
      Before we reach the heav'nly fields,  
      Before we reach the heav'nly fields,  
      Or walk the golden streets, or walk the golden streets.

Vs 4    Then let our songs abound, and ev'ry tear be dry.  
      We're marching thru Immanuel's ground,  
      We're marching thru Immanuel's ground,  
      To fairer worlds on high, to fairer worlds on high.

### Call to Worship

**VT 877**

**People: Come, Holy Spirit,**

Leader: enter our silences.

**People: Come, Holy Spirit,**

Leader: into the depths of our longing.

**People: Come, Holy Spirit,**

Leader: unmask our pretending.

Enter our trusting, enter our fearing,  
enter our letting go, enter our holding back.

**People: Come, Holy Spirit,**

Leader: embrace and free us.

## Passing the Peace

### 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

♪ ***Gloria***

**VT 94**

## Faith Reflection

### Chimes

### Scripture

**1 Corinthians 15:50-58 (RSV)**

I tell you this, brethren: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Lo! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishable nature must put on the imperishable, and this mortal nature must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

“O death, where is thy victory?

O death, where is thy sting?”

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

### **To the Christians in Atlanta or 1 Corinthians 15:50-58 “Cotton Patch” Version by Clarence Jordan**

I’m saying simply this, brothers: Skin and bones just aren’t able to get into God’s realm of spirit, nor can that which is subject to decay take part in that which is immortal. Listen, I’ll let you in on a secret: Not all of us will die, but all of us will be changed. It’ll happen in a flash, like the batting of an eye, at the last bugle call. For indeed the bugle will blow, and the dead will live again—eternally—and we shall be changed. For this decaying body has to be outfitted with immortality. When this outfitting takes place, then the Bible verse will come true when it says: “Death sure took a licking. Say, Death, what have you won? And Death, what happened to your stinger?” Sin is death’s stinger, and sin’s power is the law. Thank you, God, for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

And so, my much-loved brothers, stand your ground and don’t let anybody shove you around. Always keep up the good work for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for him is ever wasted.

### **♪ You Are Salt for the Earth**

**VT 297**

Vs 1    You are salt for the earth, O people,  
          Salt for the kingdom of God!  
          Share the flavor of life, O people:  
          Life in the kingdom of God!

*Refrain* Bring forth the kingdom of mercy,  
Bring forth the kingdom of peace.  
Bring forth the kingdom of justice,  
Bring forth the city of God!

*Vs 2* You are a light on the hill, O people,  
Light for the city of God!  
Shine so holy and bright, O people:  
Shine for the kingdom of God!

*Vs 3* You are a seed of the Word, O people,  
Bring forth the kingdom of God!  
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice,  
Grow in the kingdom of God!

*Vs 4* We are a bless'd and a pilgrim people,  
Bound for the kingdom of God!  
Love our journey and love our homeland:  
Love is the kingdom of God!

## **Meditation**

## **“Are Dead Trees Really Dead?”**

### **♪ *How Can We be Silent***

**VT 790**

*Vs 1* How can we be silent when we know our God is near,  
Bringing light to those in darkness, to the worthless, endless worth?  
How can we be silent when we are the voice of Christ,  
Speaking justice to the nations, breathing love to all the earth?

*Refrain* None can stop the Spirit burning now inside us.  
We will shape the future. We will not be silent!

*Vs 2* How can we be silent when our God has conquered death,  
Stretching out his arms to suffer so that we might have new life?  
How can we be silent when we know that Jesus rose,  
And will come again in glory, ending suffering and strife?

Vs 3 How can we be silent as we turn our eyes away  
And ignore the poor and broken who lie bleeding in the street?  
How can we be silent when we're called to heal and serve  
In the image of Lord Jesus, who has stooped to wash our feet?

Vs 4 How can we be silent, not give praise with all our hearts,  
For Christ Jesus is our Savior and compassion is our king?  
How can we be silent when God gave us life to be  
Vibrant instruments of worship, made to laugh and dance and sing?

Vs 5 How can we be silent when our souls are filled with awe  
At the beauty of creation and the mercy of our Lord?  
How can we be silent when we yearn to sing new songs?  
In our hearts a fire is burning and it will not be ignored!

## Chimes

# Community & Sharing

## Offertory

*En medio de la vida (You Are the God within Life)* VT 526

## Benediction

♪ *La paz de la tierra* VT 838

### English

The peace of the earth be with you,  
the peace of the heavens too;  
the peace of the rivers be with you,  
the peace of the oceans too.  
Deep peace falling over you.  
God's peace growing in you.

### Spanish

La paz de la tierra está contigo,  
la paz de los cielos también.  
La paz de los ríos esté contigo,

la paz de los mares también.  
La paz profunda cayendo sobre ti.  
La paz profunda creciendo en ti.

## **Congregational Sharing & Introductions**

### **Pastoral Prayer**

#### **♪ *Thuma mina (Send Me, Lord)***

**VT 834**

- Vs 1 Thuma mina. Thuma mina, thuma mina,  
thuma mina, Somandla.
- Vs 2 Send me, Lord. Send me, Jesus, send me Jesus,  
send me, Jesus, send me, Lord.
- Vs 3 Lead me, Lord. Lead me, Jesus, lead me, Jesus  
lead me, Jesus, lead me, Lord.
- Vs 4 Fill me, Lord. Fill me, Jesus, fill me, Jesus  
fill me, Jesus, fill me, Lord.

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## **After the Service**

**10:45am Farewell Reception for Al Zook (Community Center)**

# Acknowledgements for Worship Resources

## *Come, We That Love*

Text: Isaac Watts, *Hymns and Spiritual Songs*, 1707, alt; refrain Robert Lowry

Music: Robert Lowry, 1867, *The Victory*, 1869

## “Come, Holy Spirit, enter our silences”

By Neill Thew, 1990, adapt. Mennonite Worship and Song Committee, 2019

## *Jesus Loves Me*

Text: Anna B Warner, 1859

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

## *Gloria*

Text: Latin; Luke 2:14

Music: Jacques Berthier, ©1979 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

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## *You Are Salt for the Earth*

Text & Music: Marty Haugen, 1985, *Gather*, 1988

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## *How Can We be Silent*

Text & Music: Michael Mahler

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## *La paz de la tierra (The Peace of the Earth Be with You)*

Text: Spanish; Guatemalan traditional; trans. Christine Carson, ©1998 Christine Carson and WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

Music: Guatemalan traditional

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## *Thuma mina (Send me, Lord)*

Text: Zulu; anon.; trans. anon.

Music: South African traditional; arr. ©1984 Peace of Music Publishing AB (admin. Walton Music Corp., a division of GIA Publications, Inc.)

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# Leadership for this Service

**Worship Leader:** Glenda Kauffman

**Meditation:** Al Zook

**Song Leader:** Sonia Graber

**Musician:** Stephanie Miller

**Children's Time:** Mary Olson

**Sanctuary Arts:** Jennifer Miller

**Sound Tech:** Nikki KandeLind

**Video Tech:** Steve KandeLind

**Lead Usher:** Ralph Nafziger

**Cover Photo:** Al Zook

**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

**Checks:** Write a check to FMC and drop in the offering box.

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