



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH  
of Champaign-Urbana

*Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.*

## Celebration of Worship

February 11, 2024

### Centering chimes

#### Prelude

#### Call to Worship

Leader: Come. You are welcome here, as everywhere, in the faithful presence of God.  
Sit. Listen. Breathe. This presence is a gift.

**All: We breathe in the gift of joy.**

Leader: Bubbling, beautiful joy that bursts from our lips in song and laughter. Joy in this earth,  
for the blessed bustle of beings that make their home here.

**All: We breathe in the gift of hope.**

Leader: Hope for the past, that we can hear true stories of those who came before us.  
Hope for today, that we can begin to be people of God's healing.  
Hope for the future, for the world to be made new when justice and peace shall kiss.

**All: We breathe in the gift of love.**

Leader: Love that fills and overwhelms us. Love that will never turn away its face,  
even from our darkest places.

**All: We breathe in the gift of life.**

Leader: Come, into the gift of new life. In the name of the true and living Holy One,  
who made us for love, who saved us by love, and who loves us still. Come, in fullness of life!

**\*Gathering hymn #36** "Let Us Build a House"

#### Welcome and prayer

**\*Praising Hymn #159** "Here on Christ the Rock I Will Stand"

#### Children's story and offering for Hungry World Farm ([www.hungryworldfarm.com](http://www.hungryworldfarm.com))

Congregation sings as children come forward (Voices Together #512)

**Scripture** Isaiah 25:1-9 and Matthew 7:24-27

#### Word of Witness

**\*Response Hymn #791** "Let Justice Flow Down"

**Offering prayer** (*Offerings can be placed in the plates as the ushers come by*)

**Offertory** *The Gift of Love arr. by Hal Hopson*

**Congregational sharing and prayer** (*use a mic or text/email prayers and announcements to Pastor Michael*)

#### Introduction of visitors

**Work of the church** (*please come forward to the podium mic to make your announcement*)

**\*Sung benediction #809** "Sing a New World into Being"

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*\*Stand in body or in spirit. Children are invited to wave the ribbons during the hymns.*

We welcome, without exclusion, all who seek God's love and grace...

You are welcome here, inclusive of gender, race, country of origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, sexual identity, socioeconomic status, family status, past imprisonment, education, citizenship status and physical or mental abilities. We encourage you to share in the rituals, fellowship and ministry of this congregation.

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Hearing devices (T-coil and over-ear) and a large print hymnal & Bible are available from the greeters.

Childcare (birth – preschool) is provided in the nursery downstairs.

## TODAY AFTER WORSHIP

Fellowship and refreshments in the basement before Sunday school. Please keep drinks in the basement. Snacks for children PreK-Grade School are also available. Parents, please assist your children during snack time. Education opportunities for all ages are held from 11:15am-12pm. Childcare for infants - preschoolers is provided in the nursery.



### CLASSES THROUGH NOVEMBER (upstairs/downstairs)

**Jesus & John Wayne:** Sanctuary

**Be Still and Know:** Library (upstairs) - TODAY

**Coffee & Conversation:** Room 13, Downstairs

**High school & College:** Room 5, Downstairs

### CHILDREN'S CLASSES (downstairs)

**Kindergarten – Grade 2 Grade 6:** Room 10/11

**Grade 3 - 6:** Room 3

## FMC EVENTS THIS WEEK (Visit [www.fmc-cu.org/events](http://www.fmc-cu.org/events) for event details)

### WEDNESDAY

- Ash Wednesday Service (6p)
- FMC Council (6:45p)

### THURSDAY

- Thursday Morning Bible Study (9:30a)

### SUNDAY (LENT 1)

- Worship 9:15a; Guest preacher Janet Elaine Guthrie

### SATURDAY

- Winter Intertribal Gathering at Dayspring in E. Peoria (10a-4p)

## ANNOUNCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS (more announcements in the email sent each Tuesday)

Thank you to guest speaker, **Chad Hoffman**, for sharing with us today. Chad is the Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity.

