

# QUEST:

## *The Awakened Traveler*

### *Travel as a Spiritual Act*

## **Week 8: Stories of Reflection & Returning Home** *September 1, 2024*

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### **WE GATHER**

The chime is rung as an invitation to become aware of God's presence with us...

Prelude

Words for the Journey: *Psalm 121:1-3,5,7-8*

Opening Prayer (in unison)

*Sojourning God, your Spirit exists everywhere, on every path,  
inviting us to move with curiosity and compassion toward each other.  
Give us courage to leave the familiar, to venture out beyond our walls.*

*Open us to the depth of our connections with others  
even when it seems difference is so profound.*

*Decenter us even if we become uncomfortable.*

*With renewed compassion, open our hearts for hospitality,  
so that in our welcoming, we will grow together in peace,*

*expand our chances for love,*

*and deepen understanding right where we are.*

*Nudge and guide us, we pray. AMEN*

HYMN *Here in This Place* VT 10

Prayer of Confession:

*Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole hearts  
and have not loved our neighbors as ourselves,  
through what we have done and left undone.*

*Forgive us when we turn away.*

*Guide us as we seek to turn around toward greater love.*

*Lead us to travel in your ways. Amen.*

Words of Assurance

Fellowship Greeting: The Peace of the Risen Christ is with you! *And also with you!*

HYMN *Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia!* VT 341

**WE LISTEN & PROCLAIM**

Our Quest for Peace – *Lighting the Peace Lamp*  
Children's Time

Scripture Reading: *Psalm 15; John 20:1-15a*  
Meditation

**WE RESPOND & SHARE OUR STORIES**

Music for Meditation  
Storytelling (Jean Gaeddert)

Prayers of the People (*with Lord's Prayer*)  
Ministry Moment: Service & Outreach

**WE VENTURE FORTH**

Announcements  
HYMN *You are Salt for the Earth* VT 297  
Benediction  
Postlude

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\*This eight-week QUEST worship series, ending today, was adapted from a four-week series developed by Worship Design Studio ([www.worshipdesignstudio.com](http://www.worshipdesignstudio.com)).

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If you need a hearing assist device, please ask at the sound booth in the back of the sanctuary.

The Nursery is typically staffed with a volunteer care provider during worship (and Sunday School as needed). Children are also welcome to remain in the sanctuary! Worship bags with drawing/coloring materials are provided at the back of the sanctuary.

If you'd like to be added to our all-church email list to receive prayer requests and announcements (typically 2 emails/week), please contact the church office or Pastor Tonya.

Sound: Earl Ediger  
Livestream: Jonathan Wenger  
Ushers: Jay Gehring  
Nursery: Susan Combs  
Pianist: Arwen Iwashige  
Organist: Pauline Buller  
Worship Leader: Stephanie Gehring  
Children's Time: Julie Goering  
Scripture Readers: Sadie Pritchett, Heidi Unruh  
Meditation, Guitar: Magdalena Wenger  
Storyteller: Jean Gaeddert  
Prayers of the People: Pastor Tonya Ramer Wenger  
Ministry Moment: Pastor Jim Unruh

**Welcome!**

***We are so glad you are here!***

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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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**TODAY:**

- Fellowship with drinks downstairs in the fellowship hall
- Hamburger Fundraiser Lunch, provided by Senior Youth Group, beginning around 11:00am.

**LOOKING AHEAD:**

- **Sept 8 (next Sunday): Fall Sunday School** quarter for all ages begins
- **Sept 22: Bible Dedication Sunday**
- **Sept 28: FMC serves at the Soup Kitchen (sign up across from the mailboxes)**

**REMINDERS:**

- **Fall book study:** The Spirit of Our Politics, by Michael Wear, will begin meeting Wednesdays in late September. Contact Pastor Tonya by Wednesday if you have questions or if you would like to order a book.
- **Pastor Congregation Relations Committee** will meet September 26. Feel free to share affirmations/concerns/questions with Peggy Stucky, Kevin Martin-Nisly or Adam Pounds.

**Adult Sunday School Opportunities beginning September 8**

***Salt & Light Bible Study*** meets in Adult SS room in the basement; books available

***Connection & Conversation*** meets in the library to discuss themes from worship/sermon

***Adult Discussion*** meets in the fellowship hall and can be joined via Zoom; fall topic TBD



**First Mennonite Church \* Hutchinson KS**

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

**Phone:** 620-662-9385 **Website:** [www.hutchfmc.org](http://www.hutchfmc.org)

**Office Hours:** Tues & Thurs 9-2pm; Wed 10-1pm

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