
CHURCH INFORMATION

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

www.universitymennonite.org

Pastor: Kate Heinzl

Submissions for bulletin: bulletin@universitymennonite.org

Deadline for bulletin inclusion: Thursday end of day

Staff and Volunteer Leadership

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

Worship Coordinator:

Ben Wideman, benwideman@gmail.com 215-859-0037

Elders:

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

Laura Litwiller, 1978lauraashley@gmail.com 717-543-3419

Doug Yoder, dv83yoder@gmail.com 814-933-6896

Cong. Chair: Cathy Bresee, cbs4@psu.edu 814-933-8005

Asst. Chair: Terry Yoder, tkyoder93@gmail.com 814-321-4964

Treasurer: Jim Rosenberger, jrosenberger@gmail.com 814-234-2167

Masking protocol – To protect those who are vulnerable, masks should be worn in the building for worship.

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.

Our church maintains a Google Group email list to keep members informed about prayer requests and happenings in the community.

Join the email list by sending an email to:

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

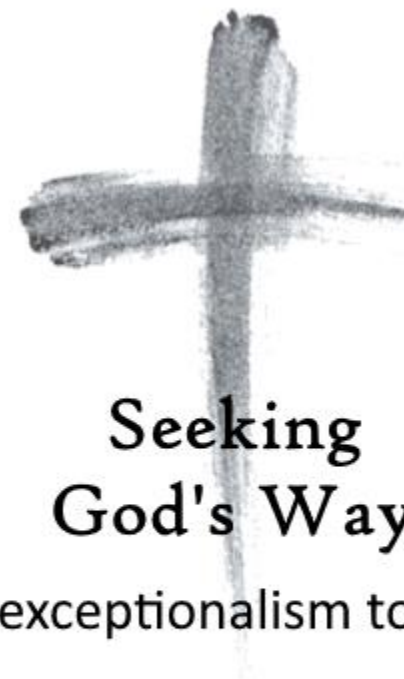
Missed worship? Our church services are being recorded and published on our website at:

<http://www.universitymennonite.org/worship-service-recordings-current/>

Church Wi-Fi information – Connect to **umc**, password **mennosimons**



Sunday Worship
March 27, 2022, 10 am
(in-person and Zoom)



**Seeking
God's Way**

From exceptionalism to inclusion

As we seek God's way, we move from a sense that "we" and "ours" have special standing to the knowledge that all are equally part of God's kingdom.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome – Pastor Kate Heinzl

Prelude – "Song of Confession" from The Soil and the Seed Project

Call to worship – Ruth Kitchin Tillman

Leader: Together we seek the way of God,

People: rejoicing that we are new creations in Christ.

Leader: From a human point of view, we demand what is ours,

People: but through Jesus we learn that all share in God's inheritance.

Leader: Let us join God's feast,

People: where all celebrate together.

All: Let us live out God's way of inclusion.

Opening Hymn - Come Let Us All Unite to Sing, HWB 12

Voices of Our Congregation - Connor Huxman

Share a story of something you've memorized that you've turned to help you in your life

Peace Lamp

Confession

Leader: Holy One, we seek you while you may be found.

People: We call upon you while you are near.

Leader: Have mercy on us, O God, for our thoughts are not your thoughts and our ways are not your ways.

People: Forgive us for thinking we deserve special treatment. Lead us to radical inclusion.

[silence]

Leader: As we walk with Christ on this Lenten journey, let us see your way more clearly

All: and follow your way more faithfully.

Hymn - Great is Thy Faithfulness, HWB 327

Children's Time - John Murphy

Scripture - Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 - read by Ross Hardison

Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.'

So he told them this parable:

Then Jesus said, 'There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.' " So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate.

'Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound." Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he

answered his father, "Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!" Then the father said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found." '

Sermon - Pastor Kate

Sermon Response Music - Becky Kephart

Sharing Time - Pastor Kate

Candle Lighting - "Drive Out the Darkness" - Latifah Alattas & Paul Zach

Announcements/Birthdays/Introduction of Visitors

Benediction

Announcements

Updated COVID protocol - Those leading worship and preaching are no longer asked to mask. Children's time leaders will continue to mask up, as will all attending worship.

Tuesday sharing and prayer - Join us on Tuesdays 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.

We have news that an Afghan family of four will be arriving in State College between March 28-31. If you signed up for the State College Interfaith SignUp Genius, please bring your donations to University Mennonite Church, Mon or Wed 9:30 am to 5:30 pm. Use the parking lot entrance. If you have large furniture, please contact me to arrange for pick up to move the item directly to the apartment when it is available. Thank you immensely for all your help, Mary Derstein (derstein@gmail.com). The link to the SignUp Genius is below. Please note the addition of two sets of twin sheets, blankets, mattress covers.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f054da4a729a2f94-basic>

MCUSA & MCC Updates

Are you looking for a way to provide a faithful testimony to the world regarding Jesus' way of nonviolence and peace? This tax season, learn more about Mennonite Church USA's **Church Peace Tax Fund** here: mennoniteusa.org/news/peace-tax-fund/

Save your coins for Mennonite Central Committee's My Coins Count project. Every year, spare change collected by churches adds up to more than \$600,000 for MCC's relief, development, and peacebuilding work around the world. We'll be collecting coins in church throughout March, or you can contact the Spicher Schonbergs for a coin pickup at your home.

Ukraine emergency response: MCC writes: "We are assessing the changing situation with local partners to determine the appropriate response. MCC's response will be focused on longer-term scale up of existing programs that support vulnerable people and extending those services to internally displaced populations. It will likely include psychosocial support and trauma healing, temporary emergency housing, emergency distributions of locally purchased emergency supplies such as blankets, and distribution of food packages." Donate at: <https://donate.mcc.org/cause/ukraine-emergency-response>

Grow and Learn with MCC - Pass the SALT! Do you know someone who may be interested in MCC's Serving And Learning Together (SALT) program? SALT is a yearlong international service and learning experience for young Christian adults ages 18-30. Through the program, young adults serve in a wide variety of positions in fields like education, agriculture, health care, information technology, peace and more!

For the 2022-23 SALT year, we have about 83 open assignments in 20 countries around the world. Do you know someone who should "live out their faith" with SALT next year? For more information and to apply to the program, visit mcc.org/salt.

Volunteering at UMC - Ready to give worship leading a try? Have a good message to share with our children? We welcome any regular attender to help provide leadership on Sunday mornings. Ben and Kate can help you learn how to navigate hybrid worship. Sign up online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0e4daee28a0ff2-2022>. We work as a body with many members, learn as a body, offer grace and love to one another as the body of Christ. Join us!

Announcements (cont.)

Need help? We are a community with talents, tools, and a willingness to serve each other. If you need help - gathering groceries, yard work, etc., let Kate know. There are some here who might be able to lend a hand.

Your offerings support UMC – Don't forget to support UMC with your financial gifts. Offering baskets are by the doors to the sanctuary or you can make your offering the following ways:

- Mail a check to the church to the attention of our treasurer, 1606 Norma Street, State College PA, 16801
- Donate on the church website at <http://www.universitymennonite.org/donate>
- Set up an automatic payment with your bank (bill pay service)
- Use a service like Zelle <https://www.zellepay.com/>