

**Welcome!**

In this online service we continue with another of the "seven deadly sins" and the corresponding virtue. Today we come to an understanding of the word "gluttony," which is about far more than food, but about our habits of consumption. As a contrast to our culture, we seek to learn to deeply appreciate and enjoy the gifts of God that we already have.



**GATHERING TO WORSHIP**

**Welcome** – Pastor Caleb Yoder

**Call to Worship and Invocation** (lighting of the peace lamp) (based on Psalm 119:10-16)

I have sought you with all my heart. Don't let me stray from any of your commandments!

**You, Lord, are to be blessed!**

I keep your word close, in my heart, so that I won't sin against you.

**You, Lord, are to be blessed!**

I will rejoice in the content of your laws as if I were rejoicing over great wealth.

**You, Lord, are to be blessed!**

I will think about your precepts and examine all your paths.

**We will not forget what you have said.**

**Instrumental Call to Worship**

*Hispanic Praise (Plaza Las Glorias) ~Dennis Janzer*

Jared Janzen

**Gathering Hymn**

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

HWB 37

Praise to the Lord,  
the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him,  
for he is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear,  
now to God's temple draw near.  
Join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord,  
who doth prosper thy work and defend thee.  
Surely his goodness and mercy  
shall daily attend thee.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,  
as with his love he befriends thee.

Praise to the Lord,  
who o're all things so wondrously reigneth,  
shelters thee under his wings,  
yea, so gently sustaineth.  
Hast thou not seen  
how thy heart's wishes have been  
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord,  
oh, let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath life and breath,  
come now with praises before him!  
Let the "amen" sound from God's people again;  
gladly forever adore him.

**Children's Story**

Renaë Peters

**Morning Prayer**

Pastor Lois Harder

**NAMING THE SIN**

**Scripture Reading**

Ecclesiastes 6:1-9

Justine Unruh

**Reflection on Gluttony**

Pastor Caleb

**Hymn of Confession***Wonderful grace of Jesus*

HWB 150

Wonderful grace of Jesus,  
 greater than all my sin;  
 how shall my tongue describe it,  
 where shall its praise begin?  
 Taking away my burden,  
 setting my spirit free,  
 for the wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me.

Wonderful grace of Jesus,  
 reaching to all the lost,  
 by it I have been pardoned,  
 saved to the uttermost;  
 Chains have been torn asunder,  
 giving me liberty,  
 for the wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me.

*Wonderful the matchless grace of Jesus,  
 deeper than the mighty rolling sea;  
 higher than the mountain, sparkling like a fountain,  
 all-sufficient grace for even me;  
 broader than the scope of my transgressions,  
 greater far than all my sin and shame.  
 O magnify the precious name of Jesus,  
 praise his name!*

Wonderful grace of Jesus,  
 reaching the most defiled,  
 by its transforming power  
 making him God's dear child,  
 purchasing peace and heaven  
 for all eternity,  
 for the wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me.

**ORIENTED TOWARD GOD'S LOVE****Spiritual Practice – Lectio Divina**

Pastor Caleb

**Prayer of Confession**(Adapted from *Leader*, Summer 2019, p. 45)

Gracious God,

Each day we're met with images of sumptuous, tempting, enticing, filling things. We confess that often we choose to supersize, overindulge, or over-consume. And while we often leave our tables overly full, there are others around the world with not enough. We live surrounded by excess, and our over abundance still leaves our spirits empty. When we chase after our own happiness, we forget about you, gracious God. Forgive us. Do not turn us away. Instead, lead us to hunger and thirst for your righteousness. May you fill us with your good things and grant us enjoyment. We pray this trusting that it will be enough.

**Words of Assurance** - "Our God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work" (2 Cor. 9:8).

**EMBRACING THE VIRTUE****Scripture Reading**

Galatians 5:13-26

Justine Unruh

**Reflection on Temperance**

Pastor Caleb

**Worship With Our Tithes and Offerings**

First Fruits Giving

**Song of Response***Gracious Spirit, dwell with me*

HWB 507

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me:  
 I myself would gracious be,  
 And, with words that help and heal,  
 would thy life in mine reveal,  
 and, with actions bold and meek,  
 would for Christ my Savior speak.

