

First Mennonite Church

March 7, 2021

Lent 3 Deep in the changing sky: Deeper wisdom

Welcome and announcements Elizabeth Kelly

Prelude *I sing the mighty power of God*, arr. Lucas Harnish  
Lucas Harnish, piano

Call to Worship *Adapted from Psalm 19*

One: The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

**Many: Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.**

One: There is no speech...yet the voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

**Many: In the heavens you set a tent for the sun. . . . Its rising is from the end of the heavens, its circuit to the end of them; nothing is hid from its heat.**

One: The law of the Lord is perfect...sure...clear...true and righteous. The fear of the Lord is pure.

**Many: God, clear us from hidden faults; teach us to trust you.**

**All: Let the words and meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and redeemer. We call out to you, as you call us to deeper wisdom.**

VT 196 *Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom*  
Kaleigh Coffman, Kay Huber

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 when we have settled into sameness, forgetting the rhythms of the heavens, ignoring the rhythms of justice. We confess when we have not looked up into the eyes of a neighbor, into your Word that still lives.

*(Silence)*

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

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

Conversation with Friends Kathy Dickson  
Scripture John 2:13-22

Message *Greater things*  
Wanda Stopher

HWB 405 *Where cross the crowded ways*

Response Ritual – Silent Reflection

Dedication Prayer

Offertory *Sunburst*, Andrew York  
Lucas Harnish, guitar

VT 529/HWB 414 *God, who stretched*

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

#### Church Staff

- Pastor Wanda Stopher – WFH Monday-Thursday, off Friday; 419-551-1079; [wanda@fmclubffton.org](mailto:wanda@fmclubffton.org)
- Pastor Jeff Boehr – WFH Tuesday & Friday; 419-236-9150; [jeff@fmclubffton.org](mailto:jeff@fmclubffton.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)
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Video editor: Ray Raeburn

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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.*

