

August 14, 2022

*“The Protestant Reformation in Switzerland Through the Eyes of My Ancestors”*

FORT COLLINS MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

300 E. Oak Street, Ft. Collins, CO 80524

Worship: 10:00 AM

Pastor: Steve Ramer

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Welcoming the transformative work of the Holy Spirit in our congregations, we are liberated from a static understanding of the church, which often makes us allies of the status quo. As we open ourselves to the re-creating and animating power of the Holy Spirit, we become agents of healing and hope in the world.

## 1. GATHERING

### Musical Prelude

#### Call to Worship

Leader: Come, Holy Spirit, come,

**People: come fill the hearts of your faithful.**

Leader: Come, Spirit of God, come, kindle in us the fire of your love,

**People: warm our hearts, and free us to act with kindness and care toward all humanity.**

Leader: Pour out your Spirit on your people, God of love,

**People: and we shall be revived, made anew in the image of Jesus.**

Leader: Come, gracious Spirit, come, guide and teach us,

#### Opening Prayer

#### Opening Song

**People: so that by your light we may walk in the way of Jesus.**

Leader: Spirit of the living God, anoint your children afresh,

**People: fill our spirits with unquenchable hope, bathe our hearts with unbounded love, and nourish our souls with your peace.**

**All: Reveal yourself within us, great Spirit of God, so that we may better see ourselves and more truly reflect your light and truth. Amen**

*“Of all men's miseries the bitterest is this: to know so much and to have control over nothing.” — Herodotus*

## Welcome and Passing of the Peace:

- **Leader:** May the peace of Christ be with you.
- **People:** And also with you.
- **All:** Let us offer one another signs of peace, reconciliation, and love.

## 2. HEARING GOD'S WORD

### Scriptures: Matthew 23:18-28

18 And you say, "Whoever swears by the altar is bound by nothing, but whoever swears by the gift that is on the altar is bound by the oath."

19 How blind you are! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred

20 So whoever swears by the altar, swears by it and by everything on it;

21 and whoever swears by the sanctuary, swears by it and by the one who dwells in it

22 and whoever swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by the one who is seated upon it.

23 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint, dill, and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy

and faith. It is these you ought to have practiced without neglecting the others.

24 You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel!

25 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the plate, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence.

26 You blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup, so that the outside also may become clean.

27 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which on the outside look beautiful, but inside they are full of the bones of the dead and of all kinds of filth.

28 So you also on the outside look righteous to others, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.



### Sermon: "The Protestant Reformation in Switzerland Through the Eyes of My Ancestors" (Keith Mullett)

Back in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, there was plenty of conflict and angst in Europe. Join Keith Mullett as he talks about his ancestors who lived during that time and experienced first-hand the Catholic-Protestant conflict during the Protestant Reformation in Switzerland.

*"There are three things in the world that deserve no mercy: hypocrisy, fraud, and tyranny." — Frederick William Robertson*

*"Hypocrisy is the mother of all evil and racial prejudice is still her favorite child." — Don King*

## 3. RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

### a. Congregational Singing

### b. Response (everyone)

### e. Sending

Leader: Into a world filled with beauty and with suffering, the Spirit bids us go.

May the Spirit open your minds and hearts

**People: so that we do not miss the beauty or ignore the suffering;**

Leader: may the Spirit inspire you to let go of cynicism and indifference

**People: so that we become agents of forgiveness, grace, and God's reconciling love;**

Leader: may the Spirit anoint your eyes

**People: so that we may see the face of God in that of our neighbor;**

### c. Joys and Concerns (everyone)

### d. Offering & Music

Leader: may the Spirit fill you with God's love,

**People: enabling us to embrace all God's creatures;**

Leader: may the Spirit touch your lips

**People: so that we can speak words of peace, truth, and kindness;**

Leader: may the Spirit animate your hands

**People: so that we may reach out with compassion and care to all our neighbors.**

Leader: Go now, companioned by the God of wind and fire, and guided by the Spirit,

to be agents of healing and hope in all the places the Spirit leads you to go.