



UNIVERSITY MENNONITE CHURCH
Sunday Virtual Service April 5, 2020
Palm Sunday

Introduction to virtual service - Ben Wideman

Prelude - Meredith Wideman

Words of welcome & call to worship - Ben

Leader: *Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever.*

All: *Hosanna in the highest!*

Leader: *Let us rejoice that God's love endures forever*

All: *Hosanna in the highest!*

Leader: *With God on our side, what can we fear?*

All: *Hosanna in the highest!*

Leader: *We will stand in confidence in the Lord, our God*

All: *Hosanna in the highest!*

Leader: *God is our strength and our might. God is our salvation*

All: *Hosanna in the highest!*

Congregational singing HWB 238 - Hosanna, loud hosanna

Lighting of peace lamp

Children's time - Matthew 21:1-11

Offertory - Mike Bratt

Scripture - Matthew 27:11-29 - Elaine Mercer

Meditation - Leland Glenna

Hymn of response HWB 237 - All glory, laud, and honor

Sharing - Kate Heinzl
Closing sharing with EMS choir recording (Don't Be Afraid)

Announcements and introduction of visitors

Benediction:

Brothers and Sisters, siblings in Christ-
Go in love,
For love alone endures.

Go in peace,
For it is a gift from God.

Go with courage,
For we cannot go where God is not.

-Adapted from HWB 764

Announcements

Here are some updates on how we plan to handle worship and church announcements and sharing during this time of social distancing.

Announcements to the general church can be shared in two ways:

1. Kate's regular Wednesday email will begin to include announcements.
2. A church bulletin document will be sent out Saturday mornings with the invitation for Sunday's virtual worship service. The bulletin will include the order of worship and announcements. Only the worship leader and/or pastor will make verbal announcements during our virtual Sunday worship services.

To have your announcement included in the Wednesday email or Sunday bulletin, just send to umcbulletin@yahoo.com. The deadline for the Sunday virtual bulletin will be Fridays at noon.

Announcements (cont.)

Prayer requests will continue to be sent via the email list and can also be put in the bulletin and Wednesday email if you desire. Note: the website bulletin and Wednesday email from Kate are public.

UMC website forums are another way to keep in touch. To start or participate in a forum, log into the UMC website and go to My UMC and then UMC Community Forum.

If you need help with logging into the website or joining our virtual church service, contact Joel Weidner, joelpsu82@outlook.com

Sunday sharing - We are experimenting with ways to make sharing time more prayerful and engaging for everyone in our virtual worship service. ***If you have something to share with the community during worship, please email your joy or concern to Kate by 8 a.m. Sunday.*** This way we can continue to hold each other in prayer AND have a sense of flow in our service. Eventually we would like to have all sharing requests be emailed ahead of time. We will continue to have space for folks to share, live, during the service.

As we continue to grow together, learn together, serve together, may we grace-fully share with one another what works and what needs tweaks. Kate welcomes your feedback.

Maundy Thursday - Join us next Thursday, April 9, at 7 p.m., on Zoom, for a virtually held service of communion and Tenebrae (a service held during the three days preceding Easter, which involves scripture, song, and a gradual extinguishing of candles). The Zoom link will be distributed via our email list.

Wednesday sharing and prayer time - Join us Wednesdays at noon for a time of scripture, prayer, and an opportunity to share more fully with one another. The Zoom meeting link will be distributed via our email list.

3WC updates - Please keep students in mind as they adjust to the impacts of the COVID-19 virus concerns changing the semester to exclusively remote classes. With the recent news that students will not return to campus this semester, 3rd Way Collective's in-person events have been canceled or postponed. We understand the fear and sadness from all students, but especially our graduating seniors who will now be dealing with a very different end to their Penn State journey. Please continue to hold them in your prayers.

Announcements (cont.)

During this Lent and Easter season, as we continue to move through self-isolation spaces, we are encouraging our community to walk for peace. Details and connecting points are available at the 3rd Way Collective website.

