



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

HOLDING IT TOGETHER



Celebration *of* Worship

February 22, 2026

Lent 1

Holding It Together in Our Grieving and in Our Loving

*The candles on the communion table dim, one each week,
as Lent unfolds and Jesus' faithfulness brings him closer and closer to the cross.*

Centering chimes

Prelude

*Call to worship

One: Welcome Lent.

All: Welcome mystery.

One: Welcome dissonance.

All: Welcome grief.

One: Welcome glory and uncertainty.

All: Welcome doubt. Welcome belief.

One: Welcome questions without answers.

All: Welcome fullness from above.

One: Welcome death and resurrection.

All: Welcome Jesus' fiercest love.

*Hymn #10 "Here in this place"

Welcome and Prayer

Hymn #30 "Jesus Calls Us"

Children's story and children's offering (for MCC crisis response in Gaza)

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

Scripture John 11:1-44

Drama

Sermon

*Response Hymn #644 "Healer of Our Every Ill"

Communion

Hymn #478

"I Come with Joy"

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. The bread is gluten-free. The juice is grape juice (water is also available). Come and partake as the Spirit leads. Note: We will not pass the offering plates this morning. Offerings can be placed in the plate when you come forward for communion or in the plate at the back of the sanctuary after the service. Prayer cards can also be brought forward.

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

Introduction of visitors

Work of the church

*Sending Hymn #605

"My Life Flows On"

*Benediction

Congregational response: God is with us.

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

Note: Because worship is participatory and not a performance, instead of applauding please show appreciation for preludes, offertories and special music in other ways, such as ASL, silent applause, saying "Amen" or thanking musicians later.

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.

Hearing devices (T-coil and over-ear) and large print hymnals are available from the greeters.

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