



WELCOME!

We are in the season of Lent. This year is unlike anything any of us have ever experienced before.

But these weeks remain a time for examining our lives and renewing our faith. So even though we can't worship together in-person, please join us on-line if possible. And let us open our hearts and minds to the grace and wisdom and hope of Christ.

Peace to you,  
Rod Stafford

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*PMC musicians  
are trying to find  
a way to sing  
together...*



3.29.2020 — 10:45 am

# WELCOME TO PORTLAND MENNONITE CHURCH

At Portland Mennonite Church we are striving to take seriously the challenge of the prophet Jeremiah to “seek the peace of the city” (Jeremiah 29:7)



## FACILITATORS

### **Musicians:**

Gerry Leatherman  
Ari Leatherman

### **Sermon:**

Rod Stafford

### **Prayers:**

Britt Carlson

### **Video/FB Live Support:**

Curt Weaver  
Rachel Joy

## PEACE CANDLE

Each Sunday we light a candle as a sign of our faith in Christ, whose "light shines in the darkness" (John 1.5).

Amidst the shadows that fall around us and in us, the gospel invites us to pray for peace.

It also prompts us to act for peace, in both personal and global ways.

# FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Prelude

Greeting

♪ Great is thy faithfulness WB 327

*Text: Thomas Chisholm, Music: William Runyan, ©Hope Publishing. CCLI #18723*

A Time for Children

Psalm 130:1-7

Lament, Confession, Hope

♪ There is a balm in Gilead WB 627

*Text & Music: African-American Spiritual*

John 11:1-45

Sermon: Life that Endures

♪ What wondrous love is this WB627

*Text: Cluster of Spiritual Songs, 1823, Music: American folk hymn, 1840*

Sharing Joys and Concerns  
*(Via comments in Facebook Live)*

Prayer (ending with the Lord's Prayer, WB 731)

Announcements

Benediction

Please Join us via **Facebook Live**  
[www.facebook.com/portlandmennonite/](http://www.facebook.com/portlandmennonite/)

Today's song lyrics and scriptures are printed in the following pages

# Today's Songs and Scripture

## Great is thy faithfulness (Hymnal, A Worship Book #327)

1. Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not  
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

*Refrain:*

**Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!**  
**Morning by morning new mercies I see.**  
**All I have needed Thy hand hath provided.**  
**Great is Thy faithfulness! Lord, unto me!**

2. Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

*Refrain*

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow;  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

*Refrain*

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**A Time for Children**

## Psalm 130:1-7 (NRSV)

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive  
to the voice of my supplications!

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul  
waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning,  
more than those who watch for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love,  
and with him is great power to redeem.

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### Lament, Confession, Hope

## There is a balm in Gilead (Hymnal, A Worship Book #530)

*Refrain:*

There is a balm in Gilead  
to make the wounded whole.  
There is a balm in Gilead  
to heal the sinsick soul.

1. Sometimes I feel discouraged,  
and think my work's in vain,  
but then the Holy Spirit  
revives my soul again.

*Refrain*

2. Don't ever feel discouraged,  
for Jesus is your friend,  
who, if you ask for knowledge,  
will never fail to lend.

*Refrain*

3. If you cannot preach like Peter,  
if you cannot pray like Paul,  
you can tell the love of Jesus,  
who died to save us all.

*Refrain*

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

## What wondrous love is this (Hymnal, A Worship Book #530)

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul?  
What wondrous love is this, O my soul?  
What wondrous love is this,  
That caused the Lord of bliss,  
To bear the dreadful curse,  
For my soul, for my soul,  
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,  
When I was sinking down, sinking down,  
When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,  
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul, Christ  
laid aside his crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,  
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing,  
to God and to the Lamb who is the great "I Am, "  
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,  
while millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,  
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on,  
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,  
And thro' eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,  
And thro' eternity, I'll sing on.

