



*Pursuing God's
Justice in a
Thirsty Land:
Seeking Shalom
for our
Common Home*

September 20, 2026

First Mennonite Church – Hutchinson KS

GATHERING: With God & All Creation

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship*

L: We come to worship, seeking God.

ALL: We come to pray, seeking guidance.

L: When wickedness abounds and hope feels out of reach,

ALL: We yearn for signs of God's presence.

L: When the ways of the world lead to destruction,
not shalom,

ALL: We long to know God's will.

L: Together, let us turn and open ourselves to the healing
embrace of our creator.

ALL: Together, let us seek God's shalom.

HYMN *At the Dawn of Your Creation* VT 179

Sharing the Peace & Fellowship Greeting ...*stand or remain
seated to greet those around you with the peace of Christ.*

SEEKING: God's Shalom

Lighting the Peace Lamp – *Isaiah 55:6-9*

Prayer of Confession & Lament – based on Psalm 74

L: Creator, at times we feel abandoned.

ALL: Remember us, your beloved children?

Why have you turned on your own flock?

L: Come and see your home–

your dwelling place, your sanctuary.

See how it has been wrecked, destroyed!

ALL: We ask, How could this happen, God?

Who would do this?

How long will this violence continue?

*But we confess that these wounds are also
of our own making.*

L: Creator, we name ecological harm

that we have witnessed with our own eyes:

*ALL: (You are invited to come forward and place your concerns
and laments for the world into the basket on the stairs).*

Words of Assurance

Children's Time

LISTENING: Word of God in Scripture

Scripture Reading *Nehemiah 5:1-13*

Meditation with “*Nehemiah in Central Kansas*” (by Jeanne Koontz)

Music for Meditation

RESPONDING: Dedication & Prayer

Bible Dedication – *Hazel Mast, Sky Miller, Arwen Iwashige*

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

SENT OUT: Pursuing God's Justice

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

Benediction

L: God is a source of abundant life and love

wherever we find ourselves on the journey back to our common home. May we turn from oppression and may we release possession, seeking to care for the earth, which provides for us all.

ALL: As we go from here,

*may we know God's shalom and let it guide all that we say
and do on this earth, our common home. Amen.*

Postlude

***God's Shalom For Our Common Home Worship Resources** from The Leader Magazine (MennoMedia). Additional resources provided from a shared sermon series (Pursuing God's Justice in a Thirsty Land) provided by the Central Kansas Justice Ministry.

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

Reno County Food Bank donations for September: Canned Meat/Tuna

The Food Bank has seen a great increase in folks who shop. Their shelves are emptying quickly. Your food and monetary gifts are appreciated.

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

Sound: Ryker Wiens
Livestream: Jonathan Wenger
Ushers: Glenda & Rick Hooper
Nursery: Tanya Martin Nisly
Worship Leader & Scripture: Randy Rempel
Organist: Pauline Buller
Song Leader: Tonya Ramer Wenger
Children's Time: DeAnna Goering
Peace Lamp, Meditation & Prayers of the People: Tonya Ramer Wenger

TODAY:

Prayer Joys and Concerns sent to Pastor Tonya @ 620.513.2828

Offerings to support FMC mission and ministry are received in the offering box at the back, or on our website.

Fellowship time in the Common Grounds room following the service.

Sunday School for all ages

- Children pre-K to Jr. Youth meet in the sanctuary for singing @11:00
- Adults – retreat introducing Confessional Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) 11:00am-2:30pm today (lunch included)

LOOKING AHEAD

- **September 26** – FMC serves @ Soup Kitchen
- **September 27** – Safe Sanctuary training, noon-1:30, Fellowship Hall
- **September 30** – Book group @ 1:00pm – *Joyful, Anyway* (Kate Bowler)
- **September 30** – Pastor Congregation Relations Committee @5:15pm
- **October 4** – Mentors & Mentees meet 12 noon-1:30pm
- **October 11** – FMC leads worship 10:00am @ Mennonite Friendship Communities; talk to Pastor Jim to volunteer to help
- **October 11** – Reno County CROP Hunger Walk, Rice Park, register 1:30
- **October 25** – FMC Budget Meeting (+ youth fundraiser hamburger fry)
- **October 27** – Mennonite Friendship Communities, *Evening at the Burt*

RENO COUNTY CROP HUNGER WALK . . . October 11 @ Rice Park, 1:30pm

If you would like to send donations in advance, please make checks payable to CWS/CROP, put our church's name on the memo line, and put them in our offering box. Or, you can send them directly to Grace Episcopal Church, 2 Hyde Park Dr, Hutchinson, KS 67502. Make your donation by October 11. You can also join the youth group and others from FMC and area churches in walking that day.

Read THIS WEEK @ FMC

posted at hutchfmc.org for more information about events and opportunities!!



Arms Wide Open: To Serve & Be Served

Phone: 620.662.9385

Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 9-2pm; Wed 12-3pm

www.hutchfmc.org :: office@hutchfmc.org

Pastor Tonya Ramer Wenger: tonya@hutchfmc.org

Pastor Jim Unruh: jhunruh.ju@gmail.com

Children's Faith Formation Coordinator, Joy Miller: joy@hutchfmc.org