

TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION



Week 5: BIRTH

We hope and act with eager expectation for the birth of new relationships with Creator God and our creaturely kindred.

October 13, 2024

We know that the whole creation has been groaning together, in the pains of childbirth, until this present time. Not only 'them,' as if they were separate, but we ourselves, who have been awakened by Mystery, we, too, groan inwardly as we eagerly await our re-connection as kin within the whole, a full release from our collective bondage to a culture of destruction into a fully restored and embodied web of life.

Romans 8:22-23 as translated/paraphrased by Victoria Loorz
in her book Church of the Wild; page 179

CREATING GOD, GATHER US IN...

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

Prelude

Opening Words: *Psalm 118:24*

Call to Worship*

How wonderful, O Lord, are the works of your hands!
The heavens declare your glory, the arch of the sky displays your handiwork.

The heavens declare the glory of God.

In your love you have given us the power to behold the beauty of your world,
robed in all its splendor, the sun and the stars, the valleys and hills, the rivers and
lakes – all disclose your presence.

The earth reveals God's presence.

The roaring breakers of the sea tell of your awesome might; the beasts of the field
and the birds of the air proclaim your wondrous will.

Life comes forth by God's creative will.

In your goodness you have made us able to hear the music of the world, the raging
of the winds, the whispering of trees in the wood; and the precious voices of loved
ones reveal to us that you are in our midst.

A divine voice speaks through all creation.

Welcome!

HYMN *Summoned by the God Who Made Us* VT 1
Passing the Peace of Christ & Fellowship Greeting

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD TO US

HYMN *Touch the Earth Lightly* VT 145

Praying for Peace with Creation**

Children's Time

Scripture Reading: *Psalm 104:1a, 10-30; Luke 6:17-26*

Hymn *You are All We Have* VT 701 (sung twice)

Sermon

Music for Meditation

WE SHARE OUR STORIES

Prayers of the People (*with The Lord's Prayer*)

Announcements

WE LEAVE TO LIVE OUT GOD'S STORY

HYMN *God of the Bible* VT 420

Benediction

Postlude

***Call to Worship:** from God's Good Earth: Praise and Prayers for Creation, pg 36; written by Central Conference of American Rabbis; Liturgical Press)

****Peace Prayer:** responsive reading written by Craig Janzen Neufeld

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: Adam Pounds
Livestream: Joel Iwashige
Ushers: Russ Gaeddert & Diane Ziemer
Nursery: Hilda Iwashige
Organist: Pauline Buller
Worship Leader: Anita Kehr
Song Leader: Bryan Kehr
Scripture Reader: Marlene Thode
Praying for Peace: Jean Gaeddert, Anita Kehr, Shane Miller
Children's Time: Lona Willems
Sermon: Pastor Tonya Ramer Wenger

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 @ 11:00am** for all ages
- **CROP Walk @ 2:00pm** at Rice Park

LOOKING AHEAD:

- **Oct 14:** Craft Night, 6:30-8:00pm. Join in ministry & fellowship.
- **Oct 16:** WNAF (Wednesday Nights @ First) begins (6 Wednesdays)
- **Oct 19:** Church Workday, 8am -1pm (bring a side dish for lunch)
- **Oct 27:** FMC Budget Meeting, 10:55am-12:15pm
- **Oct 27:** Blessing of the Pets 4:00pm @ FMC (outside)
- **Oct 31:** Donuts on the Lawn (beginning 4:00pm)
- **Dec 8:** FMC Annual Meeting, following Sr. Youth Fundraiser Meal

REMINDERS:

FALL WNAF (WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT FIRST) begins THIS Wednesday!

Dinner served 6:00-7:00pm. The adult and children's programming are from 7:00-8:00pm. This week's presenter is Michelle Armster, Executive Director of Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Central States.

FMC BUDGET MEETING: October 27 @ 10:55am-12:15pm.

Whether you are a member of FMC, a regular attendee or a "sometimes I am there" person, you are invited! It's a great time to learn more about the workings of FMC, particularly as it relates to how our contributions fund the programs we value, our building maintenance and our reach to help folks in our community and beyond. It's all about who we say we are, **"Arms Wide Open: To**

Serve and Be Served.” We’ll make decisions about the proposed budget for the next fiscal year (November 1, 2024-October 31, 2025) and hear about recent improvements to our facilities and grounds – including the fire alarm system and the solar energy system. Drinks and snacks will be served. Activities offered for pre-school through 7th grade during the meeting.

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

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Pastor Jim Unruh: jhunruh.ju@gmail.com