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### Sharing Joys and Concerns

*If you are joining us live, feel free share a thanksgiving or a prayer request in the comments*

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

- \* *Marlene Kropf*, who is undergoing treatment for stage-two breast cancer;
- \* *Ken Fransen*, who is healing from surgery to treat a recurrence of tongue cancer;
- \* *Viola Nussbaum*, who is receiving hospice care; Viola would welcome cards and calls;
- \* *Shelley Morrison*, Sarah Holcomb's sister, who is receiving treatment for ovarian cancer;
- \* *Gillian King*, who is being treated for stage 4 breast cancer in Australia (Gillian is Hal King's wife; Hal is Kelsey Knight King's dad and Mary Wenger's brother)
- \* Chris Barghout and his family, as his uncle and several others in the family in NY tested positive for coronavirus;
- \* People who are especially susceptible to COVID-19 and for those who have self-quarantined;
- \* Public health workers, medical professionals, and chaplains who are responding to increasing care needs;
- \* People who struggle with depression.

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### Prayer, ending with the Lord's Prayer

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**Tithes and offerings** may be given [online](#) or mailed to the church office

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Staying Connected On-Line

You can find out what is going on (and what you missed) on our web page. On Wednesdays we will host a short on-line gathering for evening prayers (look for a link early next week). We are also planning to host a Monday morning 'Coffee Time' (which will start the following week). If small groups want to connect on-line via Zoom, contact Britt or Rachel.

## PMC Learns

April 5 / 12 pm (webinar)

### “Gaza: Revisioning David and Goliath 2020”

In Gaza, almost 2 million people live on a strip of land 20 miles long and 3-5 miles wide. Its borders are tightly controlled by Israel. It is a densely congested open air prison. And now there have been positive diagnoses of COVID-19 in Gaza.

So that we do not forget people living in a desperate, oppressive place, and so that we can learn their stories of life, pain, and even hope, PMC Learns will focus on Gaza on April 5. Chris Barghout of our congregation will share about his family's Palestinian roots. Ned Roush, a Portland friend who recently returned from a medical mission to Gaza, will share about what he saw and heard. And we will talk a bit more about the Gaza Twinning Initiative that aims to connect Mennonite congregation in the US to groups of people in Gaza.

Join us via Zoom on Sunday, April 5, at 12:00pm. Link will be sent out in next week's email.

## Children's Storytime (ages 3-8)

Marlene Bogard is setting up an online children's storytime for children 3-8. She has over 25 years of experience of leading children's storytimes in a faith setting. If you are interested in being connected to this, please email her at [harderbogard@gmail.com](mailto:harderbogard@gmail.com)

## SMMS Plant Sale Now Through April 13

Sunnyside Mennonite Montessori School annual plant sale is on! This sale offers a high-quality, ready-to-plant selection of organic vegetables, hanging baskets, and perennial flowers. More details and an order form can be found online at: [www.portlandmennonite.org/smms-plant-sale](http://www.portlandmennonite.org/smms-plant-sale) and payment can be made to SMMS by mail or electronically. Contact Katrina Miller (SMMS Chair) or Gail Manickam (SMMS Secretary) if you have any questions! This sale is an important fundraiser for SMMS and helps us to keep tuition costs low, while providing a high-quality early childhood program.

## Seeking the peace of the City

Concerned about people who are homeless at this time and want to help? Nightstrike has closed temporarily so our regularly scheduled volunteer dates are canceled until further notice. However, there is another way you can help our homeless neighbors. Clay Street Table, a meals programs near the south park blocks, has found a way to still provide meals in a careful way. Instead of their usual hot meals, they now pack sack meals to pass out by

wagon outreach in the park blocks in “take-out” fashion. Since most meal programs, day centers and shelters have closed, Clay Street Table is a lifeline for many. It will now only operate with a couple of volunteers a day so the best way to help is simply by providing a donation so they can purchase supplies for the sack meals. They do have a great need for such donations at this time. Go to [www.claystreettable.org](http://www.claystreettable.org) for this or contact Susan Voss-Rothmeier for more information.

