

**Summer Psalms of New Orientation
First Mennonite Church
August 23, 2020**

Welcome and Announcements John Estell

Prelude *Hail, O Source of Every Blessing* setting by B. Culli
LuAnn Stuckey

Invocation

Hymn *Blest are they* STJ 94

Responsive Reading A Litany of Thanksgiving from
Central District Conference, Annual Meeting, June 27
L: We are not alone. From the beginning, God has called us
to be in relationship.
P: We yearn for friendships that sustain us.
L: We are not alone. God has called together a people to
bear witness to God's goodness and salvation.
P: We yearn for God's endless love.
L: We are not alone. God sends people among us to open
our eyes and point to God's way of shalom.
P: We yearn for mentors, counselors and guides.
L: We are not alone. God sent Jesus Christ to dance into
our lives, showing us the way of wisdom, peace, and grace.
P: We yearn for Jesus, our redeemer and friend.
L: We are not alone. God's Spirit moves among our
churches and throughout creation today and always.
**P: We give thanks to God and pray for God's Spirit to
bless our souls with yearning, today and always.**

Conversation with Friends Linda Headings

Your Presence is the Greatest Gift of All Claire Lynch
Wendy Chappell-Dick and Monica Harnish

Community Prayer Theda Good

Scripture Psalm 117-118 Perry Bush

Sermon *Praise, Thanks, and Blessing* Wanda Stopher

Hymn *Praise with joy the world's Creator* STJ 16

Presenting our Tithes and Offerings
Prayer of Dedication
Offertory *God of Grace and God of Glory* setting by B. Culli

Hymn *Christ is our cornerstone* HWB 43

Benediction

Postlude *Holy, Holy, Holy* setting by B. Culli

*HWB Hymnal: A Worship Book; STJ Sing the Journey, STS
Sing the Story*

*Parts of our service were pre-recorded. Participants are
following safe-distancing practices.*

*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 – WFH Monday-Thursday, 9-4, off Friday; 419-551-1079; wanda@fmcbluffton.org
- Pastor Theda Good – WFH Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday; 419-549- 2417; theda@fmcbluffton.org
- Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, Zooming M-F, 419-230-1568, mastc@bluffton.edu
- Director of Music – Mark Suderman, WFH 419-230-5368; sudermanme@bluffton.edu
- Administrative Asst. – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, WFH M-F, 9-4, fmc@fmcbluffton.org

Video editor: Ray Raeburn

Sound: Kevin Cluts

Camera: Glen Buller

Chancel: Wendy Chappell Dyck

Our stewardship

Total spending plan giving August 2020 to date	\$17,285
Avg monthly offering needed to meet 2020 spending plan	\$37,136

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.

