

**God Speaks**  
**First Mennonite Church**  
**October 13, 2019**

Music calls us to worship	LuAnn Stuckey
Welcome and Announcements	Kevin Cluts
Prelude	“Rejoice, My Heart” setting by J. Blersch
Invocation	
*Opening hymn	“Oh, that I had a thousand voices” HWB 84 (vs. 1,3-5)
<b>*Responsive reading</b>	Psalm 66:16-20 (IB)
L: Come and hear, all who revere God, and I will tell what the Holy One has done for me.	
<b>C: I cried aloud to God, and praise was on my tongue.</b>	
L: If I had nursed evil in my heart, God would not have listened.	
<b>C: But God did listen, and heeded the voice of my prayer.</b>	
<b>ALL: Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer or stopped loving me!</b>	
Conversation with friends	Chris Gott
“Lord, we bring to you our children” STJ 90 (vs.1, coming forward; vs.2, returning to seats)	

Special music	“Praise the Lord” <i>Chancel Choir</i>	G.F. Handel
Community prayer		Lois Wetherill
Scripture	Genesis 18:1-15	Elizabeth Shelly
Sermon	“Good Laugh”	Wanda Stopher
*Hymn	“He comes to us as one unknown”	HWB 498
Presenting our tithes and offerings		
Offertory	“In Thee Alone, O Christ”	J. Pachelbel
*Hymn	“God of the fertile fields” vs. 1	HWB 390
*Prayer of dedication		
*Hymn	“Lord, speak to me” vs. 1-4	HWB 499
*Benediction		
Postlude		
<i>*Please rise in body or in spirit.</i>		
HWB Hymnal: A Worship Book; STJ-Sing the Journey; STS-Sing the Story Please ask an usher for large print hymnals.		

*In response to God’s unconditional love for all people, we joyfully and unconditionally welcome you to join us on our journey of faith in Jesus Christ. We are committed to breaking down dividing walls and building community where all are loved and accepted. We believe in active inclusion and invite each one to participate in the life and ministry of our congregation.*

First Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson St., Bluffton, Ohio 45817  
419-358-5766 | [fmclubffton.org](http://fmclubffton.org) | Office open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. M-F

#### Church Staff

- Pastor Wanda Stopher – Monday-Thursday, 9-4, off Friday; 419-551-1079; [wanda@fmclubffton.org](mailto:wanda@fmclubffton.org)
- Pastor Theda Good – Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday; 419-549-2417 (cell); [theda@fmclubffton.org](mailto:theda@fmclubffton.org)
- Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, M-F, 8-11 a.m., [mastc@bluffton.edu](mailto:mastc@bluffton.edu)
- Director of Music – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 (cell); [sudermanme@bluffton.edu](mailto:sudermanme@bluffton.edu)
- Administrative Asst. – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, M-F, 9-4, [fmc@fmclubffton.org](mailto:fmc@fmclubffton.org)
- Custodian – Mick Hardy, 7-10 a.m., weekends as needed

**Greeter:** Amy Freeman

**Chancel:** Anita Lehman

**Sound:** Art Shelly

**Nursery today:** Elaine Suderman, Monica Harnish

**Worship today:** John and Julie Mackey, Sunita Hooley

**Nursery next week:** Melinda, Patrick & Rebecca Estell

**Worship next week:** Kevin Cluts, Kristen Niekamp, John Paul Yoder

#### Our stewardship

Worship attendance last Sunday	FMC-160
Volunteer hours	236.50
Spending plan giving 10-06-19 (w/e-giving)	\$4,347.92
Non-spending plan giving 10-06-19 (w/e-giving): P-K- \$10.70	
Sojourners-\$15; Freudige-\$30; Deacons-\$373; SHY-\$218; Kitchen-\$1	
MCC-\$50; College scholarship-\$140; Capital campaign-\$350	\$1,187.70
Total giving 10-06-19 (includes e-giving)	\$5,535.62
2019 spending plan	\$431,854.00

*First Mennonite Church is affiliated with the Central District Conference of Mennonite Church USA. The Mennonites are named after Menno Simons, one of our early church leaders, and are rooted historically in the "Anabaptist" movement, which began in 1525, with origins in Switzerland, Germany, and the Netherlands now reaching around the world. Some primary Anabaptist convictions then and now are following Jesus Christ in service to others, rejection of violence and war, and joyful community life.*