## Rejoice Subscription Renewal

It's time to renew our group subscription to *The Mennonite* magazine, a monthly publication of MC-USA. Our group cost is \$37, per annual subscription, payable to PMC (magazines are mailed directly to you). Please respond to the church office by April 10 if you would like to be added or removed. Note: *The Mennonite* magazine and *Mennonite World Review* are merging to form a new independent magazine. Beginning in September, current subscribers of either publication will get the new publication for the remainder of the subscription.

## Daily Prayer from MMN

Mennonite Mission Network is offering daily prayer online beginning next week. [www.mennonitemission.net/news/Mission-Network-creates-series-to-infuse-hope-during-harrowing-times](http://www.mennonitemission.net/news/Mission-Network-creates-series-to-infuse-hope-during-harrowing-times).

## Being Church in the Midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic

We are committed to 'seeking the peace of the city' (Jeremiah 29:7). What we have been continuing to learn is that without protective measures, the rate of infection with COVID-19 will quickly overwhelm the capacity of the medical systems in our communities. Limiting gatherings and practicing social distancing helps slow the spread of the virus, protecting vulnerable populations and preserving medical resources by decreasing and spreading out the demand over time. With these kind of protective measures, we can help to 'flatten the curve' so that people who need medical attention can get help. That's why we are choosing not to meet until the situation changes.

Instead, we will continue to worship and continue to be the church in alternative ways. On Sunday mornings, we invite you to join us for a virtual service on Facebook Live at 10:45 am. And we encourage you to continue to pray for one another. Call folks you know from the congregation and check-in.

And let us actively 'seek the peace of the city.' Keep an eye out for your neighbors, and especially older adults. A lot of folks are living close to the edge financially and are food insecure. Find ways to support food banks near where you live. Support local businesses and restaurants (though it might be wise to consider getting take-out).

### A few other notes:

Please pass this news along, especially to anyone you know at PMC who might not be digitally connected.

**To join us virtually on Sunday morning** at 10:45 am, go to our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/portlandmennonite](http://www.facebook.com/portlandmennonite)). And if you haven't already, 'like' us. If you are not on FB, we will post the video and the audio on our website Sunday afternoon.

**As you are able, please continue to support PMC financially** so that we can continue to fund the ministries of the church, both locally and globally.

Because we will not be at PMC, no one will be buying the **Street Roots** paper from Nathan and Christina. We are committed to replacing their lost income. If you want to pitch in a little to cover the amount, make a contribution to PMC and note that it is for Street Roots.

The grace and peace, and wisdom and love of Christ be with you all,

*Rod Stafford, Britt Carlson, Curt Weaver*

**Join us on FB Live** Sunday Morning at 10:45 am, or check our page for updates throughout the week [www.facebook.com/portlandmennonite](http://www.facebook.com/portlandmennonite)

### Check out our website

[www.portlandmennonite.org](http://www.portlandmennonite.org) for news, sermons, event information, and ways to stay connected with each other including sharing prayer requests and video greetings.

**Small Groups**—We need to be connected more than ever right now. The Small Group Committee is encouraging all small groups to meet via the videoconferencing service Zoom. It's amazing how connected you feel even via technology! If your small group would like to meet via Zoom, please contact Rachel at [office@portlandmennonite.org](mailto:office@portlandmennonite.org) or Britt at 503-381-6145, and they can walk you through how to set up a Zoom meeting.

**PMC Staff** are minimizing time in the office. Please email us for fastest response. We will check voicemail remotely each day.

### Electronic Giving

We have a variety of options for financial contributions, including by credit card, or direct debit from your bank account. For details and forms, go to [www.portlandmennonite.org/give](http://www.portlandmennonite.org/give). You can also check with your bank about sending electronic payments. Contact Rachel Joy ([office@portlandmennonite.org](mailto:office@portlandmennonite.org)) if you have any questions.