

GATHERING

Prelude to Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Interlude

Candle Lighting

* Call to Worship

Come rule makers, rule breakers, and you who are still finding your way. Come. Whether you speak with wise words or with wisecracks, you are made in the image of God. Come into God's house. Hear God's Word. Prepare to meet your Maker and your match. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is greater than human strength.

***Some of us like certainty and structure. Some of us don't.
We come by different roads, yet we are here together.
We want to know God, and to be known by God.
We are here to worship the Lord.***

Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there." We are here and Christ Jesus is here.

We join our hearts in worship.

* Opening Prayer

PRAISING GOD* Hymn *Hamba nathi*

STJ 2

Prayer of Confession

***God, we call you ruler of all, but
sometimes we make excuses.***

***We try to avoid applying your rules to
our actions and interests.***

***At other times, we hold so tightly to
rules that we break relationships.***

***It is easier to imagine that you are
like us than it is for us to be like you.***

***We judge ourselves by success; you
judge us by how we treat others.***

Help us to face our truth.

Forgive us when we fail.

***Give us the courage to keep trying to
live as you love.***

Words of Assurance

The Lord's rules can be trusted.

They make plain people wise.

PROCLAIMING

Scripture Reading

Exodus 20:1-17

Hymn

Holy, holy, holy!

HWB 120

Scripture Reading

John 2:13-22

Sermon

Reflection

RESPONDING* Hymn *Teach me thy truth* HWB 548

Offering and Offertory

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

SENDING* Sending Hymn *Lead on, O Cloud of presence* HWB 419

* Benediction

We are people of God.

We go in God's love

to extend God's love

and live God's promise.

Postlude

* *All who are able are invited to stand where indicated.*

Our worship ends after the postlude; please remain seated.

HWB – blue hymnal STS – purple hymnal STJ – green hymnal

Preacher: Charles Bontrager Worship Leader: Jan Croyle

Accompanist: John Gamin

Wednesday 6:00pm you are invited to Soup & Games Night in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a soup to share as we become better acquainted in a casual setting.

TODAY (March 4th) at 4pm in conjunction with other area churches we are bringing **Ted and Company** to Oak Grove Mennonite Church. They will be showing *Discover: A Comic Lament*. Admission is free. We hope you will join us there.

Following the Annual Meeting we decided that as a congregation we were ready to start the **discernment process** around First Mennonite becoming “**an open and affirming congregation**, welcoming all without regard to race, national origin, gender identification, or sexual orientation”. We will have group discussions on March 4th & 18th, during Sunday School time at 9:30am and on March 11th & 25th, 12pm following worship service. We urge you to give us the benefit of your insights, opinions, and questions. Our church is committed to pursuing this discernment, and, if we decide to proceed, we will need active participation from all. Please consider joining the learning experience and discussion.

*Our **MISSION** is to welcome all to know Christ's salvation through worship and works of love, peace and justice in service for God.*

LOOKING AHEAD*

SUN 3/04 • 9:30am Discernment on “Open and Affirming”
• 4pm Ted & Company “A Comic Lament”- Oak Grove
TUES 3/06 • 3pm Deacons Meeting
WED 3/07 • 6pm Soup & Games Night
SUN 3/11 • 12pm Discernment on “Open and Affirming”
WED 3/14 • 6pm Fellowship Meal, 7pm Steering Team
SUN 3/18 • 9:30am Discernment on “Open and Affirming”
WED 3/21 • 6pm Fellowship Meal, 7pm Worship Team
SUN 3/25 • Palm Sunday • 12pm Discernment Discussion
WED 3/28 • 6pm Fellowship Meal
THURS 3/29 • 7pm Maundy Thursday Service
📍 THURS 3/8 Angie Newcomer 📍 SAT 3/10 Jay Landis

*Send announcements/dates to: chrischamberlin99@yahoo.com

View our Calendar online: • iPhone/iCal <http://bit.ly/2B00DQQ>
• Android/Google <http://bit.ly/2CXZv1J>

First Mennonite Church

405 Trease Road
Wadsworth OH 44281
Charles Bontrager, Pastor
Direct (330) 969-9364

Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship Service 10:45 am
Office (330) 334-1863
www.firstmennonite.com
fmcwadsworth@gmail.com

God's Top Ten

1. Put God First
2. Worship Him Only
3. No Bad Words
4. Work 6 Rest 1
5. Obey Your Parents
6. Harm No One
7. Don't Cheat
8. If Its Not Yours,
Don't Take It
9. Tell the Truth
10. Don't Be Jealous of
Other People's Stuff