For ongoing updates and to find out how to support this ministry please visit 3rdWayCollective.org or contact ben@3rdwaycollective.org

Out of the Cold fundraiser and meals - The COVID-19 pandemic has been disruptive and trying for all of us and has hit the homeless community particularly hard. OOTC reports they are currently serving 33 guests and have received inquiries from an additional 21. All 33 guests are being housed in hotels rather than churches. To help meet the financial cost of doing this, OOTC has launched a fundraising drive with a goal of raising \$40,000. All money given to Out of the Cold during the month of April will go directly toward their guests and their specific housing needs. The funds will allow OOTC to put guests in hotels and to provide first month's rent and security deposit, which will allow guests to find permanent housing. Please consider contributing to this urgent need in our community. Donations can be made online by clicking on the button or link below:

[I WANT TO HELP](https://ootc3.networkforgood.com/projects/94326-main-giving-page)

<https://ootc3.networkforgood.com/projects/94326-main-giving-page> or by writing a check payable to Out of the Cold and mailing it to:

Out of the Cold, P.O. Box 784, State College, PA 16804.

UMC was to have hosted OOTC from April 20 – May 3. OOTC is asking that we still provide meals for guests during this time. Please use the sign-up genius link below to volunteer to provide meals (dinner or breakfast). Meals can be dropped off at the OOTC day shelter at the Meetinghouse (our former church building) at 318 S. Atherton. Further instructions are given on the Signup Genius page.

[Sign Up](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0f45a9ad2ba5fa7-outofthe12)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0f45a9ad2ba5fa7-outofthe12>

Announcements (cont.)

UMC YouTube channel: Check out our [YouTube channel](#) to see our worship services, short meditations by Kate, and more! We will regularly post new content, so consider visiting it regularly to stay connected.

Staying connected - The elders encourage each person/family in the directory to check in with the person/family directly following you in the directory listing. The check-in could be via a phone call, video chat, email, or text. The following week (starting April 12), you would move two entries down the list in the directory. The following week, three entries down. Note, persons near the end of the alphabet would rotate back to the top as needed.

You might be checking in with someone you know very well, or perhaps someone you have never spoken with person-to-person and that's ok. The goal is to ensure we're all looking out for each other. This is completely volunteer, and we understand that some of you might not feel comfortable reaching out—and that's ok too.

Accessing the directory - The directory can be accessed on the web at <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/> or by downloading the Instant Church Directory app on your [Android](#) or [iPhone](#) smart phone. The first time you use the directory, you will need to create an account and login with your email address that is in the directory.

If you have any technical difficulties accessing the directory or if you would like a PDF copy of the directory that you can keep on your local computer (or print out), let me know. Or if you feel you need a printed copy, let me know. If you are not part of the directory and would like to be, send me an email – Joel Weidner, joelpsu82@outlook.com

Ideas for virtual gatherings - The elders were brainstorming ways to help keep our church community connected and active during this time when in-person gatherings are restricted.

Our UMC Zoom account that we've been using for church and weekly sharing and prayer could also be used for small groups to gather for things like small group meetings, Bible/book studies, craft demonstrations/projects, or lectures (think TED Talks).

Announcements (cont.)

If you are interested in leading something, feel free to email the community about your idea to see if there is interest. If you do find interested persons and you would like to schedule time on Zoom, contact Joel at joelpsu82@outlook.com and he can set up the Zoom meeting for you. He can also provide basic Zoom training on how to screen share.

Church Information

www.universitymennonite.org

1606 Norma St., State College, PA 16801; (814) 234-2039

Pastor: Kate Heinzl

Submissions for bulletin: umcbulletin@yahoo.com

DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN INCLUSION: Fridays at noon (for virtual services)

Pastor: Kate Heinzl kate@universitymennonite.org 717-606-2909

Campus Pastor: Ben Wideman ben@3rdwaycollective.org 215-859-0037

Elders: Joel Weidner joelpsu82@outlook.com 814-777-4494

Rosita Benner Derstine rderstine@gmail.com 814-360-8789

Leland Glenna lelandglenna@gmail.com 814-769-3313

Meredith Wideman meredith.wideman@gmail.com 626-808-2306

Cong. Chair: Doug Miller dougmillier@psu.edu 814-883-1127

Asst. Chair: Rick Stehouwer rsc15@psu.edu 814-883-3503

University Mennonite Church's safe-child policy demonstrates our commitment to the physical safety and the spiritual growth of all our children and youth, ages birth to 18, as well as to our volunteers who care for them. The complete policy is posted in the lobby entrances and in the nursery room.

To reserve space for your event or meeting in our meetinghouse, please contact Carolyn Brubaker, 237-6602.

To participate in the UMC email list, sign up by sending an email to:

university-mennonite-sharing-list+subscribe@googlegroups.com

Upcoming events: For more details, go to: www.universitymennonite.org/calendar

Due to social distancing needs, all in-person meetings at the church are cancelled until further notice.

Zoom church services are being recorded and the link to the recorded services will be shared via our church email list after the service.