November 1, 2026

"The Joy of the Harvest"

FORT COLLINS MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

Worship: 10:00 AM **Pastor:** Steve Ramer **Cell:** 970-412-7510

SEASON OF PENTECOST

Romans 8:2 A new power is in operation. The Spirit of life in Christ, like a strong wind, has magnificently cleared the air, freeing you from a fated lifetime of brutal tyranny at the hands of sin and death. (The Message)

1. GATHERING

Musical Prelude (John)

Call to Worship (Steve)

L: The stalks are drying and the kernels soon will be ready

P: The vines are retreating exposing their once hidden, colorful treasures.

L: The harvest is here…

P: Bountiful gifts of mother nature,

L: Generous gifts from a loving God.

P: The harvest is plentiful.

L: The workers are eager with anticipation,

P: Readying themselves like sprinters before a race.

L: And like them, our faith readies us, nurturing a grateful attitude!

P: We are grateful because the abundance of God's harvest.

L: We always have enough resources:

P: ...Enough finances,

L: ...Enough love and nurture,

P: Enough volunteers, and enough time.

L: Harvesters, be grateful while also working to grow resources.

Opening Prayer (Steve)

Giving and forgiving God, you created the good earth and blessed it.

Give us glad and generous hearts, that we may rejoice and give thanks for the abundance of your creation,

the depths of your mercy, and your care for all. Amen.

Congregational Singing (Rachel)

"What we plant in the soil of contemplation, we shall reap in the harvest of action." —Meister Eckhart

"With every deed you are sowing a seed, though the harvest you may not see."
— Ella Wheeler Wilcox

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.

2. Hearing God's Word

Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15, Galatians 6:9-10

2 Corinthians 9:6 The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.
9 As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."
10 He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. 11 You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God…

Galatians 6:9 So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time if we do not give up. 10 So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

Sermon: "The Joy of the Harvest"

Today we will be talking about money, finances, and our church budget for next year. We may feel like such discussions do not belong in worship. These things are things of the world, not of heavenly inspiration. As I have said before, budgets are moral documents and thus liturgies of our core beliefs. They must be, then, heavenly inspired.

3. Responding to God's Word

Congregational Singing (Rachel)

Joys and Concerns

Offering & Music (Steve)

Sending (Steve)

God, who clothes the grass of the field
and feeds the birds of the air.
Free us from all fear and worry that,
trusting in your goodness,
we may always praise your mighty deeds
and give you thanks for the bounty of your gifts.
We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

"Care less for your harvest than for how it is shared and your life will have meaning and your heart will have peace."
— Kent Nerburn

"History proves that those who seed extremist ideologies reap a bitter harvest."
— Sushma Swaraj

"When the world decides to stop being greedy... there will be a harvest for the world! Amen." — Jess Glynne