

**Life Reframed: Praying
First Mennonite Church
March 24, 2019**

Welcome Kevin and Shelby Cluts

Announcements

Prelude Jackie Wyse-Rhodes

Invocation

*Hymn “Spirit of the living God” HWB 349

*Confession

L: Gracious God, you know the difficult paths we tread; you know the challenges we face.

C: Forgive us when we wander away from your guidance. Reclaim us when we seek other gods that lead to our own destruction.

ALL: Strengthen our resolve that we may face the demons of our lives and courageously resist the temptations that blind us to your love. In hope and trust, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness “The church of Christ in every age”
HWB 403 (vs. 1 & 5)

Conversation with friends Linda Headings
“Come to me, come to us” STS 60
(v. 1 coming forward, v.2 returning)

Special Music “Little Tree” Andrea Ramsey
Jubilate

Community Prayer Ray Person

Special Music “The Lord's Prayer” Albert Hay Malotte
Chancel Choir

Scripture Matthew 6:1-18 Katelyn Amstutz

Sermon “Seen in secret” Wanda Stopher

Scripture Matthew 6:1-18
Ellie Hartzler, Kaleigh Coffman, Braylon and Ari Goings
Ryan Blount, Jorian Mast, Patrick Estell

*Hymn “Our Father, who art in heaven” HWB 554

Presenting our tithes and offerings

Offertory Jackie Wyse-Rhodes

*Hymn of Dedication “God, whose giving” (vs. 1) HWB 383

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn “Renew your church” HWB 363

*Benediction

Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.
HWB – Hymnal: A Worship Book; STJ – Sing the Journey; STS – Sing the Story
Please ask an usher for assistance in locating 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 | fmcbluffton.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 (cell); fmc.wanda@bluffton.edu
- Pastor Theda Good -- Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday; 419-549-2417 (cell); fmc.theda@bluffton.edu
- Interim Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, M-F, 8-10 a.m., mastc@bluffton.edu
- Director of Music – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 (cell); sudermanme@bluffton.edu
- Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, M-F, 9-4, fmc@bluffton.edu
- Custodian – Mick Hardy, 7:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., weekends as needed

Host: Lynn Miller

Greeter: Susie Gratz

Sound: Chris Gott

Chancel: Beth Boehr

Nursery today: Monica Harnish, Victoria Woods-Yee

Worship: Annette Heslep, Wendy Chappell-Dick, Sunita Hooley

Nursery next week: Judy Buller, Mary Ina Hooley

Worship: John & Julie Mackey, Ben Hartzler, Theo Andreas

Our stewardship

Worship attendance last Sunday	FMC-200, MC-4
Volunteer hours (March 3-9)	61
Spending plan giving March 17, 2019 (includes e-giving)	\$5,723.50
Special fund giving March 17, 2019 (includes e-giving): Faith/Life-\$9	
SHY-\$480; Kitchen-\$5; Mennonite Women 132; Health kits-\$50	
Easter flowers-\$218.85	\$894.85
Total giving March 17, 2019 (includes e-giving)	\$6,618.35
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.

