

UNIVERSITY MENNONITE CHURCH

Sunday Service March 20, 9:30 am

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| Greeters: Evelyn & Karl Bartsch | Worship Leader: Gloria Horst Rosenberger |
| Pastor: Marv Friesen | Song Leader: Ruth Parrish Sauder |
| Hosts: Fellowship Meal | Ushers: Nel Kopp, Rodney Brubaker, |
| Childcare (0-4 years): available in the nursery | and Jim Rosenberger |

Focus Statement: *“The Plot Thickens.” The Passion Week is thick with multilayered and complex symbolism. The characters in God’s story are not straightforward. The people who praised “Hosanna” and hailed Jesus as the coming king may be the very ones who later shouted, “Crucify him!” Like them, we find ourselves to be deeply complex characters within the covenant story, characters whose unredeemed motives, desires, and passions all too often drive our behavior and actions.*

Prelude – Ruth Parrish Sauder

Call to Worship (Back of Bulletin)

Prayer

Lighting the Peace Lamp – Sarah Thompson and Grace Friesen

Congregational Singing

HWB #106, “All hail the power of Jesus’ name”

HWB #238, “Hosanna, loud hosanna”

Welcoming Visitors

Children's Time and Palm Distribution – Alison Gernand

Offering – Joyce and Marvin Hall

Offertory – The Menno Men Instrumentalists: “I have decided to follow Jesus”

Prayer

Scripture Reading – Carissa Heine – Isaiah 50:4-9 (page 594)

Brenda Friesen – Mark 1:1-11 (page 823)

Sermon – Sarah Thompson, “It’s Parade Sunday”

Congregational Singing

Hymn of Response – HWB #290, “Spirit, come, dispel our sadness”

Sharing our Joys and Concerns – Marv Friesen

Prayer

Announcements

Benediction

Sending Song – HWB #420, “Heart with loving heart united”

Sunday School (second hour) - see announcements insert

Prayer Requests

Mennonite Mission Network: Pray for Arloa Bontrager, Del Hershberger, and Sharon Norton of Mennonite Mission Network as they spend the coming week with Journey International participants in Indonesia reflecting on their experience and strengthening the relationship with host church, Jemaat Kristen Indonesia.

Mennonite Education Agency: We give thanks for the many teachers, staff and administrators at all Mennonite educational institutions who work hard to show God’s love to students and provide them with encouraging learning environments.

Church Information: www.universitymennonite.org

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

Submissions for bulletin or email announcements: umbulletin@yahoo.com

DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN INCLUSION: Thursday, 12:00 noon

Pastor: Marv Friesen (marv@universitymennonite.org) 814-234-2039

Office Hours: Tue – Fri, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

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

Elders: Kathleen Stehouwer kathleenstehouwer@gmail.com 814-861-4238

Tim Derstine timhd@mac.com 814-360-4750

Gloria Horst Rosenberger ghr4870@gmail.com 814-234-2167

Jim Pierce jimpierce2015@gmail.com 814-303-2316

Cong. Chair: Esther Prins es_prins@yahoo.com 814-238-2543

Chair Elect: Karen Rath karenrath@gmail.com 814-880-5425

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 at www.universitymennonite.org/mailling-lists.

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

March:

Sun 20 Potluck Fellowship Meal 12:00 pm

Sun 20 Peace Walk 2:45 pm

Tue 22 Men’s Fellowship Breakfast 7:00 am

Thu 24 Maundy Thursday Service 7:00

Fri 25 Community Good Friday Service (St. Paul’s Methodist) 12:05 pm

Fri 25 Good Friday Service (Albright-Bethune) 6:00 pm

Sun 27 Easter Breakfast 8:00 am

Mon 28 Bridge of Hope Board Meeting 7:00 pm

Mon 28 Shape Note Singing 7:00 pm

April:

Sun 3 Potluck Fellowship Meal 12:00 pm

Wed 6 Elders Meeting 6:30 pm

Wed 6 Leadership Team Meeting 7:30 pm

Recordings of each worship service are available at
universitymennonite.org/worshiprecordings

Announcements, March 20, 2016

Sunday School: There will be Sunday school at about 11:00 following the service. There will be adult Sunday school upstairs in the sanctuary, and there will be options for children and youth of all ages in the basement.

