

Welcome to worship. We are happy you chose to come today. Feel free to join us as we pray, sing, and listen to God speak. We hope that all will sense God's spirit among us and will be eager to return and worship here again.

Our weekly newsletter gives information and announcements about our congregation. Newsletters are on the tables near the north and west entrances to the building.

Children are welcome to pick up a worship bag at the entrances of the sanctuary. Please return the bag and contents after the service.

The children's classes will gather following this service in the basement for Sunday School. All adults are invited to a fellowship time in the fellowship area after the worship service. Following that, we hope you choose to attend one of the Sunday School classes that meets in the Fellowship Hall.

WORSHIP WORKERS

Worship Leader/Song Leader: 1 AD

Ushers: Jerry & Ladonna Andres, Greg Short, Cal Britsch, Mike Zimmerman

Greeters: Bill & Kathy Beck, Duane & Barb Short

Next week: Larry Rychener, Glen Nafziger, Greg Short

Nursery: Karin & Joe Legato

ZION MENNONITE CHURCH

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Collaborative Minister: Jessica Schrock-Ringenberg

Custodian: Jim King

Administrative Assistant: Karmin Brooks



Zion Mennonite Church

August 27, 2017

“Welcome to the Front Porch: Stories of the Stranger”

Prelude 1 AD

Welcome and announcements

Interlude 1 AD

Call to Worship: *adapted from Matthew 25:31–46*

Reader 1: If I believe the God we come to worship is LORD over all of history, what do we do with such a broken and despairing world? What do we do with all the pain and darkness?

1 AD: For I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and you gave me clothing,
I was sick and you took care of me,
I was in prison and you visited me.

Reader 2: If I believe Jesus' resurrection defeated death and took back the world from all sin, how do we explain to our children and our grandchildren what is going on in the world today?

1 AD: For I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and you gave me clothing,
I was sick and you took care of me,
I was in prison and you visited me.

Reader 3: If I believe God is sovereign, what would I do if I found my family, my children wanting? If my children were starving or in danger what would I do? To what extent would I go to ensure their safety?

1 AD: For I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and you gave me clothing,
I was sick and you took care of me,
I was in prison and you visited me.

Reader 4: If I believe God is Lord, if I believe Jesus defeated death, if I believe God is sovereign? What would I do? What if? What if?

*All: Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.*

Hymn "Brothers and sisters of mine" HWB 142

Scripture Reading Ruth 1:6–19a

Song "I am weak and I need thy strength" HWB 553

The back to school challenge!...a message for children to adults

Scripture Ruth 2:8–10

Song "Help us to help each other" HWB 362

Offering/Offertory "Life is like a mountain railway" 1 AD

Scripture Ruth 2:11–23; 2 Corinthians 5:14–20

Message "Stay Close to Me: Hate Ends Where Jesus Begins"
Jessica Schrock-Ringenberg

Response Song "We are people of God's peace" HWB 407

Prayer for the Church and World Karen Ruth

Benediction

Sending Song "Soon and very soon" HWB 611