



**4TH SUNDAY IN LENT  
CONFLICT TRANSFORMED**

**MARCH 30, 2014**

**Worship – 9:30 a.m.**

**Sunday School – 10:50 a.m.**

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PRELUDE

Karla Leuenberg, Accompanist

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN #6 st 1, 2

Sallie Page-Goertz, Worship Leader

*Here in this place*

\*INVOCATION

L: God of Lenten journeys, we look to the empowering Jesus who loves the poor, challenges the self-assured and lifts up the lowly.

**C: May we be guided by your Spirit as we worship.**

L: We look to the vulnerable Jesus who weeps over Jerusalem, grieves the death of friends, and comforts those who mourn.

**C: May we be filled with your compassion.**

L: We look to the humble Jesus who stoops to wash disciples' feet and welcomes the children to receive his blessing.

**C: May we, in humility, point to your glorious love.**

(continued)

L: We look to the just Jesus who overturns the tables of the money-changers, challenges corrupt authorities, and transforms the lives of the oppressed.

**C: May we hunger and thirst for your justice.**

L: We look to the merciful Jesus who welcomes sinners to his table, heals diseases, and touches those who never are touched.

**C: May we reflect such mercy.**

L: We look to the praying Jesus who teaches prayer and leaves the crowd to encounter you in the desert and on the mountaintop.

**C: May we attend to your presence and grow in maturity of faith.**

L: We look to the peacemaking Jesus who chooses humility over dominance, servanthood over force.

**C: May we embrace your message of reconciliation and love.**

L: We look to the bold Jesus, who suffers because of the path he walks and rejoices in the good news he proclaims.

**All: *May we know your joy and passion as we walk this Lenten journey.\*\****

\*HYMN #70

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise*

CHILDREN'S TIME

Hannah Unruh

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 60:1-6  
Luke 15:11-24

CONFESSION (see insert)

*O God, how we have wandered*

SERMON

*The God of Jesus*  
J. Denny Weaver

ANTHEM

*I will arise*

Shaw/Parker

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.*

- Joys and Concerns

*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.*

- Prayers of the People
- Announcements
- Offering

\*HYMN #363

*Renew your church*

*Children in Kindergarten - 5<sup>th</sup> grade dismissed*

\*SENDING FORTH

L: For all that God can do within us,  
for all that God can do without us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

L: For all in whom Christ lived before us,  
for all in whom Christ lives beside us,

**C: Thanks be to God.**

L: For all the Spirit wants to bring us,  
for where the Spirit wants to send us,

**C: Thanks be to God.**

L: Christ has promised to be with us in the world as in our worship.

**All: Amen.**

\*BENEDICTION

\*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.

Today's Invocation was adapted from *Words for Worship 2*, edited by Diane Zaerr Breneman, © 2009 by Herald Press, Scottsdale, Pa.

The drawing on the front of the bulletin by Jesse Graber was inspired by an Arlie Regier sculpture that resides at the Clay County Court House in Liberty, MO. The plaque next to Arlie's sculpture reads as follows: *"...and they shall beat their swords into plowshares..." Isaiah's vision, early settlers' dreams, and descendants' honest toil bring greatness to the land."*

**Lectionary readings for April 6, 2014**

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 130

Romans 8:6-11

John 11:1-45

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**RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH**

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