

Welcome to

# **First Mennonite Church**


*Denver, CO*



## **Mutual Flourishing: The Fruits and Nuts of It All**

**August 14, 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

*St. Columba (Before the Waters Nourished Earth)* (arr. J Carter)

*Be Thou My Vision* (arr. M Hayes)

### Welcome & Announcements

#### *Jesus Calls Us*

**Voices Together 30**

Vs 1 Jesus calls us here to meet him as, through word and song and prayer,  
we affirm God's promised presence where Christ's people live and care.  
Praise the God who keeps each promise;

praise the Son who calls us friends;

praise the Spirit who, among us, to our hopes and fears attends.

Vs 2 Jesus calls us to confess him Word of Life and Lord of all,  
sharer of our flesh and frailness, saving all who fail or fall.

Tell his holy human story; tell his tales that all may hear;

tell the world that Christ in glory came to earth to meet us here.

Vs 3 Jesus calls us to each other; vastly different though we are;  
race and color, class and gender neither limit nor debar.

Join the hand of friend and stranger; join the hands of age and youth;

join the faithful and the doubter in their common search for truth.

### Call to Worship

**VT 1050**

Leader: From where we are to where you need us:

**All: *Jesus, now lead on.***

Leader: From the familiarity of what we know to the wonder of what you  
will reveal:

**All: *Jesus, now lead on.***

Leader: To transform the fabric of this world until it resembles the shape  
of your kingdom:

**All: *Jesus, now lead on.***

Leader: Because good things have been prepared for those who love God:

**All: *Jesus, now lead on.***

## Passing the Peace

### ♪ Call for Children: *Let the Children Come to Me*

VT 512

Let the children come to me; let the children come.

Never hinder them; never stop them.

Oh, let the children come.

Oh, let the children come, let them come.

## Children's Time

### ♪ *Gloria*

VT 94

## Invocation

## Faith Reflection

### Chimes

### Scripture

**John 15:1-17**

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

**♪ O Blessed Spring**

**VT 522**

- Vs 1 O blessed spring, where word and sign  
embrace us into Christ the Vine:  
here Christ enjoins each one to be  
a branch of this life-giving Tree.
- Vs 2 Through summer heat of youthful years,  
uncertain faith, rebellious tears,  
sustained by Christ’s infusing rain,  
the boughs will shout for joy again.
- Vs 3 When autumn cools and youth is cold,  
when limbs their heavy harvest hold,  
then through us, warm, the Christ will move  
with gifts of beauty, wisdom, love.
- Vs 4 As winter comes, as winter must,  
we breathe our last, return to dust;  
still held in Christ, our souls take wing  
and trust the promise of the spring.
- Vs 5 Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree,  
be praised for this blest mystery;  
that work and water thus revive  
and join us to your Tree of life.

## Meditation

## “Mutual Flourishing: The Fruits and Nuts of It All”

### ♪ *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

VT 628

Vs 1 What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry ev'rything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit, oh, what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry ev'rything to God in prayer.

Vs 2 Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged- take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness- take it to the Lord in prayer!

Vs 3 Are we weak and heavy laden, 'cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Jesus' arms will take and shield thee- thou wilt find a solace there.

## Chimes

## Community & Sharing

### Offertory

*Terra beata (This Is God's Wondrous World)* (arr. J Carter)

## Benediction

### ♪ *Seeds*

VT 777

These seeds you have sown in our hearts and in our bones,  
cover them with your love.  
Use our hands, use our feet, to show your love and your peace,  
and cover us, cover us, cover us with love.

## Congregational Sharing & Introductions

## Pastoral Prayer

**♪ Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah**

**VT 606**

- Vs 1    Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy pow'rful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more,  
feed me till I want no more.
- Vs 2    Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing waters flow.  
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.  
Strong Deliv'rer, strong Deliv'rer, be thou still my strength and shield,  
be thou still my strength and shield.
- Vs 3    When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.  
Death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee,  
I will ever give to thee.



**After the Service**

**10:45am Fellowship Hour** (Community Center)

# Acknowledgements for Worship Resources

## *Jesus Calls Us*

Text: John L Bell and Graham Maule

Music: Isle of Lewis traditional; arr. John L Bell

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“From where we are to where you need us”

By Wild Goose Worship Group, 2000

## *Let the Children Come to Me*

Text: James V Marchionda

Music: James V Marchionda; arr. Michael K Runyan, alt.

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## *O Blessed Spring*

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, ©1993 Susan Palo Cherwien (admin. Augsburg Fortress)

Music: English traditional, ca. 19<sup>th</sup> c., transcr. as “O Waly, Waly” in *Folk Songs from*

*Somerset*, 1906; harm. James E Clemens, ©2004 James E Clemens

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## *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

Text: Joseph M Scriven, 1855, *Spirit Minstrel: A Collection of Hymns and Music*, 1857, alt.

Music: Charles C Converse, 1868, *Silver Wings*, 1870

## *Seeds*

Text & Music: Seth Crissman and Greg Yoder, 2017

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## *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

Text: William Williams, “Arglwydd arwain trwy’r anialwch,” *Alleluia*, 1745; trans. Peter Williams and William Williams, *Hymns on Various Subjects*, 1771

Music: John Hughes, 1905 or 1907, *The Voice of Thanksgiving, No. 4*, 1928

# Leadership for this Service

**Worship Leader:** Kim Kauffman

**Meditation:** Jordan Penner

**Song Leader:** Sonia Graber

**Musician:** Romaine Anderson

**Children's Time:** Glenda Kauffman

**Pastoral Prayer:** Darren Knowles

**Sound Tech:** Evan Miller

**Video Tech:** Derek Miller

**Lead Usher:** Keith Mullett

**Sanctuary Arts:** Jennifer Miller

**Cover Photo:** by [Mohammed Yousif](#) on [Unsplash](#)

**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.*

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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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