

# OCTOBER 28, 2018

Worship 9:30am

Sunday School 10:50am

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## WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Karen Goering Hostetler, accompanist

WELCOME AND PRAYER

Jeff Shelly, worship leader

\*HYMN #111

*O praise the gracious power*

## WE LISTEN AND LEARN

CHILDREN'S TIME

Mike Horner

ANTHEM

*O Be Joyful*  
Words from *Psalm 100* and *Gloria Patri*

Stopford

## SCRIPTURAL REFLECTION

WE BELIEVE that truth is morally central to our personal and public lives. Truth-telling is central to the prophetic biblical tradition, whose vocation includes speaking the Word of God into their societies and speaking the truth to power. A commitment to speaking truth, the ninth commandment of the Decalogue, “You shall not bear false witness” (Exodus 20:16), is foundational to shared trust in society. Falsehood can enslave us, but Jesus promises, “You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (John 8:32). The search and respect for truth is crucial to anyone who follows Christ.

THEREFORE, WE REJECT the practice and pattern of lying that is invading our political and civil life. Politicians, like the rest of us, are human, fallible, sinful, and mortal. But when public lying becomes so persistent that it deliberately tries to change facts for ideological, political, or personal gain, the public accountability to truth is undermined. The regular purveying of falsehoods and consistent lying by the nation's highest leaders can change the moral expectations within a culture, the accountability for a civil society, and even the behavior of families and children. The normalization of lying presents a profound moral danger to the fabric of society. In the face of lies that bring darkness, Jesus is our truth and our light.\*\*

SERMON

*Facing the hard truth*

\*HYMN

*The word of God is solid ground*

The word of God is solid ground, our constant firm confession, no  
 What powers can our faith constrain? What iron-clad restrictions? No  
 What God-word brings, may we embrace; success and suffering greet us; con-

5  
 source of freedom more profound, no purer a profession. All  
 self-deceiving rule can chain our conscience and convictions. Our  
 fronting evil face to face, as scorn and anger meet us. For

9  
 steadfast strength, all breadth and length of truth, from God's word springing shall  
 God alone is on the throne, and we are subjects willing. Our  
 freedom's sake we bend, we break, a sign to every nation that

13  
 we employ to speak our joy, this world our witness bringing,  
 lives obey God's higher way; our love God's law fulfilling,  
 we have found a solid ground; God's word our sure foundation.

Text: anonymous, ca. 1550, Ausbund, 1564; adapted by Harris J. Loewen, 1983  
 Music: J. Harold Moyer, © 1983, Faith and Life Press/MPH

## **WE RESPOND AND SHARE**

### **SHARING JOY**

*We welcome the introduction of guests and visitors during this time. One way we get to know one another is by signing the friendship registers. Once the register reaches the center aisle, please pass it back to the outer aisle.*

### **SHARING CONCERNS**

### **PRAYING TOGETHER**

*Slips of paper are available in the pew racks 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 table at the front of the sanctuary.*

### **OFFERING**

### **MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*If you did not have time to submit a written announcement, or if something new needs highlighting, please hand your written announcement to the worship leader or pastor before the worship service.*



*Children in K-5grades are dismissed for WorshipArts (Room 120), a time for children to respond to worship, ask questions, and learn more about the language, ritual, movement, sound and art incorporated in worship.*

## **WE GO INTO THE WORLD WITH LOVE**

### **\*SENDING FORTH PRAYER, HYMN AND POSTLUDE**

*Please remain standing for the closing hymn and postlude.*

### **\*HYMN #545**

*Be thou my vision*

*\* Please stand in body or in spirit.*

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

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

*As we sing, please use language that makes worship most meaningful, enriching and inclusive.*



Consider  
Confront  
Change

Here is a place for worship reflections. Consider what you've heard or sensed today. What needs confronting? What change do you yearn for?

\*\*These words are lifted from a longer letter called "Reclaiming Jesus: A Confession of Faith in a Time of Crisis." (ReclaimingJesus.org) The full, three-page letter was written in Spring of 2018 and signed by over 50 ecumenical faith leaders. Today and in future Sundays, we will consider various sections of this letter as part of our own congregational goal of "fostering a relevant peace church tradition in the 21st century informed by the study of scripture and current societal challenges such as racism, gun violence, immigration and socioeconomic biases and disparities."

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## **RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH**

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