Mighty Spirit, dwell with me:  
 I myself would mighty be,  
 mighty so as to prevail  
 where unaided I must fail,  
 ever, by a mighty hope,  
 pressing on and bearing up.

Truthful Spirit, dwell with me:  
 I myself would truthful be,  
 and, with wisdom kind and clear,  
 let thy life in mine appear,  
 and, with actions lovingly  
 speak my Lord's sincerity.

Holy Spirit, dwell with me:  
 I myself would holy be,  
 break from sin, and choose the good,  
 cherish what my Savior would,  
 and whatever I can be,  
 give to him who gave me thee.

**Benediction**

Pastor Lois

## Postlude

Mary Schmidt

+ The peace lamp serves as a visual reminder for us that we follow Jesus the Prince of Peace and believe in uncertain times that God's shalom will prevail.

Special thanks to Mary Schmidt, Lynel Unrau, Marcia Brubaker, Elroy Wiens, Renae Peters, Jared Janzen, Justine Unruh, Steve Unruh, and Delton Voth for their help with making this online worship service possible.

Flowers this morning were shared by Shari Wiens.

### Questions for Reflection (Ecclesiastes 6:1-9 and Galatians 5:13-26):

1. What is your own relationship with the things that God gives for our enjoyment?
2. How do we identify the line where we cross into over consumption?

### Scripture reading for Next Sunday:

- Sloth: Matthew 27:11-26
- Joy/Diligence: Micah 6:6-8

## *Praying for our congregation and beyond*

- ❖ We rejoice with Dwight and Tammy Flaming at the birth of their grandson, Levi Salvare, son of Kendra and Kevin Friedberg. Levi was born on Wednesday morning, August 19. Everyone is doing well and grateful for this safe passage.
- ❖ We pray for the Mennonite Mission Network of Venezuela as they mourn the loss of Pastor Edwin Mirabal who was president of the church conference and died of COVID-19. Edwin was an inspiration to many people. Pastor Caleb got to know him on a short trip to Venezuela.
- ❖ We pray for all who are preparing for the start of school in this very unusual year.
- ❖ We pray for rain to water the dry earth.
- ❖ We pray for our Faith formation taskforce, as we dream up new ways to do faith formation this fall. The group includes Ann Hiebert, Susan Nafziger, Kent Peters, Rachael Burkholder, and Pastors Caleb and Lois.

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**Deacons:**  
Sandy Banman  
Marilyn Unruh Flaming  
Ruth Goertzen  
Cindy Hastings  
Bryant Miller  
Jim Schmidt

If you would appreciate a porch visit or phone call from one of the pastors or deacons, please feel free to contact us!

### Coming Events

Sunday, August 23	11:15 am	Online Worship Service
		Congregational Sharing on Zoom
Monday, August 24	4:30 pm	Covid Task Force Meeting
Wednesday, August 26	7:00 pm	Book discussion of <i>White Fragility</i> – Ch. 5-6
Thursday, August 27	7:30 pm	Board of Deacons Meeting on Zoom
Sunday, August 30	9:00 am	Outdoor Service (weather permitting)
Monday, August 31	2:00 pm	Prayer Team
Sept. 2 – 4		Serve food at New Hope Shelter
Wednesday, Sept. 2	7:00 pm	Book discussion of <i>White Fragility</i> – Ch. 7-8
Sunday, Sept. 27		Church retreat at Camp Mennoscah

## CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Join us! The third of a six-session study/discussion of “White Fragility” is Wednesday, August 26, 7:00 p.m. (note the time change).** Bring your book, your questions and ideas and your chair so we can sit outside in the shade. We'll look at Ch. 5 & 6 this week. See you there!

