



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

July 5, 2026

Hospitality Series

Being a Nation of Immigrants

Centering chimes (*Lighting of the Christ candle*)

Prelude

Call to Worship (*adapted from Psalm 146*)

Leader: Praise the Lord oh my soul!

People: For as long as we live, we will praise the Lord with our whole beings!

Leader: Don't put your trust in leaders, in human beings, where there is no saving help: Their breath leaves them, they go back in the ground, and their plans die too.

People: No! Our help is in the God of Jacob, the maker and sustainer of the sky and the soil, the sea, and all that is in them.

Leader: God is faithful, forever!

People: Our help is in God, who brings justice to the oppressed, who feeds the hungry and frees the prisoners.

Leader: God watches over immigrants and helps orphans and widows.

People: God reigns from one generation to the next. Praise the Lord!

***Gathering hymn** (handout) "You've Got a Place"

Welcome & Prayer

***Praising Hymn #409** "For We Are Strangers No More"

Children's story and children's offering (*for Sola Gratia Farm in Urbana*)

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

Scripture Deuteronomy 10:12-22 & Romans 12:13; 18-21

Sermon

***Response hymn #556** "I Bind My Heart This Tide"

Congregational Sharing & Prayer (*use the mic or text prayers to Pastor Michael*)

Commissioning of Sarah Zabel as Interim Ministry Associate

Prayer & Offertory (*Ushers will pass the offering plates down the rows*)

Introduction of visitors

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

***Sending hymn #802** "Draw the Circle"

***Benediction**

*Stand in body or in spirit. Children are invited to wave the 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 a large print hymnal & Bible are available from the greeters.

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

