

April 19, 2026

“The Quest!”

FORT COLLINS MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

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

Worship: 10:00 AM

Pastor: Steve Ramer

Office: (970) 658-2623 Cell: 970-412-7510



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Today we continue to celebrate and practice the resurrection of Christ. Death could not defeat him. Jesus lives!

1. GATHERING

Prelude (Leanna)

Call to Worship: #874

One: From Bethlehem to Nazareth, from Jordan to Jericho, from Bethany to Jerusalem, from then to now.

All: come, Lord Jesus.

One: To heal the sick, to mend the brokenhearted, to comfort the disturbed, to disturb the comfortable, to cleanse the temple, to liberate faith from convention,

All: come, Lord Jesus.

One: To carry the cross, to lead the way, to shoulder the sin of the world and take it away,

All: come, Lord Jesus.

One: To carry the cross, to lead the way, to shoulder the sin of the world and take it away,

All: come, Lord Jesus.

One: Today, in this place, to us,

All: come, Lord Jesus.

Opening Prayer: #1033

Living Christ, in these times, when we fear we are losing hope or feel that our efforts are futile, let us see in our hearts and minds, the image of your resurrection, and let that be our source of courage and strength.

With that, and in your company, help us face challenges and struggles against all that is born of injustice. Amen.

“One is never afraid of the unknown; one is afraid of the known coming to an end.” — Jiddu Krishnamurti

Congregational Singing (Cathy)

Welcome and Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also, with you.

Leader: Let us offer one another signs of peace, reconciliation, and love.

“Unless you try to do something beyond what you have already mastered, you will never grow.”

— Unknown

2. HEARING GOD’S WORD

Scriptures: Matthew 19:1-2; 16-22

19: 1 When Jesus had finished saying these things, he left Galilee and went into the region of Judea to the other side of the Jordan. 2 Large crowds followed him, and he healed them there.

16 Just then a man came up to Jesus and asked, “Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?”

17 “Why do you ask me about what is good?” Jesus replied. “There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, keep the commandments.”

18 “Which ones?” he inquired.

Jesus replied, “‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, 19 honor your father and mother,’ and ‘love your neighbor as yourself.’”

20 “All these I have kept,” the young man said. “What do I still lack?”

21 Jesus answered, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

22 When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.



Sermon: “The Quest!”

The scripture today is used as the source of one of the most frequent sermon subjects ever preached. In the story of the rich, young ruler, Jesus radically challenged the man's assumptions about salvation. The man's persistent quest for life solutions was answered by Jesus in some very amazing ways. You may be surprised to learn that the story is not a parable and is not about money. So what is it?

*“He drew a circle that shut me out —
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.*

But love and I had the wit to win:

We drew a circle that took him in!”

— Edwin Markham (from “Outwitted”)

3. RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Congregational Singing (Cathy)

Reflections

Joys and Concerns

Offering & Music (Leanna)

Sending: #1068

Eternal God, you call us to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,
by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown.

Give us faith to go out with courage, not knowing where we go,
but only that your hand is leading us, and your love supporting us,
through Jesus Christ — *Amen*

“Human beings must be known to be loved; but Divine beings must be loved to be known.”

— Blaise Pascal