



First Mennonite Church

September 26, 2021

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

CALL TO WORSHIP *

One: We are from north and south.

ALL: We are from tiny apartments and expansive homes.

One: We are from this city and from others far away.

ALL: We are from big families and dinners made for one.

One: We are from stages of grief and stages of love.

ALL: We are from hot summers and cold winters.

One: We are from kitchens with passed down recipes,
and front porches with old, familiar swings.

ALL: We are from the dust of the earth and the stars of the sky.

One: We are from a lot of places, but today we are here.

ALL: Today we are together.

One: Holy God, gather us in.

HYMN A *Covenant of Grace* (handout)

Poetry Prayer: We Are Not Strangers

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION – Truth Telling

One: When people heard that Jesus was from Nazareth,
they asked, “Can anything good come from Nazareth?”

**ALL: We confess, God of beginnings,
that we have asked the same question.**

One: Can anything good come from that side of town?

ALL: From a school with poor test scores?

One: From a criminal history?

ALL: From the opposite political party?

One: From a history of addiction?

ALL: From a faith with doubt?

One: From a church with faults?

**ALL: Holy God, forgive us for doubting that you are in
all things at all times. Open our eyes to see your goodness,
not as something that resides here or there, but as the
expansive grace that it is.**

One: Can anything good come from there?

ALL: Yes. Always yes. Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS & AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Children’s Time

Scripture *Genesis 2:4b-15; John 1:35-51*

Sermon

Music for Meditation

Prayers of the People & Lord’s Prayer

HYMN *For we are strangers no more* (HWB 322)

Benediction

Postlude ... *remain seated to receive the postlude as a musical sending and blessing. The live stream will conclude at the end of the postlude.*

*Liturgy & Prayers by Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Sound System: Murray Reimer
Live Stream Tech: Jonathan Wenger
Ushers: Jennalee and Dennis Boggs
Organist: Pauline Buller
Worship Leader: Stephanie Gehring
Children’s Time: Lona Willems
Poetry Prayer & Scripture Reader: Jean Gaeddert
Sermon: Pastor Tonya Ramer Wenger
