

# AUGUST 9, 2015

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PRELUDE

Karen Goering Hostetler, Accompanist

WELCOME

Sallie Page-Goertz, Worship Leader

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We have come to worship you, O God;

**C: gather us in.**

L: Some of us come full of happiness;

**C: gather us in.**

L: Some of us come sore from what life brings;

**C: gather us in.**

L: Some of us come indifferent or confused;

**C: gather us in.**

L: We honor you—

who forms us

and calls us each by name.

You are our God, known yet unknown,

present here yet everywhere

now and forever.

You have made us distinctly unique

and yet part of your people world-wide.

*All: Gather us in to your fierce love, your tender care, your abundant grace.\*\**

\*HYMN #55 (sing in English or Spanish)

*Cantemos al Señor*

CHILDREN'S TIME

Backpack dedication

**Wise and wonderful God, we dedicate these backpacks and bless the students who carry them. Accompany the students to school. Strengthen their minds and their bodies. As they grow in knowledge, may they discover the gifts and passions that you have entrusted to them. May they learn kindness, creativity, and care. Bless their classmates, their teachers, and their parents, we pray. Amen. \*\*\***

HYMN SJ #90

*Lord, we bring to you our children*

## SCRIPTURE

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8  
Exodus 3:10-15

## SERMON

*Life's only constant is change*

## \*HYMN #299

*New earth, heavens new*

## NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION: JOHN VANDERHEIDE

**Congregational response:** We freely receive you, even as Christ has received us. We open ourselves to fellowship with you in worship, study, service, and discipline. We pledge our willingness to give and receive counsel, to offer and accept forgiveness in the redeemed community. We joyfully accept you as a partner, both in the care of our spiritual family, and in our mission to the world.\*\*\*

## LITANY OF FAREWELL

**Congregational prayer:** May God bless you in this season of transition and grant you wisdom to perceive the path of integrity. May Christ befriend you and bring you relationships to feed your soul. May the Spirit go before you and guard your future so that you might know mercy in trouble, blessings in the ordinary, and faith in all things. Amen.

## HYMN SJ# 73

*The Lord lift you up*

## COMMUNITY BUILDING TIME

### INTRODUCTIONS

*We are glad you are here. Once the attendance register reaches the center aisle, please pass it back to the outer aisle.*

### SHARING JOY

### SHARING CONCERNS

### PRAYING TOGETHER

*Slips of paper are available in the attendance register for those who wish to offer joys and concerns silently and anonymously. These papers, if put in the offering plate, will be placed in the prayer bowl at the front of the sanctuary.*

## OFFERING

Offertory: *Good, good end*

by Don & Lori Chaffer

Joshua Smith and Alyssa Bennett Smith

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*HYMN #362

*Help us to help each other*

\*SENDING FORTH

L1: Go with the strength you have,

L2: Go simply,  
lightly,  
gently,

in search of Love.

L1: And the Spirit go with you.

L2: Let all God's people say:

**All: Amen. \*\*\*\***

\*POSTLUDE

\* Please stand as you are able.

Unless otherwise indicated, hymns are in the blue *Hymnal: A Worship Book*.

Songs designated "SJ" are in the green *Sing the Journey* hymnal.

\*\*From *Words for Worship 2*, edited by Diane Zaerr Brenneman, © 2009 by Herald Press, Scottsdale, Pa.

\*\*\**Hymnal A Worship Book* #794

\*\*\*\**Sing the Journey* #163

Now **Here** God

Here is a place for worship reflections. What are you sensing about God in the here and now?  
What words, images or questions do you want to take with you into this new week?

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## **RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH**

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