

Sermon on the Mount Mennonite Church

July 19, 2020

“Reconciliation with Creation”

*Today we focus on reconciliation with creation. We are blessed to live on a planet that is beautiful, wondrous, and mysterious. Yet creation groans for redemption and healing from the abuse that it endures as the result of human arrogance.*

*In preparation for worship, open your windows and doors, put up the blinds, or go out to the patio or porch. Feel the light breeze and the warm sun, and hear the birds and insects, or listen to the sounds of your neighbors. Humans are part of creation, too.*

WELCOME

May the peace of the earth, the winds of God’s Spirit, and the creative energy of our God be with us as we gather for worship.

LIGHTING OUR PEACE LIGHTS

May the lighting of our peace lamps and candles be a plea for God to show us each how to act for peace and healing in our community and world!

CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 148)

Leader: Praise the Lord! Let the sun, moon, and stars sing praises. Mountains, hills, fruit trees, and cedars. Wild animals and all cattle, birds that fly and all creeping things.

**All: Praise and bless God forever!**

L: Let them all praise the name of the Lord, for the Lord commanded and they were created.

**All: Praise and bless God forever!**

L: Praise the Lord! Kings, princes, and all rulers of the earth. Men and women, young and old alike. Let them all praise the Lord, for his name is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

**All: Praise and bless God forever!**

HWB 648 Morning has Broken

CHILDREN’S TIME-INSPIRED MEDITATION (*if able, take a walk ahead of time; or think about a favorite outdoor space you love*)

SHARING TIME & PRAYER

SCRIPTURE Romans 8:18-25

REFLECTION & RITUAL (*please have a vessel of water ready*)

STJ 49 Rain Down

WORDS OF INTENTION & PROMISE

***As Christians united with Christ,  
we are called to participate in God's reconciling work in our world.  
We offer ourselves as servants of God's peace, who will listen with the ears and heart of God,  
speak God's forgiveness, mercy, justice, and grace,  
Lead with God's strong yet tender compassions,  
And reflect God's steadfast love and kindness.***

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

HWB 511 God, Who Touches Earth