3rd Way Collective Highlights: During this Holy Week our regular events will include today's Peace Walk, an interfaith Seder Meal and Grad Student Pub Night on Monday, Pause for Peace on Wednesday at 12:30pm, and 3rd Way Conversations on Thursday night at 8:00pm. Please note - pledge forms are now available in the church foyer to re-commit to our campus ministry! For our full schedule and to find out how to support this ministry please visit 3rdWayCollective.org or contact ben@3rdwaycollective.org. A new monthly reflection will also be posted at <http://www.3rdwaycollective.org/category/blog/>

Our speaker this morning is Sarah Thompson, scholar-activist and Executive Director of Christian Peacemaker Teams. CPT is a multi-faith international organization committed to building partnerships to transform violence and oppression. Thompson's current growing edges are related to her interest in post-colonial theology, power analysis, social movement building, embodied violence, and alternatives to robotic warfare and society. She received her M.Div. from Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary.

Fellowship Meal Today at Noon

Everyone is invited to stay for a delicious carry-in meal. There is always enough for everyone and you are invited to stay whether you planned to or not. There will be labels for vegan, vegetarian, gluten free and especially any dishes containing nuts.

State College's first ever Palm Sunday Peace Walk is taking place today! Inspired by Christ's call to work for peace, the first annual 1.2-mile Peace Walk will bring our diverse faith communities together to learn about some of the work for peace happening in downtown State College. The walk will begin at **University Baptist & Brethren Church (411 South Burrowes St)** and participants may do as much or as little of the walk as they are able. **We will gather at 2:45 and the walk will begin at 3:00**, making stops at six locations in our community currently working for peace. At each stop we will learn about the work being done and a local faith leader will offer a prayer of blessing. We will end at Faith United Church of Christ around 5:00 for a simple soup meal and sharing about our time together. People of all ages and faiths are welcome to join.

Announcements, March 20, 2016

Sign up now for the church spring retreat, scheduled for April 9 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Camp Krislund. We are planning a fun day of activities and fellowship. Lunch will be provided. In order to provide counts to the camp, each family or individual needs to sign-up by Sunday, March 27 and the sooner you sign up will help with activity plans. You can sign up on the web by going to <http://goo.gl/forms/Or30gaOJ31> or use a paper form available in the foyer. Contact Joel Weidner or Vonda Yoder with any questions.

Joel and Vonda need 4-5 volunteers to help at the April 9 retreat to lead some specific activities. We will be planning the activities and providing instructions, but we need some additional folks to help facilitate some activities for children, youth, and intergenerational groups. If you can help with this, contact Joel Weidner, jlw2@psu.edu or Vonda Yoder, vmyoder@verizon.net.

You are invited to "**Around the World in Word and Song: Christ Revealed in Music**" on Wednesday, March 23 at 7 p.m. at **Grace Lutheran Church in State College**. The program, a pilgrimage from Advent to Holy Week featuring songs from Africa, the Americas, Europe, and Asia, will include choirs and congregational singing. Krista Weidner is singing in the ecumenical choir. A freewill offering will support Interfaith Human Services.

We will have a **Maundy Thursday service** at UMC with Communion and foot washing on Thursday, March 24 at 7pm.

There will be a **Community Good Friday service** at St. Paul's United Methodist Church on Friday, March 25. The service begins at 12:05pm and the theme is "Characters around the Cross." Marv will be speaking at 12:45 pm.

There will be an **evening Good Friday service** at Albright-Bethune United Methodist Church on Friday, March 25. The service begins at 6pm and the theme is "Seven Last Words of Christ."

Easter Breakfast March 27 at 8am

Everyone is welcome to a delicious potluck Easter breakfast. Regular attendees are invited to bring eggs, breakfast casserole, pastries, bread, or fruit, plus your own table service. Beverages will be provided. There will be labels for vegan, vegetarian, gluten free and especially any dishes containing nuts.

Fellowship Meal April 3 at noon: Michael King, Dean of Eastern Mennonite Seminary, will be visiting.