

January 22, 2023

“Founding the English Colonies in America”

FORT COLLINS MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

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

Worship: 10:00 AM

Pastor: Steve Ramer

Cell: 970-412-7510



EPIPHANY THEME: Just like those ancient astronomers, we too, together, now leave the cave of Christ’s birth “reborn.” We are born again to join in with our God’s restorative process within all of creation! So, “Arise and shine, for your light has come!” The world desperately needs all the light it can get!

1. GATHERING

Musical Prelude: Consolation (Stan)

Call to Worship: #1043 - from *Voices Together* hymn book (Cathy)

Opening Prayer

Congregational Singing (Stan)

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.

“A lot of people resist transition and therefore never allow themselves to enjoy who they are. Embrace the change, no matter what it is; once you do, you can learn about the new world you’re in and take advantage of it.”

— Nikki Giovanni

“When we learn from experience, the scars of sin can lead us to restoration and a renewed intimacy with God.”

— Charles Stanley

2. HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scriptures: Revelation 21 (Cathy)

Revelation 21: 1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

2 And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them;

4 he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

5 And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true."

6 Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

7 Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children...

10 And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.



SERMON: "Founding the English Colonies in America?" (Keith)

Keith will present the founding of the Virginia, Massachusetts, and Maryland colonies as he discusses his 6 ancestral families.

The families consisted of Puritans and Church of England members, who arrived in the very early days of the colonies and consolidated in the Maryland colony within a few years.

Congregational Singing (Stan)

Response (everyone)

Joys and Concerns (everyone)

Offering & Music (Stan)

Sending (Steve)

"We must delight in each other, make other's conditions our own, rejoice together, mourn together, labor and suffer together, always having before our eyes our community as members of the same body."

—from a sermon preached by John Winthrop, first governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, prior to debarking from their ship in 1630

"We are a people unafraid to welcome 'your tired, your poor, your huddled masses,' because we measure others by the quality of their hopes for the future, not by the circumstances of their birth." — Blase J. Cupich



"Each day holds a surprise. But only if we expect it can we see, hear, or feel it when it comes to us. Let's not be afraid to receive each day's surprise, whether it comes to us as sorrow or as joy. It will open a new place in our hearts, a place where we can welcome new friends and celebrate more fully our shared humanity." — Henri Nouwen