

Madison Mennonite Church
Koinonia Worship

October 11, 2020

GATHERING

Greet one another and add names to the liturgy of those who would like to lead, read, or facilitate. Each blank can be filled by a different person, and all ages are encouraged to participate in leadership! Help non-readers with their lines. Everyone reads the "Many" parts, unmuted for groups reading virtually. Re-mute afterward. This week, children might like to engage in the "Hearing the Word" section by reading part/all of the scripture, as it is Psalm 23 from the Shine On Bible.

Call to Worship: Leader _____

Leader: However we arrive to Worship today, worried, wondering, weary, or waiting,

Many: Shepherd us, oh God.

Leader: As we practice *koinonia* together, apart from one another yet drawn together in our faith,

Many: Shepherd us, oh God.

Leader: As we weave scripture into our lives through prayer and encounter your Word,

Many: Shepherd us, oh God.

Lighting our Candles: Leader _____

Leader: Each week, we light a candle to symbolize Christ's presence with us and the unity we have with our beloved siblings at Madison Mennonite.

Light candles

Leader: Christ, our light, bless our fellowship with your Spirit's presence. We remember other MMC Koinonia Groups and pray that we are all united in love and peace. Amen.

HEARING the WORD -- Introduction _____; Reader 1 _____; Reader 2 _____

Introduction: Here are some optional tactile activities to try as we hear the scripture and reflection read:

- Consider a line within the scripture today and trace it/write it over again during the discussion. Try to see if you can memorize it.
- Sometimes taking a walk while thinking of scripture helps us with prayer. Trace out a path (outside, nearby, or in your zoom room) that you can walk while you think of the scripture.
- After worship this week, go for a walk around your home while singing "Guide My Feet" (HWB 546).

Reader 1: A reading from Psalm 23 (from the Shine On Story Bible).

You, Lord, are my shepherd. You give me everything I need.

You let me rest in green, grassy fields. You lead me to streams of peaceful water. You make my soul new again.

Reader 2: You lead me along the right paths. Even when I walk through dark valleys, I will not be afraid. You are with me, and your staff protects me.

You make a feast for me in front of those who are against me. You fill my cup until it overflows.

Your kindness and love will be with me every day of my life. And I will live in your house forever.

Guiding Reflection: Reader: _____

"Our prayers are often a call of reflection, a call for guidance and support. When the words for those prayers do not easily flow from us, we seek common prayers or the Word itself to provide direction. Prayers of common words may be part of meal times or bed times, but can hold comfort and meaning that answer our needs and desires, through the known and through the unknown. Prayer through memorized scripture (like that of Psalm 23) offers another form of guidance, as God leads us along the right paths."

Questions for Group Reflection: Facilitator _____

(The facilitator reads the questions aloud and invites response. At 25 minutes into your gathering, or when it conversation has dwindled, the facilitator closes the time with prayer, below.)

1. What are the common prayers or scriptures that you use in prayer? Why do you say them?
2. How might the prayers we recite have answers already in them?
3. Consider the favorite scripture passages shared in last Sunday's worship.* How might those passages function as prayer? In what situations would they be helpful?

At the closing of this time of sharing, pray together:

Facilitator: Loving Spirit, we give thanks for the many prayers you give us through the Bible, and the ways your Word is woven into our lives. Amen.

RESPONDING in PRAYER and FELLOWSHIP

Sharing Joys and Concerns: Leader _____

The Leader invites each person (children included!) to share any joys or concerns they bring to the group. Remind your group that if anyone does not wish to share, they may simply say "pass." After all, including the Leader, have been invited to share, and if no one has something to add after a first round, join in a spirit of prayer (below).

Level 1B adaptation: *If the group is 15 people or larger, invite people to type their name in the chat if they would like to share, as we do on All-Church Sundays. Call on people in that order. If the group is smaller than 15 people, follow the instructions above.*

Praying Together

Leader: Holy God, we offer these prayers to you this day, trusting in your faithfulness.
We pray for ourselves, for our loved ones near and far. *(a moment for silent prayer)*
We pray for our community, our nation, and our world. *(a moment for silent prayer)*
Loving God,

Many: hear our prayers. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ: Leader _____

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

Continued Fellowship (as time allows)

Invite children to share anything they've created or worked on during this worship time.



*Koinonia Worship 10.11 curated by Madison Vander Hill
and the Children's Christian Education Committee (Sammy Prough and Carissa Christner).*

*Sources used: Shine On: A Story Bible (Herald Press)
Guiding reflection written by Children's CE Committee*

*Favorite scriptures shared last week include: Ruth 1:16, Psalm 119:4, Psalm 121:1-4, Micah 6:8, Matthew 18:19-20, Luke 10:25-28, Luke 15:8-9, 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, Philippians 4:6-7, Philippians 4:13, Colossians 3:12-17, Revelation 5:13-14

Hymns to reflect on the worship theme and scripture:

- *HWB 352 Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us*
- *HWB 519 Shepherd me, oh God*
- *HWB 546 Guide my feet*

Announcements:

*Next Sunday in All-Church Worship, we will be Celebrating and Closing the MMC Mennonite Voluntary Service Unit.

*From Milwaukee Mennos: Thank you for your generous donations to the MCC school kit fund! Together, we collected enough supplies for 67 complete school kits, along with \$145 in donations to go to MCC. THANK YOU!!

This Week's Calendar:

Mon Oct 12

- Women's Group, 7pm

Tues Oct 13

- Adult CE Committee, 7pm

Wed Oct 14

- Worship Planning Committee, 6:30
- M&M, 7pm
- Community Care Call, 8:15pm

Sun Oct 18

- Spiritual Practices Series:
Experiencing God in Emptiness,
Led by Mark Wagler, 9:30am
- Baby shower for Megan and Ian,
1:30-2:30pm
- All-Church Adult CE 4pm,
Worship 5pm, and Fellowship Time

For links to these virtual gatherings, please see the weekly e-calendar. To add an event, please email Erica Boehr.



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