**Church Retreat 2020:** After much discussion, the Board of Worship decided to move ahead with plans for Alexanderwohl's biennial retreat at Camp Mennoscah. Mark your calendar for Sunday, September 27! An outdoor worship service will begin at 10:30 and include the baptism of Elizabeth Schmucker in the river. The service will be recorded for those who are unable to attend. You are invited to bring your own picnic lunch, as we will not be using the dining hall or the kitchen. Sanitized restroom facilities will be accessible. The camp grounds are reserved until 4:00pm for those who want to enjoy the river, walk the trails, or play frisbee golf (bring your own gear). Unlike previous retreats, there will not be an opportunity to stay overnight as a group. Camp Mennoscah adheres to social distancing and mask guidelines.

**The AMC COVID-19 task force continues to meet on a regular basis.** We are monitoring the number of cases of COVID-19 in our area and will continue to wait for the situation to improve before we recommend worshipping together in-person in the sanctuary. An additional task force has been formed to create what child and youth faith formation (aka Sunday School/midweek) will look like for the coming year at Alexanderwohl. Covid Task force members are: Nancy Stucky, Brendon Nafziger, Marilyn Unruh Flaming, Janine Peters, Tina Schrag, Renae Peters, Robyn Hartvickson Pastor Caleb and Pastor Lois.

**Use of building for meetings:** The COVID-19 task force continues to allow the church building, specifically the Chapel, to be available to boards/committees to use for in-person meetings if they so choose. Zoom continues to be an option for meetings, as well. If meetings happen in person, the following guidelines should be followed: maintain 6 feet distance throughout the meeting, masks should be worn and please limit the use of bathrooms to the ones on the main level of the church. Meeting organizers should be sure to communicate with the church office so that custodial staff are aware of spaces that need cleaning.

**Current and upcoming devotionals** (*Upper Room & Rejoice!*) are available in the NE entryway for purchase.

Pastor Caleb is continually updating our **Faith Formation** resource page (<http://alexanderwohl.org/resource-page/> or click the button from home page). Feel free to make suggestions of resources you are finding helpful.

**It's not too late!** You may still view the Marie and Martha Wheat Marquetry Art Show at the Mennonite Heritage and Agricultural Museum until the end of September. Over 25 larger works (both paintings and wheat art) and many smaller items and greeting cards are on display. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday – 10:00 am – 5:00 pm.

## THANK YOU NOTES

**AMC/Scholarship Committee:** Thank you for the generous financial gift for my education at Hesston College. I am looking forward to my studies, making new friends and growing closer to God.

~Love, Brooke Nafziger

Many thanks for the warmth, encouragement and affirmation I received as you all, along with Heidi, officially installed me last Sunday! I sensed God's presence and guidance through the service and your expressions of welcome and support. ~Pastor Lois

## CONFERENCE PRAYER REQUESTS

### Western District Conference

Pray for the WDC Stewardship Commission as they meet this week, tending to the financial health of the conference, and promoting generosity and sharing of resources to further the mission of WDC.

## **Mennonite Mission Network**

This is a month of change for Mennonite Mission Network's Mennonite Voluntary Service participants. Pray for those who are transitioning from their completed assignments to study or work. Pray also for those who are beginning to learn and serve in Alamosa (Colorado), San Francisco, and Washington, D.C.

## **COMMUNITY & CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Camp Mennoscah**

**Mental Health Spiritual Retreat at Camp Mennoscah will be a one-day event on Monday, September 7.** This retreat is for those affected by mental illness, including friends and family. Activities will be outside. We will follow social distancing and mask guidelines. Please bring a mask with you. Those interested in attending the retreat should contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290.

**Limited number of openings!** Camp Mennoscah's Scrapbook and Crafts Retreats will take place on Oct. 30-Nov. 1 and Nov. 6-8. Masks and physical distancing guidelines will be followed and the facility used has been changed. More spaces will be opened as determined safe and feasible, so put your name on the waitlist! Register online at [campmennoscah.org](http://campmennoscah.org)! Call 620-297-3290 for further information.

