

May 29, 2022

*“Strange Worship: Resisting White Christian Nationalism  
Part 3-Discussion and Action”*

**FORT COLLINS MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP**

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

**Worship:** 10:00 AM

**Pastor:** Steve Ramer

**Cell:** 970-412-7510



**Theme for Easter:** As we seek God’s way, we move from the confidence of knowing how things are to the unsettling openness of realizing God’s ways are beyond what we can imagine.

## 1. GATHERING

### Musical Prelude

### Call to Worship (Steve)

### Prayer of Lament (Steve)

We name you king, Lord, sovereign.  
We trust you, except sometimes we do not.  
We take matters into our own hands.  
We fashion power and authority and sovereignty;  
enforced by law and bureaucracy and weapons,  
we think to make ourselves safe.  
And then learn, staggeringly, how insufficient is  
our product, how thin is our law, how ineffective is  
our bureaucracy, how impotent our weapons.

We are driven back to you — your will, your  
purpose, your requirements: care for land, care for  
neighbors, care for future.

We name you king, Lord, sovereign— so  
undemocratic. And in naming, become aware of  
our status before you . . . loved, sent, summoned.

We pray in the name of the loved, sent,  
summoned Jesus. **Amen**

### Opening Song (Cathy)

#### 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 (Steve)

**Matthew 28:16** Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them.

17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.

18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20 and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

**Acts 2:1** When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.

2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.

3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.

4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

***"If you're too confident in assuming that America's and God's purposes are one, you tiptoe toward idolatry." — Ross Douthat***



### Sermon: *"Strange Worship: Resisting White Christian Nationalism Part 3 – Discussion and Action"* (Steve)

Today, White Christian Nationalism is a form of political idolatry – or "strange worship" – that presents a threat to a diverse, inclusive, nation. Drew Strait, Ass't Professor of New Testament and Christian Origins at AMBS, proposes a multi-step approach to counter White Christian Nationalism movement and we will be discussing it.

***"A multicultural society does not reject the culture of the other but is prepared to listen, to see, to dialogue and, in the final analysis, to possibly accept the other's culture without compromising its own." — Reuven Rivlin***

5 Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven.

6 When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken.

7 Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans?"

8 Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?

9 Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,

10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome

11 (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!"

12 Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

13 Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

## 3. RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Congregational Singing  
Response (everyone)

Joys and Concerns (everyone)  
Offering (everyone)  
Sending (Steve)