

First Mennonite Church

March 28, 2021

Lent 6 (Palm/Passion) Deep in the current: Deeper hope

Welcome and announcements Elizabeth Kelly

Prelude *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*  
arr. Busarow  
LuAnn Stuckey

Call to Worship

One: In the current of life, God calls us to deep hope.

**Many: God wakens my ear, and I turn to God. I do not turn toward those who strike me. I do not hide my face from insult.**

One: God helps us, so let us stand up together.

**Many: Save us, O Lord! Bind the festival procession with branches. You are our God. We give thanks, for you are good, and your steadfast love endures.**

One: Many shouted, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!"

**Many: The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. Let the same mind be in us that was in Christ Jesus, who humbled himself and became our hope.**

**All: We call out to you, as you call us to deep hope.**

VT 314 *Holy Lord*  
Quartet: Beth & Jeff Boehr, Elaine and Mark Suderman  
Jan Wiebe (flute)

Conversation with Friends Natilee Grover  
Scripture Mark 11:1-11

Community Prayer Jeff Boehr

VT 678 *Kyrie Eleison* (sing twice)

Prayer of Confession and Assurance

**Many: Deep calls to deep. We call to you from the depths of our hearts.**

One: We confess the rapid pace of life that sweeps us off our feet into whirlpools of expectations, into eddies of busy distractions. We confess our need for a steadfast stream of your grace enduring forever, saving us.

*(Silence. Or name the forces that keep us from deep hope.)*

Deep calls to deep. You call to us from the depth of your love.

**Many: Calling us to deep hope. We come to you, God.**

Dedication Prayer

Offertory *Lamb of God, Pure and Holy*  
Decius/arr. Kosche

Passion Reading from the Gospel of Mark

arr. Marissa Burt

Chris Gott, Chris Moser, Pat Sheidler, Victoria Woods-Yee  
VT 330 *Ah, Holy Jesus* (verses 1-3, during the reading)

VT 308 *How Can We Worship Caesar's Cross*

Response Ritual – Silent Reflection

Music for Reflection *Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended?*  
Cruger/arr. Held

Benediction

*HWB-Hymnal: A Worship Book; STJ-Sing the Journey; STS-Sing the Story;*  
*VT-Voices Together*

*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](http://fmcbluffton.org) | Office closed due to coronavirus, staff  
working from home

#### Church Staff

- Pastor Wanda Stopher – WFH Monday-Thursday, off Friday; 419-551-1079; [wanda@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:wanda@fmcbluffton.org)
- Pastor Jeff Boehr – WFH Tuesday & Friday; 419-236-9150; [jeff@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:jeff@fmcbluffton.org)
- Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, Zooming M-F, 419-230-1568, [mastc@bluffton.edu](mailto:mastc@bluffton.edu)
- Director of Music – Mark Suderman, WFH 419-230-5368; [sudermanme@bluffton.edu](mailto:sudermanme@bluffton.edu)
- Administrative Asst. – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, WFH M-F, 9-4, [fmc@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:fmc@fmcbluffton.org)

Video editor: Ray Raeburn

Sound: Art Shelly

Camera: Glen Buller

Chancel: Anita Lehman

*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.*



*Deep in the current:*  
**Deeper hope**