**Camp Mennoscah welcomes guests!** Camping areas and cabins are open to guests/groups for overnight stays and day visits. Spend time in the river, have a campfire cookout, and enjoy the open spaces of the tallgrass prairie and the Ninnescah River! Contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 to make a reservation and to inquire about use of additional facilities. We can't wait to see you!

### **Western District Conference**

On August 27 at 12:00 noon at WDC's **Leadership Lunch**, Clayton Gladdish will lead the KLC leadership concept of "Raising and Lowering the Heat" in a congregation. Email [wdc@mennowdc.org](mailto:wdc@mennowdc.org) for a Zoom link to join the conversation.

**Report from a Review of Western District Conference Culture and Responsibilities** - In September 2018 the WDC Executive Board directed WDC leadership to conduct an internal review of WDC Culture and Responsibilities — to learn from the experience of processing ministerial misconduct and sexual abuse responses and to understand and strengthen WDC's accountability and ministry practices. This review focused on how WDC engages with credentialed ministers as well as congregations and their leaders when responding to complex challenges and crises and how this is shaped by WDC practices, polity and programs and by expectations, support and accountability for WDC conference ministry staff. These areas of concern were identified for the review: 1) Relationship between WDC and its congregations; 2) Leadership relationships within WDC; 3) Resourcing, support and accountability for credentialed ministers, congregations and congregational leaders for prevention of and response to sexual abuse; 4) Support, accountability and resources for WDC Conference Minister and Associate Conference Ministers; 5) Specific issues regarding MC USA's Ministerial Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedure and implications for future implementation of the policy and procedure in WDC. The Executive Board has now concluded the review process, which will provide ongoing guidance and priorities for WDC's work in the future. A summary report from the review is posted on the WDC website at <https://mennowdc.org/identity/>. Questions or comments may be directed to Heidi Regier Kreider, Conference Minister.

**Racial Justice from the US to Palestine:** The WDC Israel-Palestine Task Force invites you to celebrate the International Day of Peace with a virtual conversation on racial justice. Palestinians Alex Awad and Jonathan Kuttub join US citizen Sarah Nahar. They'll share their own experiences of injustice and hope and discuss the similarities in both contexts. Join us for this free live event sponsored by WDC Resource Commission on WDC's Facebook page on September 21, 7 pm Central Time. You're welcome to donate to WDC at: [mennowdc.org](http://mennowdc.org).

**Western District Women's Retreat 2020:** And now for something completely different! After much discussion and prayer, the Western District Women in Mission Retreat Committee has decided not to meet in person at Camp Mennoscah this year. We will miss all of you and the energy and joy you bring to camp. However, **we WILL gather virtually on Saturday night, September 12 from 7:00-8:30 PM via Zoom for a worship service.** Our goal is to connect to and encourage each other through Christ and His love for us. Susan Jantzen (interim pastor of Worship/Visitation at First Mennonite in Newton) will lead us on "Reflections on God as Keeper." Bethany Martin from Faith and Life Bookstore will review a few books. Annelie Claassen (Retreat Committee Chair) will lead singing, and Karen Mascho (Pastor and Retreat Committee) will lead communion together. No masks required! For free registration or questions, send your email to Tammy Duvanel Unruh at [2020womensretreat.rsvp@gmail.com](mailto:2020womensretreat.rsvp@gmail.com) Save the date and we look forward to seeing your whole face!

**What seeds are growing in WDC?** Each issue of the *WDC Garden* (quarterly newsletter) in 2020 will feature some "seeds" - brief highlights from congregations about new initiatives, creative ideas, missional practices and connections

within WDC. If you have some "seeds" to suggest for consideration in the *Garden*, please send a note to WDC at [wdc@mennowdc.org](mailto:wdc@mennowdc.org)!

## **Mennonite Church USA**

Due to the pandemic, Mission Network's Donor Relations team is not traveling to visit with our wonderful donors, but we are on the phone and writing notes! Please know you are appreciated, valued, and prayed for. Thank you for your continued generosity.

