

# Verse of the Year

August 18, 2024

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## GATHERING

Adrien Keables Hayward, Song Leader

*Here in This Place*

VT #10

Welcome

Keith Eiten

Call to Worship

Leader: O God, we joyously come together to worship,  
realizing we need not summon you  
into our midst,

**People: for you are already here.**

Leader: We need not call you into the secret places  
of our hearts,

**People: for you are already there.**

Leader: We need our eyes of faith to be opened,

**People: that we may see you;**

Leader: our ears to be unstopped,

**People: that we may hear you;**

Leader: our minds to be sensitive,

**People: that we may know you;**

Leader: our hearts to be tender,

**People: that we may receive you;**

Leader: our feet to be willing,

**People: that we may follow you.**

**All: Grant each of us a blessing, O Lord,  
as each has need, in the name  
of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Opening Prayer

## PRAISING

*Arise, Your Light is Come!*

VT #273

*Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory*

VT #504

Music for Meditation

Joe Hayward

*Firefly Meditation*

Offering Prayer

## CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Lord, you come to us, but we do not recognize you;  
you call, but we do not follow; you command,  
but we do not obey; you bless us, but we do not  
thank you. Please forgive and help us.**

**Lord, you accept us, but we do not accept others;  
you forgive us, but we do not forgive those  
who wrong us; you love us, but we do not love  
our neighbors. Please forgive and help us.**

**Lord, you showed us how to carry out your mission,  
but we still insist on our own; you identified yourself  
with outcasts, the needy, and the poor, but we do not  
bother to find out what is happening to them;  
you suffered and died for the sake of all,  
but we do not give up our comfortable lives.**

**Please forgive and help us, through Jesus Christ,  
our Lord. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Story

Barbara Krehbiel Gehring

Scripture Reading

Ken G Kabira

Leader: Listen for the Word of the Lord.

**People: Our ears are open.**

John 8: 12

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon: "Walking in the Light" Richard Gehring

Listening for the Spirit

*I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* VT #536

Music for Reflection Joe Hayward  
*This Little Light of Mine*

### SHARING IN COMMUNITY

Congregational Sharing and Prayer

Leader: Lord, in your mercy/goodness,  
**People: hear our prayer.**

Work of the Church

### SENDING

*O Beautiful Star of Bethlehem* VT #275  
Words of Blessing

## Today

- A/V Technicians: CJ Yoder, Spencer Yoder
- Coffee Host: Hilary Rhodes
- Greeter: Carlen Sellers
- Nursery: Laura Larson, Cora Botts
- Church Opening and Lockup: Lyle Bohnert, Vacant

## This Week

**Mon**—ACA Mtg, 8:30 PM

**Wed**—Worship Commission, 7:00 PM

**Thu**—Menno Men, 9:30 AM  
Church Retreat Registration  
Deadline

**Sat**—Pastor Congregation  
Relations Committee, 9 AM

## Announcements

- The **Pastor Congregation Relations Committee** (PCRC) will meet with our pastors this coming Saturday (Aug 24). PCRC exists to support our pastors and to keep lines of communication open between them and the congregation. If you have kudos, concerns, or questions, please contact a member of the PCRC or use our email address: [sharingwithpcrc@lombardmennonite.org](mailto:sharingwithpcrc@lombardmennonite.org).
- **Mennonite Action Chicago** is joining the March on the DNC tomorrow (Monday) and Wednesday. Come join us for a historic anti-war march.
- **Next Sunday**, we'll welcome Dr. John Walton, Old Testament scholar and Professor Emeritus at Wheaton College, as our guest preacher and Sunday school speaker. We'll provide Mennos in the Meadow for the kids.
- LMC's **Menno Haven church retreat** is coming up September 7-8. No matter how many times you've attended LMC, you are more than welcome to join us! This fun-filled weekend includes outside activities such as boating, climbing wall, hayrack ride, and a campfire. You will have the opportunity to get back to nature and fellowship with your church family. Menno Haven is also a space for renewal and slowing down to soak in the beauty of the peaceful woods. The registration deadline is next Sunday (August 25). Contact the church office for more info.
- Time is running out on our **MCC School Kit Challenge**; the last day to drop off items is Wednesday, Aug 28. You can also donate money and Katharine will do the shopping for you. Donate via Zelle or check; just put "school kits" in the message or memo fields. Thanks!