

Zion Mennonite Church

Zion Mennonite Church covenants to grow together as a Christ-centered community, extending our Anabaptist branch into our world, bearing the lasting fruit of discipleship, and planting the seeds for God's reign through hospitality, service, and reconciliation with God and others.



April 12, 2020

Prelude – Kristin Oakes and Karen Tro
Greeting – Bill
Scripture Reading: John 20:1-18 – Dennis and Sheryl Russell
Hymn led by Quartet: *HWB 275 Lift your glad voices*
Call to Worship – Bill and Jana
Hymns led by Quartet: *HWB 273 Lo in the grave he lay*
HWB 280 Christ the Lord is Risen today
“Hope Muscles” video – Cynthia
Hope is a Candle – Jana
Message: “God’s Glory is Resurrection” — Bill
Pastoral Prayer
Benediction Video: *Angels Rolled de Stone Away*
Closing - Bill



He is Risen Indeed

10:00am

This Morning:
Worship Service
zionmennoniteoregon.org/live
This Afternoon/Evening
No Activities
This Week:
No Activities

Worship Schedule:

April 19: Bill Blank will preach.

April 26: Bill Blank will preach.

(see insert for more information)

“Angels Rolled De Stone Away,” an African-American spiritual, has long been sung at the close of Easter Sunday morning worship services at Zion Mennonite Church. The tradition includes an invitation to join the spontaneous choir for any who wish to sing it, or to just stay in the pew, tap your toes, enjoy, and sing along on the chorus. Perfection is not the point; enthusiasm, celebration and worship of the Risen One are.

Today, the video recording is from Zion’s 2016 Easter service.

Primary Sunday School Children and Teachers: There will be a time after the service today for you to stay on the Zoom chat and see and talk to each other. We encourage you to take a few minutes to wave and say Hi. The more who join, the more fun it will be! Please make sure your video and audio are enabled.

Tithes and Offering— If you desire to continue offerings during this time when Church is not regularly meeting for Sunday services, you can mail checks to the Church Office. The address is 6124 S. Whiskey Hill Rd, Hubbard, OR 97032.

Be sure to keep checking your email, especially on Tuesdays and Thursdays for a special message, a scripture passage, a short devotional, or other words of encouragement and support from Bill, Jana, or another member of the congregation. Thank you to those who have already shared! If you have any encouraging thoughts or spiritual insights you would like to share with the congregation during this time, please email Bill or Jana and they will incorporate your message into these weekly emails.

John 20:1-18 New International Version (NIV)

The Empty Tomb

20 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. ² So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!”

³ So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. ⁴ Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, ⁷ as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus’ head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. ⁸ Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. ⁹ (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) ¹⁰ Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

¹¹ Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb ¹² and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus’ body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

¹³ They asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?”

“They have taken my Lord away,” she said, “and I don’t know where they have put him.” ¹⁴ At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

¹⁵ He asked her, “Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?”

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.”

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means “Teacher”).

¹⁷ Jesus said, “Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”

¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: “I have seen the Lord!” And she told them that he had said these things to her.

Upcoming Worship Schedule:

For the weeks following Easter, we will be preaching from the book of Philippians. We will be discovering more about staying connected and the joy that brings into our lives. We will be using Philippians 2:1-11 as our theme verses for this study:

Imitating Christ’s Humility

² Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

As a follow up to the digital packet of Holy Week resource materials from the Building Faith Family website, additional Easter season (Easter Sunday through Pentecost) materials can be found at <https://www.buildingfaithfamily.com/easter-season-at-home-2020.html> . The website content is from a retired Hesston College Early Childhood Professor and Mennonite Pastor. Materials were developed for College Mennonite Church and adapted to be shared with other congregations.

Please keep in your prayers:

- Ken Beachy who is recovering from back surgery, and Paul Davidhizar who is at home recovering from a stroke this week.
- The healthcare workers and other essential employees of our congregation who are working much closer to the “front line” of the pandemic. May God hold them safe and protect their physical and spiritual health, giving rest where needed and strength and encouragement in difficult situations.

Prayers for the Pandemic:

As the Coronavirus pandemic continues we pray for those most vulnerable, the elderly, the sick, migrants and refugees, the unemployed. May our governments ensure access to healthcare and social protection for everyone. We pray that our leaders rise to the challenge of promoting unity and a shared responsibility in all of our countries.

We pray for teachers and students who will begin online distance learning this week. Give them patience and resolve to connect and learn in this new way. Be with our college students already learning online, as they finish out the school year.

God we give you thanks for the changes that would have been unthinkable three months ago that are happening: air quality has improved in a number of countries and warring parties in some others have called ceasefires. These may be temporary, but they remind us that seemingly irresolvable human problems aren’t eternal. We are reminded that Jesus stayed in the tomb for a brief time before rising to *eternal* life. Death does not have the final say when you make space for hope.

A prayer to carry though the week: *“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”* 1 Peter 1:3

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