Matthew 13:24-30, 34-43

²⁴ He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵ but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' 28 He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. 30 Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers. Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." 34 Jesus told the crowds all these things in parables; without a parable he told them nothing.

³⁵ This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

"I will open my mouth to speak in parables;

I will proclaim what has been hidden from the foundation of the world."

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!



FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

In Christ -

Making Disciples through Loving Relationships.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, July 19, 2020

GATHERING

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude to Worship

*Call to Worship (Psalm 86:11-17)

Shirley Baltzer

Darrel Knoll

Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever.

For great is your steadfast love toward me; you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

O God, the insolent rise up against me; a band of ruffians seeks my life, and they do not set you before them.

But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

Turn to me and be gracious to me; give your strength to your servant; save the child of your serving girl.

Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame, because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

*Prayer

*Hymns Lord, You Are Good Purple Sgbk 3

You Call Me Out upon the Waters Purple Sgbk 22
Lenna Knoll

Time for Children

SHARING

Sharing and Prayer Pastor Tom
Hymn Jesus, be the center Purple Sgbk 57

LISTENING

Scripture Matthew 13:24-30, 34-43
Sermon The Wheat and the What? Pastor Tom

RESPONDING

*Hymn Touch the Earth Lightly Purple Sgbk 29
Benediction As I Rise Purple Sgbk 23
Postlude Shirley Baltzer

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL who are gathered to worship, wherever you are, and whenever you are able to watch this service!

AMONG OUR FRIENDS

YOU ARE INVITED to gather at the far (south) end of Memorial Park today (Sunday) at noon for a picnic lunch! Bring your own chairs and lunch. We will sit safely distanced (there is a lot of nice shade) and enjoy each other's company while we eat and converse together. Wearing face masks is recommended whenever you are not eating!

THE WINTERMOTE FAMILY has invited you to join them for a come and go graduation party for Victoria on July 25 from noon to 4 p.m. The party will take place at FMC in the Fellowship Hall. Please enter the church through the south door.

CAMP MENNOSCAH:

You are welcome to visit! Camp Mennoscah is open to families, individuals, and groups for days and overnights. The number of groups on campgrounds is limited and each family/group will have their own bathroom. Canoes are available for use; paddles and lifejackets are checked out and disinfected after use. Contact us at office@campmennoscah.org or 620-297-3290. Spend some time at the river, on the trails, or simply enjoying this sacred space!

Camp Mennoscah's Family Weekend has been cancelled due to the low number of attendees. The annual Camp Sing scheduled for August 8 has also been cancelled. Staff will continue to brainstorm options for events that can be done safely!

MCC:

Grounded in the words we read in Philippians 2: 3-4, "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others," **MCC Central States offices and material resources center is closed to the public indefinitely**. The realities of COVID-19 continue to change but the dedication of MCC staff to work for

relief, development and peace in the name of Christ continues on. Essential workers will continue to work at MCC, but the rest of the staff will work from home. Your material resource donations (school, hygiene or relief kits and comforters, details at mcc.org/kits) are needed at this time and can be shipped directly to MCC when ordering online or dropped off in the 24-hour donation room towards the east end of the building (121 E. 30th North Newton, KS 67117). In spite of the challenges from COVID-19, the global work of MCC continues. Your financial donations are needed to keep this work going. Give now at mcc.org/donate or by sending checks to MCC PO Box 500 Akron, PA 17501. To contact staff with questions please email us at centralstates@mcc.org or call the office 316.283.2720.

MENNONITE CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Hundreds of people tuned in to Mennonite Church USA's live online panel discussion entitled "Race, Church and Change". Hosted by MC USA leadership, this important conversation addressed the impact of racism on the church and approaches for dismantling it. If you missed the live event, be sure to watch the video here: http://mennoniteusa.org/leadership-development/webinars/

Join Mennonite Church USA leadership for another live event addressing racism in the church. We are pleased to welcome back our panelists for this follow-up discussion, addressing key questions such as:

- What role does racial healing and reconciliation play in being anti-racist?
- How do we begin a conversation about white supremacy?
- What would it look like for MC USA congregations to practice racial reparations?

Join us Thursday, July 23 at 5:30 pm CT. Register at: https://mcusa.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN JKz I1rpS76YxM8QwSvRzg

CALENDAR:

Aug 13 7 p.m. Ministries Council Meeting via Zoom