

# SEEKING PEACE TOGETHER

**Peace With Creation:**

***God Tends a Garden***

**Peacemakers join God in caring  
for the earth**

**August 13, 2023**

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## OPENING TO GOD'S PRESENCE

*The chime is rung as a call to worship, to set aside distractions to find rest in God, who invites us here.*

Prelude

Welcome

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**One:** In worship God bends down to the dust, and we are formed anew.

**MANY:** We breathe in the divine breath and remember that we are living beings.

**One:** In worship we give thanks for the wonders of God's creation:

**MANY:** flowing waters and fruit-filled trees,  
animals of the field, and birds of the air.

**One:** In worship we gather with each other,

**MANY:** our helpers and partners in this life of faith.

**One:** Let us give thanks for this time of worship.

**MANY:** Let us receive God's breath of life.

Prayer

**HYMN** *This is God's Wondrous World* VT 180

Passing the Peace & Fellowship Greeting

## TELLING GOD'S STORY

**HYMN** *At the Dawn of Your Creation* VT 179

Scripture Reading *Genesis 2:4-23*

Children's Time

Sermon

Music for Meditation

## SHARING OUR STORIES

Back to School "Blessing of the Backpacks"

Sung Blessing: *May the Peace of Christ Be With You* VT 843

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer  
Announcements

## LIVING GODS' STORY

HYMN *Move in Our Midst* VT 827

Benediction

Postlude ... *receive the postlude as a musical blessing*

Summer Worship Series – Seeking Peace Together: written by Joanna Harader from Peace Mennonite in Lawrence, KS (a sister church in Western District Conference). Published by MennoMedia.

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# Welcome!

We are so glad you all are here!!

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The Christ Candle and Peace Lamp are lit each Sunday as a visible sign of our trust in God's presence-with-us, and our commitment to allow the peace of Christ to grow and rule in our hearts, minds and lives.

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*Your offerings are received, with gratitude, in the offering box on the table at the back of the sanctuary.  
You can also now donate electronically on our website.  
Thank you for your generosity shown in many ways!*

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Sound: Adam Pounds  
Livestream: Jonathan Wenger  
Nursery Attendant: Glenda Hooper  
Ushers: Jay & Stephanie Gehring  
Pianists: Peggy Stucky, DeAnna Goering  
Drums: Stephanie Gehring  
Worship Leader & Children's Time: Heidi Unruh  
Scripture Reader: Don Wiens  
Sermon: Pastor Jim Unruh  
Blessing of Backpacks, Song Leader: Pastor Tonya Ramer Wenger

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**TODAY:** Fellowship time in the basement following worship. **Next Sunday** - Sunday School for preschool-grade 6 and Youth begins at 11:00am.

**COMMUNION** will be celebrated **NEXT SUNDAY, August 20** (*instead of August 27 as previously communicated*).

**MCC School Kits** – place your donations of school supplies into the blue bin in the foyer. Deadline is September 3. Monetary gifts are also appreciated – designated for MCC school kits.

**LightHouse** is inviting donations of laundry soap (pods), games and puzzles, small kitchen appliances, and art/craft supplies in addition to shelf-stable food pantry items.

**Donations of household items** for a newly arriving refugee family can be placed on the designated table in the basement.

**Anabaptist World** subscription (\$39/year) orders due by August 22.

**Lorene's Birthday Party!** You are invited to celebrate a milestone birthday! Lorene Graber, our dear mother, is turning 90. Her party will be at the church **Saturday, August 26, 2:00pm – 4:00pm**. Your presence will be the best present, and you are welcome to bring cards. – *Susan Graber, Charisse Sprunger, and Charles Graber*

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!**

**October 29** – FMC's Budget Meeting

**December 3** – FMC'S Annual Meeting

**First Mennonite Church  
Hutchinson KS**

***Arms Wide Open: To Serve & Be Served***

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