

**First Mennonite Church**  
**May 9, 2021**  
**Easter tide**

Welcome and announcements                  Victoria Woods-Yee

Prelude    *Wade in the Water*  
arr. Lucas Harnish, guitar

Invocation

Call to Worship (based on I John 5: 1-5)  
One: The people who believe that Jesus is the Messiah are God's children.  
**Many: Anyone who loves the Holy One also loves the Holy One's children.**  
One: How do we know that we love God's children?  
**Many: We know because we love God and we obey. God's commands are not too hard for us.**  
**All: Everyone who is a child of God has the power to win against the world. It is our faith which wins this victory against the world.**

VT 749    *Jesus Christ Is Love Divine*  
Harnish Family

Community Prayer                                  Wanda Stopher

Conversation with Friends                      Heidrun Awad  
Scripture    John 15:9-17

Message    *Dear Ones*  
Wanda Stopher

VT 103    *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Dedication Prayer

Offertory    *One Summer's Day* (Joe Hisaishi)  
Lucas Harnish

Comforter Dedication                              Pat Sheidler

VT 813    *Heart With Loving Heart United*

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:** Kevin Cluts

**Camera:** Glen Buller

*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.*

