

**GATHERING**

Prelude to Worship  
 Welcome and Announcements  
 Interlude

## \* Call to Worship

**People of God, open your eyes! Look around!**

The presence of our Lord Jesus Christ is here –  
 among us and within us.

**God's salvation is close at hand – nearer than you know.**

Here we are, bringing our everyday selves to praise  
 and to pray

**So open your hearts and minds to the Spirit!**

***Let's worship God together right now!***

- |                  |                                  |        |
|------------------|----------------------------------|--------|
| * Hymn           | <i>Great is the Lord</i>         | HWB 87 |
| * Opening Prayer |                                  |        |
| * Hymn           | <i>Halle, halle, hallelujah!</i> | STJ 17 |

**PROCLAIMING**

Scripture Reading	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
Sermon	Steve Carter
	“Fruit bearing is a lot of work”

**RESPONDING**

- |                        |                                   |              |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| * Hymn                 | <i>You are salt for the earth</i> | HWB 226      |
| Offering and Offertory |                                   |              |
| Special Music          |                                   | Cesar Franck |
|                        | “Lord God Almighty”               |              |

Sharing Joys and Concerns  
 Pastoral Prayer

**SENDING**

- |               |                                 |         |
|---------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| * Hymn        | <i>Go, my friends, in grace</i> | STS 57  |
| * Benediction |                                 | STS 158 |

## 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*

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*Preacher: Steve Carter    Worship Leader: Bobbie Mohr*  
*Accompanist: John Gamin    Special Music: Ron Chamberlin*

**Welcome to First Mennonite Church** If you are new here today, we're glad you can worship with us. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, we welcome you!

**Alice Rohrer** turns 99 today! Bring birthday cards next Sunday for a belated card shower. Some of us are organizing after the worship service to go to lunch with the Carters and then we will go sing “Happy Birthday” to Alice at Liberty Residence II. Please come with us if you are able!!

**Woman's Poolside Bible Study: Tuesday's at 7:00pm at the Croyle's house.** "Faith Travels--Trusting God in Life's Transitions" by Marlene Kropf. This study focuses on how we experience God's presence during the transitions in our lives. We will travel through the Old Testament with those who trusted God along their journey and also read stories and prayers from ancient Celtic Christians that connect with the biblical story. Please bring your Bible and a stone with you--any size.

**Wednesday 6:00pm** you are invited to a **Fellowship Meal** in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a potluck dish to share as we become better acquainted in a casual setting. Steering Team will follow.

**The Salvation Army** is asking for **donations of Peanut Butter and Jelly** during the month of July. If you bring donations to church we will make weekly trips to take the donations to the Salvation Army. Please keep in mind that kids prefer creamy peanut butter and grape jelly.

**Volunteers are needed to help with recycling efforts at the Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale in Wooster on August 4-5.** Join the recycling team in collecting and sorting items that can be diverted from the landfill. For more information or to volunteer, contact Craig Mast at [craig.mast@gmail.com](mailto:craig.mast@gmail.com) or [574-538-9857](tel:574-538-9857).

From Canada to Burkina Faso, and Bangladesh to Serbia, **Mennonite Central Committee** is promoting education in order to foster leadership capabilities and help young people overcome obstacles locally and around the world. View photos and stories from classrooms around the world where your support is making a difference: <http://bit.ly/2uW9jFd>

**Mennonite Church USA Convention** (Orlando, FL) - Filled with conversation, music, laughter, "audacious visions" and Mennonite "quirks," the second day of the **Future Church Summit** at the **Mennonite Church USA convention** shifted the focus from past to future and from internal to external. Read more online: <http://bit.ly/2tB7RIX>

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

**THIS WEEK July 9 – July 16**

- TODAY** 9:30am Discussion and light breakfast  
10:45am Worship Service  
🔔 *Alice Rohrer*
- Tuesday** Deacons Meeting (time TBA)  
7:00pm Women's Poolside Bible Study (at Croyle's)  
🔔 *Evelyn & Paul Brenneman anniversary*  
🔔 *Joslyn & Nick Saunders anniversary*
- Wednesday** 6:00pm Potluck Fellowship Meal – all are welcome!  
7:00pm Steering Team
- Thursday** **Announcements & calendar items for Sunday**  
*DUE* by NOON to: [chrischamberlin99@yahoo.com](mailto:chrischamberlin99@yahoo.com)  
🔔 *Joe & Cheryl Bareiter anniversary*
- Sunday** 9:30am Intergenerational Sunday School  
10:45am Worship Service

**First Mennonite Church**  
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Charles Bontrager, Pastor  
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Sunday School 9:30 am  
Worship Service 10:45 am  
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**First Mennonite Church**  
A congregation of  
Mennonite Church USA