**Service Adventure has open spots for the 2020-2021 term** beginning this fall. If you are interested in taking a gap year to serve, live in community, and grow spiritually, contact [SusanN@MennoniteMission.net](mailto:SusanN@MennoniteMission.net) or apply online at [MennoniteMission.net/ServiceAdventure](http://MennoniteMission.net/ServiceAdventure).

## **Mennonite Central Committee**

**Mennonite Central Committee is accepting donations to support people in need of food and other assistance in Beirut, Lebanon.** A massive explosion on Aug. 4 destroyed the country's main port and silos filled with grain and worsened an existing economic crisis. You can donate online at [mcc.org/beirut-response](http://mcc.org/beirut-response), by calling (888) 563-4676 or by sending a check earmarked for "Beirut response" to MCC, 21 S. 12<sup>th</sup> St., Akron PA 17501.

**MCC is in need of school kits to fulfill requests from our partners around the world!** Complete kits and/or supplies (find a full list of items at [mcc.org/kits](http://mcc.org/kits)) can be shipped to MCC Central States (121 E. 30<sup>th</sup> St. North Newton, KS 67117) or dropped off in the 24-hour donation room at MCC. If you would like help unloading, please contact Kate at ([katemast@mcc.org](mailto:katemast@mcc.org), (316) 804-8432) to schedule a drop off time. Thank you for your continued support of MCC!

*Mennonite Central Committee is looking to fill several essential positions in the U.S. and around the world. We hope you'll consider applying or give encouragement to someone else who might be interested in serving with MCC.*

**Canner Operator:** MCC is looking for new canner operators! This two year service term is unique and offers the opportunity to travel around the U.S. and Canada, working as a team while meeting new people! Check out <https://mcc.org/get-involved/canning> for details!

**Director of MCC U.S. National Advocacy and Program:** Are you a team leader ready to provide vision, develop strong relationships with diverse groups and engage in policy advocacy? MCC is currently looking for the **Director of MCC U.S. National Advocacy and Program**. The director is a senior management position in MCC U.S., responsible for the overall leadership and coordination of advocacy and national program. Find out more and apply at [mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings/director-mcc-us-national-advocacy-program](http://mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings/director-mcc-us-national-advocacy-program)

**UN Office Program and Communications Coordinator:** Are you, or someone you know, passionate about advocacy and raising the voice of the grassroots on a global level? MCC is currently searching for the **UN Office Program and Communications Coordinator**. The position carries significant advocacy, research, analysis, writing, speaking, networking, and event planning responsibilities, as well as office administration. Application deadline is Sept 7, 2020. For more information or to apply please visit [mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings/mcc-un-office-program-communications-coordinator](http://mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings/mcc-un-office-program-communications-coordinator)

**Seed Program:** Hola! Estas interesado(a) en aprender o practicar tu español? MCC is looking for young adults for its Seed programs in Colombia and Guatemala/EI Salvador which offer experiential learning and formation focused on Reflection, Service and Peacebuilding. Application deadline is October 19, 2020. For more information or to apply, please visit <https://mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings>

## **Bethel College**

The 2020 issue of *Mennonite Life*, Bethel College's online journal, is live at [ml.bethelks.edu](http://ml.bethelks.edu), with articles and reviews by Alain Epp Weaver, Ben Nobbs-Thiessen, Ben Woodward-Breckbill, Cheryl Denise, Christopher Reed, Emma Beachy, Jason Schmidt, Joanne Lehman, Joyce Zuercher, Julia Kasdorf, Keith Sprunger, Lisa Schirch, Marc Gopin, Melanie Zuercher and Raylene Hinz-Penner.

For the health and safety of participants and the wider community, **Life Enrichment at Bethel College is canceled for the fall 2020 semester.**

**The Bethel College Women's Association (BCWA) is now online!** See [bcwamarketonline.com](http://bcwamarketonline.com)