

First Mennonite Church

April 4, 2021

Easter

Deep in the feast: Deeper living

Welcome and announcements Natilee Grover

Prelude *Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain*
J.Horn/arr. D. Johnson
LuAnn Stuckey

Call to Worship

One: And while it was still dark, Mary found the light!

Many: The disciples came running, but they did not understand.

One: Mary stood weeping and saw angels but did not recognize Jesus.

Many: But when Jesus calls our name, then we recognize the way, the truth, and the life.

One: And then there was feasting! And there is feasting to come. God will make for all peoples a feast of rich food and well-aged wines and will wipe away tears from all faces.

Many: It will be said on that day, "This is our God for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice. There is peace by Jesus Christ."

One: Hold firmly to the good news, which you received, in which you stand, through which you are being saved.

All: Let's open the gates of righteousness to enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

Invocation

VT 354

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!
Hartzler family

Baptisms:

Allison Diller, Ellie Nickel, Landon Novak,
Andrew Raeburn, Elam Suter

VT 444

I Sing With Exultation

Community Prayer

Adam Phillips

Conversation with Friends
Scripture

Lois and Gary Wetherill
Isaiah 25:6-9; John 20:1-8

Message

Resurrection and Baptism
Wanda Stopher

VT 540

Will You Come and Follow Me, vv. 1, 4, 5

Dedication Prayer

Offertory

This Joyful Eastertide
Dutch traditional/ arr. J. Leavitt

VT 340

Lift Your Glad Voices

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 | 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
- Pastor Jeff Boehr – WFH Tuesday & Friday; 419-236-9150; jeff@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: Chris Gott

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.

