

**First Mennonite Church  
The Gospel According to Fruit  
August 1, 2021**

Welcome and announcements Rich Bucher

Prelude Laura Hartzler

Invocation

\*VT 531 *Holy Presence, Holy Teacher*

Fruit Reflection Chris Moser and Carmen Ordonez Moser

\*Responsive Reading Selected verses from Psalm 104

**One:** You cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for people to use, to bring forth food from the earth,

**Many: and wine to gladden the human heart, oil to make the face shine, and bread to strengthen the human heart.**

One: All look to you to give them their food in due season; when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

**Many: When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.**

**All: When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground.**

Community Prayer

Steve Harnish

Scripture

John 15:12-17  
Mona Reichenbach

Message

*The Gospel According to Fruit*  
Doug Luginbill

\*HWB 373

*Thou true Vine, that heals*

Offertory

Laura Hartzler

\*HWB 430

*God be with you*

\*Benediction

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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

*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)**

**Church Staff**

- **Pastor Wanda Stopher – Monday-Thursday, off Friday; 419-551-1079; [wanda@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:wanda@fmcbluffton.org)**
- **Pastor Jeff Boehr – Tuesday & Friday; 419-236-9150; [jeff@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:jeff@fmcbluffton.org)**
- **Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, 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; 419-358-5766; [fmc@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:fmc@fmcbluffton.org)**
- **Custodian – Don Burris; 419-788-6157; [dcburris58@gmail.com](mailto:dcburris58@gmail.com)**

**Video:** Ray Rayburn

**Sound:** Kevin Cluts

*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.*

