

## Thanksgiving Prayer

O God,

We thank you for this earth, our home;  
for the wide sky and the blessed sun,  
for the ocean and streams,  
for the flowering hills and the whispering wind,  
for the trees and green grass.

We thank you for our senses  
by which we hear the songs of the birds,  
and see the splendor of fields of golden wheat,  
and taste autumn's fruit,  
rejoice in the feel of snow,  
and smell the breath of spring flowers.

Grant us a heart opened wide to all this beauty;  
and save us from being blind  
that we pass unseeing  
when even the common thorn bush  
is aflame with your glory.

For each new dawn is filled with infinite possibilities for new beginnings  
and new discoveries.  
Life is constantly changing and renewing itself.

In this new day of new beginnings with God,  
all things are possible.  
We are restored and renewed in a joyous  
awakening to the wonder that our lives are and, yet, can be. Amen.



# FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

In Christ -  
Making Disciples through  
Loving Relationships.

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

**Sunday, July 5, 2020**

Gathering Music		Shirley Baltzer
Welcome and Announcements		Judy Harder
Prelude to Worship	Many and great, O God Pastor Tom, recorder	No. 35
*Call to Worship and Prayer		Judy Harder
Children's Focus		Judy Harder
Hymn	I sing the mighty power of God	No. 46
Sharing and Prayer		Pastor Tom
Prayer Response Song	Consider the Lilies Holly Swartzendruber & Pastor Tom	<i>Jean Goeboro</i>
Scripture (from Psalm 104)		
Meditation	"Prairie Friends"	Keith Harder
Thanksgiving Prayer		back of bulletin
*Hymn	Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee	Purple Sgbk 1
Benediction		Keith Harder
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**

### **CAMP MENNOSCAH:**

The Camp Mennoscah summer staff say Hi and Hello to you! They hope you are enjoying the videos they have created to share a bit of camp with you. More videos are coming! The videos are posted online on the Camp Mennoscah Facebook page. A Facebook account is not needed, though Facebook will try to get you to sign up. Just click "not now" at the bottom of the pop-up box. You can get to the Facebook page from [www.campmennoscah.org](http://www.campmennoscah.org) using the button at the top left corner.

**Camp Mennoscah** is open to a limited number of individuals and families. Reservations must be made in advance. Contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 for further information. We are excited to make this sacred space available to you!

**Family Weekend at Camp Mennoscah!** Camp Mennoscah is inviting you to join in a modified Family Weekend on July 18-19. Many of the same activities like crafts and s'mores will be offered but adjusted to fit life during a pandemic. The pool is closed for the summer, but the river is still as splashable as ever. Each family group will be assigned their own bathroom. Register online at [campmennoscah.org](http://campmennoscah.org) or call Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290.

### **EVERENCE:**

#### **Everence to hold Medicare webinar**

Everence will host its popular workshop, *Make Medicare an easy step*, as a webinar on Tuesday, July 14 at 6:30 p.m. Attendees will learn about the various Medicare plans and what they cover; plans that supplement Medicare; and enrollment details and deadlines. This webinar is free. Please register by contacting Darlene Buller at 877-467-7294, 316-333-1808 or [darlene.buller@everence.com](mailto:darlene.buller@everence.com).

*\*Attendance is recommended for those approaching retirement or those ready to sign up for Medicare.*

### **MCC:**

MCC in North Newton is open on a limited basis Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Following the biblical call to love our neighbors as ourselves, there are several COVID-19 protocols in place when you visit MCC. Please take your time, read the posted signs and follow the directions to the best of your ability. Masks are required and some are available, if needed. The material resources center and warehouse are not open to volunteer groups at this time, except for a

handful of essential volunteers. Material resource donations are being accepted in the 24-hour donation room on the northeast side of the building for contactless drop-offs. If you need to meet with a staff person, please call the office and set up an appointment with that person at 316.283.2720 or email [centralstates@mcc.org](mailto:centralstates@mcc.org).

### **WDC (WESTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE):**

**The WDC Virtual Annual Assembly** will be held August 1-2. "Living in Exile" will use Scripture themes from Jeremiah 29:4 and I Peter 2:11-12 with emphasis on listening to our brothers and sisters on the margins and being missional in new contexts. Everyone is invited to attend (no travel required)! A short (one minute) invitation video is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jn1zOf3jVGA&t=7s>.

**Children and Youth, you are invited to offer art** for display online during our virtual WDC Assembly. Read or listen to Jeremiah 29:4-13 and 1 Peter 2:11-12, then draw or paint a picture, write a poem, or other artistic response to these scriptures which are our theme texts for Assembly, "Living in Exile." We will include them in a PowerPoint during the delegate session on August 1. Please send them to Becky at [secretary@fmchillsboro.com](mailto:secretary@fmchillsboro.com). Thank you!

**So Many Resources Available!** At this year's virtual WDC Assembly on August 1, there will be four interactive Zoom webinars to choose from and links to many videos from Mennonite Mission Network, Mennonite Central Committee, Everence, and more of our partners in ministry! Themes include creation care, reconciliation, mission, and immigration justice, among others. Non-delegates don't need to register this year to have access to all these wonderful resources. Delegates, please register by July 12. Find information and registration at: <https://mennowdc.org/2020-wdc-annual-assembly/>. Donations for WDC Assembly expenses are welcomed; donations exceeding expenses will go to the WDC Hope Fund to assist WDC congregations with financial need.

**The Western District Women's retreat** committee has decided to have a modified retreat this year, due to concerns about COVID19. We will have a one-day retreat on Saturday, September 12. There are two options: an in-person retreat at Camp Mennoscah or a virtual retreat. A virtual retreat would take place on the computer over a platform like Zoom. We would have activities to do - some together online, like worship sessions with singing and a speaker; and some smaller group activities like our seminars, where participants would work or talk "together, but separately." Zoom allows an interactive experience - so it's not like watching TV. Groups of two or maybe even several could be together watching and participating - like at your church or in your home. Please let us know your preference by completing this survey today: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6QXF85X>