**Pastor Michael is out of the office this weekend and maybe longer.** Please contact elders Kathy Springer or John MacLean with pastoral care needs.

**This Wednesday, February 14, 6 pm at FMC – Ash Wednesday service of song, readings and imposition of ashes.**

**This Saturday, February 17, 10 am – 4 pm at Dayspring Native American United Methodist Church in East Peoria (201 N Norwood Place, E. Peoria) – You are invited to an Intertribal Winter Gathering.** Admission is free. There will be native dance and drumming, Indian Fry Bread, crafts and goods. There are handouts on the table by the church office.

**Tuesday, February 20, 5:30 at FMC - Come to Taco Tuesday for food and fellowship.** Tacos, meat, rice, and beans are provided; bring a taco topping, side, or dessert to share if you wish, though it's not required. RSVP at: <http://tinyurl.com/febTacoTue> by next Sunday, February 18.

**February 23 – 24 - Illinois Interfaith Conference will explore how we welcome one another into community together, and the ways that our many faiths, experiences, and identities can bring us closer together.** Registration is free. Keynote speaker is Nadia Bolz-Weber. For details about location of events and to register, visit: <http://tinyurl.com/interfaith2024>.

**Sunday, February 25 – Deadline to submit articles for the March Vine.** Email submissions to: [cindischieber@me.com](mailto:cindischieber@me.com).

**Our Racial Justice Working Group lifts up opportunities to celebrate Black History Month (details on table near the church office):**

- Thursday, February 22, 6-7 pm in the main conference room at CU Public Health District (201 West Kenyon Rd, C) – Black Health, Wealth & Wellness.
- Sunday, February 25, 2-3:30 pm at Knight Auditorium in the Spurlock Museum (600 Gregory St, U) - *Walking With My Ancestors: Cape Coast Castle* by Ama Oforiwa Aduonum.
- Thursday, February 29, 6:30pm at the Unitarian Universalist Church (309 W. Green St., U) - Screening of "[The Big Payback](#)", including a post-screening discussion with Jeff Trask.

### THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HELPED TODAY:

**Greeters:** Tammie Bouseman & Bob King

**Worship Leader:** Tim Clink

**Song Leader:** Matt Yoder; **Piano:** Cheryl Koranda

**Children's Story:** Marcia E Nelson

**Scripture Reader:** Rosalee Otto

**Words of Witness:** Chad Hoffman, Exec. Director, Habitat For Humanity

**Congregational Sharing:** Kathy Springer, Elder

**Zoom:** Megan Cox; **Audio:** Randy Nelson

**Worship Nursery:** Taniya Boone & Mary Krick

**SS Nursery:** Mary Hines & Doug Malcolm

**Stewards:** Mary Krick & Thom Moore

**Refreshments:** Mark Jaeger & Bev Hertle

### NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18 AT FMC (LENT 1):

**Greeters:** Cynthia Nafziger & Keith Springer

**Worship Leader:** Martha Moore

**Song Leader:** Danielle Beard; **Piano:** Janet MacLean

**Children's Story:** Donna Nelson Evans & Lynne Sancken

**Scripture Reader:** Karen McKenzie; **Scripture:** Mark 10:17-31 & Psalm 19:7-10

**Sermon:** Janet Elaine Guthrie

**Congregational Sharing:** Kathy Springer, Elder

**Zoom:** Joyce Hurd; **Audio:** Phil Martens

**Worship Nursery:** Taniya Boone & Marcia E Nelson

**SS Nursery:** Abby Crosby & Rebecca Bare

**Stewards:** Chuck Gibson & Thom Moore

**Refreshments:** Mary Krick & Mary Hines

First Mennonite Church of Champaign Urbana

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### Contact Us:

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Rhonda Gibson, Office Administrator: [office@fmc-cu.org](mailto:office@fmc-cu.org) | Office Hours: 9:30 am – 2:30 pm Tuesday-Friday