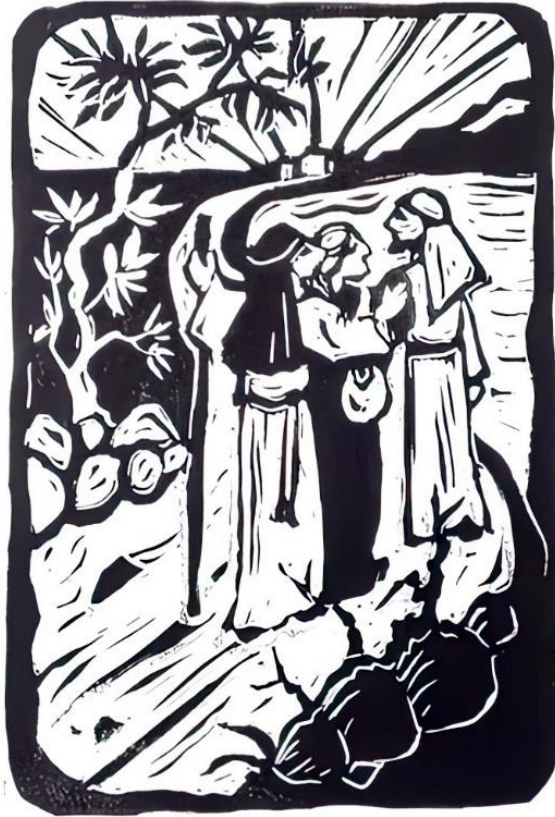


*“How would it be to hold open the notion that the Spirit of God’s Love dwells in all human beings—and walks among us even now?”*

Cara B. Hochhalter  
*“On the Road to Emmaus”*



*Jesus is the Center of our Faith  
Community is the Center of our Life  
Reconciliation is the Center of our Work*

May 4, 2025 @First Mennonite Church

### **GATHERING & PRAISING**

*The church is the body of Christ, created by God,  
and sustained by the Spirit. (VT 959)*

**Prelude**  
**Welcome & Announcements**

### **Call to Worship (VT 866)**

Leader: Open our ears

**People: to hear your word.**

Leader: Open our eyes

**People: to see your presence.**

Leader: Open our arms

**People: to the embrace of community.**

Leader: Open our minds

**People: to the beauty of truth.**

Leader: Open our hearts

**People: to the joy of new life.**

**HYMN** *Summoned by the God Who Made Us* VT 1

**Passing the Peace & Fellowship Greeting**

**HYMN** *Open My Eyes* VT 738

## **SHARING GOD'S STORY & OUR STORIES**

*When we choose to become members of the church,  
we commit ourselves to Christ, to one another, and to God's mission of healing and hope. When we fall short of this  
vision,  
we commit to turning toward one another with compassion  
and to turning toward Christ, our strength and guide. (VT 959)*

### **Children's Time**

**Scripture Reading: Luke 24:13-35**

**Meditation**

### **Receiving New Members by Reaffirmation of Faith**

*Joel Iwashige, Hilda Iwashige, Adam Butler, Adrienne Derstine, Randy Rempel,  
Mark Chase, Peyton Gehring, Glenn Owen*

### **Welcoming New Members (VT 961)**

Leader: We have witnessed your commitment to Christ, and we recognize you as members in this congregation.

**ALL: We welcome you with joy  
as companions on the journey of faith.**

**We commit ourselves  
to fellowship and worship,  
service and witness,  
as partners in God's mission.**

**We receive you as Christ has received us.**

### **Music for Meditation**

**Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer**

**Gratitude Moment – Sunday School Teachers**

**Generosity Moment – Camp Mennoscah**

## **LIVING GOD'S STORY**

*The church embodies Jesus' way of life in the world,  
revealing God's reign through words and actions. (VT 959)*

**HYMN** *Heart With Loving Heart United* VT 813

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

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\*Artwork on front of bulletin: Cara B Hochhalter, *On the Road to Emmaus* <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-image/ink.pl?RC-57467>

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.

Sound: Earl Ediger & Allen Yoder  
Livestream: Jonathan Wenger  
Ushers: Ken Neufeld & Carol Moore  
Nursery: Joy & Sky Miller  
Pianist: Peggy Stucky  
Worship Leader: Joel Iwashige  
Children's Time: DeAnna Goering  
Scripture: Randy Rempel  
Song Leader: Trae Gehring  
Meditation: Tonya Ramer Wenger  
Gratitude Moment: Joy Miller  
Generosity Moment: Delon Martens