



WEEK 4: FREEDOM

We hope and act trusting in the Spirit of Christ that frees us from captivity to fear and death.

October 6, 2024

CREATING GOD, GATHER US IN...

...the chime is an invitation to lean, in trust, into God's presence.

Prelude

Opening Words – *Romans 8:21 (First Nations Version)*

Call to Worship*

If you are hungry,
there is room at God's table.

If you are weary,
there is a seat saved for you.

If you dream of belonging,
then we will practice belonging here.

From north, south, east, and west,
God invites us home.

Let us worship our nourishing God.

Welcome!

HYMN Praise With Joy the World's Creator VT 428
Passing the Peace of Christ & Fellowship Greeting

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD TO US

HYMN *For the Healing of the Nations* VT 705

Praying for Peace with All of Creation:

Confession*

Creator God,

We hear your invitation to love our neighbors as ourselves, to live like we belong to one another.

And yet, what is out of sight is often out of mind.

Forgive us for training our hearts to focus only on what is in front of us.

Forgive us for ignoring the tie that binds us to all of creation.

Forgive us for assuming that you being with us means you can't be with others too.

Our gaze has been too narrow.

Open our hearts.

Expand our understanding.

Help us to celebrate the many places you are present in this world. Remind us of the ties that bind us to all of creation. With hope in our hearts we pray,

AMEN.

Words of Forgiveness*

Children's Time

Scripture Reading: *Psalm 95; Luke 4:16-21; Romans 8:20-21*

Meditation

WE GATHER AT THE LORD'S TABLE

HYMN *Taste and See* VT 467

Poem Prayer: *Pocket-Sized Moments* (Rev. Sarah A. Speed)

Invitation to the Table*

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving* (with Prayers of the People)

HYMN *Come to the Table of Grace* VT 461

Words of Institution

Sharing Communion (with Music for Meditation)

Come in small groups to one of the three stations available in the sanctuary to receive bread and juice. In keeping with our Anabaptist

tradition, bunches of grapes are available for those still deciding about baptism. However, as Jesus is the host of this table, we invite you to participate as God's Spirit invites you.

Prayer after Communion*

WE SHARE OUR STORIES

Announcements

WE LEAVE TO LIVE OUT GOD'S STORY

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

Benediction*

Postlude

Artwork on bulletin cover: *Open Table* by Lauren Wright Pittman/sanctifiedart.org

***from *World Communion Liturgy* by Rev. Sarah Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org (with some adaptation)**

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 & Stephanie Gehring
Nursery: Joel & Hilda Iwashige
Pianist: Peggy Stucky
Worship Leader: Santalena Caudillo
Song Leader: Magdalena Wenger
Scripture Reader: Joel Iwashige
Children's Time: Bryan Kehr
Mediation: Pastor Tonya Ramer Wenger
Communion Preparation: Dohn & Jeanette Fast
Communion Servers: Pastor Tonya, Pastor Jim Unruh,
Stephanie Gehring, Jennalee Boggs

Welcome!

We are so glad you are here!

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!

TODAY:

- **Fellowship** with drinks in Common Grounds Room
- **Sunday School** for all ages at 11:00am

LOOKING AHEAD:

- **Oct 16 WNAF** (Wed Nights at First) begins
- **Oct 19 Church Work Day 8am-1pm**
- **Oct 27 Church Budget Meeting - 10:55am-12:15pm**
- **Oct 27 Blessing of the Pets (outside) at 4:00pm**
- **Oct 31 Halloween Donuts on the Lawn** – volunteers needed!



First Mennonite Church . Hutchinson KS

Arms Wide Open: To Serve & Be Served

Phone: 620-662-9385

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

Website: www.hutchfmc.org

Office email address: office@hutchfmc.org

Pastor Tonya Ramer Wenger: tonya@hutchfmc.org

Pastor Jim Unruh: jhunruh.ju@gmail.com