

Exposed, Not Hidden

August 11, 2024

GATHERING

Here In This Place

Lisa Rose, Song Leader
VT #10

Welcome

Katrina Baugh

Call to Worship

Leader: How can we be silent when we know our God is near, bringing light to those in shadows, to the worthless, endless worth?

People: We cannot! Hallelujah!

Leader: How can we be silent when we are the voice of Christ, speaking justice to the nations, breathing love to all the earth?

People: We cannot! Hallelujah!

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

Opening Prayer

PRAISING

The Love of God

VT #162

Breathe On Me, Breath of God

VT #737

CONFESSING

Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance

Leader: God, you tell us not to love the world or the things in the world.

People: Yet we can be weak and give in to the desires of the flesh.

Leader: You tell us to walk in the light, and in the same way in which Jesus walked.

People: Yet we can slip into the darkness and fail to keep your commandments.

Leader: You tell us to love everyone, including our enemies.

People: Yet we fail to love even ourselves and our closest friends and family as purely as you call us to.

Leader: God, receive our silent confessions as we share them with you now (silent period for meditation).

Leader: Father, we confess these sins because you say that when we do this, you are faithful and just to forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. We know that, when we do sin, we have an advocate with you, Jesus Christ the righteous, who is the propitiation for our sins and the sins of the whole world. We know that the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does your will abides forever. Help us to do your will (adapted from I John 1 & 2)

Music for Meditation

Karin Redekopp Edwards

Children of the Heavenly Father (arr. Phemister)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

James Baugh

Leader: Listen for the Word of the Lord.

People: Our ears are open.

John 3: 16-21

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Barbara Krehbiel Gehring

Listening for the Spirit

Longing for Light

VT #715

Music for Reflection

Karin Redekopp Edwards

Sonata in C, 1st mvt. (Clementi)

SHARING IN COMMUNITY

Offering Prayer

Congregational Sharing and Prayer

Leader: Lord, in your mercy/goodness,

People: hear our prayer.

Work of the Church

SENDING


May the Face of God Shine On You

VT #844

Words of Blessing

from Matthew 5:16

Announcements

- 'Tis the season for shopping back-to-school sales and picking up some extra items for the **MCC School Kit Challenge!** Our goal is to fill the big blue plastic bin in the narthex with supplies. You can purchase all the items for a kit, or just stock up on one item. 
- Join **Mennonite Action Chicago** at two upcoming events as we March for Peace in Gaza: Noon on Monday, Aug. 19 DNC Coalition March and 4pm on Wednesday, Aug. 21 Chicago Coalition for Justice in Palestine March. Both events are at Union Park (Ashland & Lake St) in Chicago. We will meet at 3:30 on the 21st at a nearby coffee shop. Contact Dave M or Nathan P for more information.
- **On August 25** we'll kick off the Sunday School year with our guest speaker, Dr. John Walton, Old Testament scholar and Professor Emeritus at Wheaton College. Classes resume on Sep. 15.