

# 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)*



Last Sunday's Valentines Cookie Exchange was a sweet treat!

## PASTORS & STAFF

**Rod Stafford**  
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**Curt Weaver**  
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# WELCOME!



We are glad you have joined our online service this morning. Today is the Second Sunday in Lent, a forty-day season for renewing our faith in the way, the truth, and the life of Jesus. We are glad you have joined us this morning as we sing our thanks and praise, listen to the scriptures, and lift up our prayers.

*Peace to you, Rod Stafford*

On Sunday at 10:45 am please join us in **Zoom** or on [Facebook Live](#) and follow along with scriptures and songs in the following pages. The Zoom link is in the weekly update email.

## THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

### FACILITATORS

#### **Prelude:**

Nancy Good  
Brie Kruger  
Rachel Yoder

#### **Worship Leader:**

Gloria Nussbaum

#### **Lenten Reflection:**

Derrell Ness

#### **Song Leader:**

Bruce Kuhns

#### **Sermon:**

Curt Weaver

#### **Prayers &**

#### **Announcements:**

Rod Stafford

#### **Sharing Time:**

Britt Carlson

#### **Technical Support:**

Rod Stafford  
Britt Carlson

#### **Worship Setting:**

Deb Coates

Prelude

Greeting

Lighting the Lenten Candles

♪ 'Let us build a house' — *Voices Together*, 36

Psalm 122

Prayer of Confession and Assurance

♪ 'Create in me a clean heart' — *Sing the Story*, 62

A Lenten Reflection

Luke 13:1-9, 31-35

Sermon: 'Repent for what?'

♪ 'Christ we do all adore thee' — *Hymnal, A Worship Book*, 105

Prayers

Sending Words

Benediction

Sharing Joys and Concerns

# Today's Worship

## Prelude

## Greeting

### Lighting the Lenten Candles

*To mark this Lenten season, we are lighting candles each Sunday.  
Each week we will light one less candle as we make our way  
toward Holy Week.*

Each week we are also adding elements to our Lenten wreaths.  
This second week, we have collected twigs and small branches;  
you can place those in your wreath.

Now, light the center candle - the Light of Christ. (*pause*)

Then light four of the others. (*pause*)

We light the sixth candle as a symbol of lament. Much is wrong in  
our world; we haven't always done what is right. In the light of  
Christ's boundless love, we trust in the mercy of God. (*pause*)

Let us pray:

*God of every place,  
some of us see you today  
from mountains of joy and confidence,  
mountains of gratitude and praise.  
Some of us seek you today  
from valleys of grief or doubt,  
valleys of loss or exhaustion.  
And in all places,  
there you are with us,  
nudging us onward.  
When we descend from the heights,  
show us your presence on the ground.  
When we rise from the depths,  
show us the light of your way.  
Meet us all on the path made by Jesus. AMEN*

♪ — ‘Let us build a house’ / VT 36, verses 1, 3-5

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live  
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions  
Rock of faith and vault of grace  
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:  
All are welcome, all are welcome  
All are welcome in this place
  
3. Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:  
A banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;  
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us:  
All are welcome, all are welcome  
All are welcome in this place
  
4. Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger:  
All are welcome, all are welcome  
All are welcome in this place
  
5. Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:  
All are welcome, all are welcome  
All are welcome in this place

## Psalm 122 (NRSV)

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"  
Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.  
Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together.  
To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,  
    as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.  
For there the thrones for judgment were set up,  
    the thrones of the house of David.  
Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.  
Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers."  
For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you."  
For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

## A Prayer of Confession and Assurance

Deep calls to deep.  
We call to you from the depths of our hearts.

We confess when we have stayed on the edges.  
Not listening to each other.  
Not taking the path you show.  
We confess when we have strayed from the way.  
Silencing suffering.  
Forfeiting life.

*In the silence now, let go of what keeps you from making  
and keeping deep commitments. (pause)*

Deep calls to deep.  
You call to us from the depth of your love.  
You call us to care deeply for each other and for our world.  
We come to you, God.

(Adapted from *Leader* resources for Lent)

♪ — 'Create in me a clean heart' / SS 62

**Refrain:**

Create in me a clean heart, O God  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Create in me a clean heart, O God  
and renew a right spirit within me.

1. Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your steadfast love.  
Come wash me clean from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin, O Lord.
2. I know that I have sinned,  
for my transgressions are before me.  
Come wash me clean from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin, O Lord.
3. You look for truth within me.  
Teach me your wisdom in my heart.  
Come wash me clean from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin, O Lord.
4. Restore to me your joy.  
Sustain in me a willing spirit.  
Come wash me clean from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin, O Lord.

*Text & Music: Andrew Kreider, based on Psalm 51. © 1994 Andrew Kreider. Used with permission.*

## Luke 13:1-9, 31-35

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

## Sermon

*Repent for what?*

## ♪ — 'Christ we do all adore thee' / WB 105

Christ, we do all adore thee,  
and we do praise thee forever.  
Christ, we do all adore thee,  
and we do praise thee forever,  
for on the holy cross hast thou the world from sin redeemed.  
Christ, we do all adore thee,  
and we do praise thee forever.

Christ, we do all adore thee.

*Text: Adoramus te Christe; English version by Theodore Barker, 1899  
Music: Theodore Dubois, 1867.*

## Prayers

### *Please Pray For...*

- Ernst Friesen, who was hospitalized this week.
- Debra Hubbard, as she recovers from eye surgery.
- Harold and Gloria Nussbaum as they grieve the death of Harold's sister Laura's dear husband, Sam Oates. Sam died peacefully early Thursday morning in the hospital in Jacksonville, FL, due to complications from a chronic lung disease. He was 75 years old and they had been married for 51 years. Please pray for Laura, her children Michael, Rachel (Snyder) and David and their families.

## Sending Words

### Offering

[GIVE ONLINE](#)

## Benediction

## Sharing Time

*(Not streamed to Facebook)*

## Announcements

### Congregational Input for Staff Reviews Feb 28 - Mar 14

Each year the Staff Relations Committee (SRC) administers annual reviews. The purpose of these reviews is to affirm and strengthen the pastors and staff in their relationships and ministries. While points of stress or weakness may be identified, the goal is always to find ways to encourage growth both personally and professionally. This year, all of the pastoral reviews, for Rod, Britt, and Curt, are 'minor' reviews, meaning that we are not making a decision about renewing any of their terms. Each pastor will have a review committee consisting of congregational members, a representative from the Table and a representative from the SRC. (Note: the administrator is reviewed annually by Rod, feel free to contact him if you would like to provide input about Rachel's performance). Please complete your responses by Sunday, March 14.

To provide feedback, you can fill out an online form, or email or call a committee member:

[Rod](#): Dave Johnson; [Curt](#): Phil Steininger or Barry Frisby; [Britt](#): Kate Manelis or Sarah Holcomb.

## LENT 2021

### At Portland Mennonite Church

*On the Sunday mornings of Lent we will light candles in our homes during our worship services. On Sunday evenings we invite families especially to join us for a 15-minute gathering that will end with us blowing out the candles and saying Good Night. For more about our observance of these forty days that lead us to Holy Week, visit our [Lent 2021 web page](#).*

### Sunday Evening Prayers with our Children

Sunday Evenings, 7:00 pm

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84901866684>

Each Sunday evening during Lent, we invite your family to join the rest of the congregation for 15 mins on Zoom at 7pm. We will again gather for a short bedtime ritual which has been created especially for the children in our congregation.

### Holden Evening Prayer

Thursdays in Lent / 7:00 pm

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88391713968>

On Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm, beginning on February 18, you are welcome to join us for 20-30-minute service of evening prayer. The liturgy, which is almost entirely sung, was written by Marty Haugen when he was in-residence at Holden Village (near Chelan, WA). It is a beautiful, engaging, and moving service. The version we will use was prepared by Saint John's Lutheran Church in Sacramento, CA, and is used with permission. You can preview the service here. Booklets with words and music are available. Contact Rod or Rachel in the PMC office and we will send you a copy. A pdf of the service can also be found on-line.

### Racial Healing: A Lenten Book Study

Sundays in March / 9:30 am

The Little Book of Racial Healing describes four pillars that can move us toward racial healing: Uncover History, Make Connections, Work Toward Healing, Take Action. On the Sunday mornings of March, 9:30 to 10:30 am, the PMC Racial Justice committee will lead an on-line book study. As we read through the book together, we will consider the possibility of starting a Portland chapter of Coming to the Table.

At the end, the class will also be invited to discern possible recipients of the reparation funds in the 2021 PMC Budget. Copies of the book are available at PMC. Contact the church office to make arrangements to pick one up or to have one sent to you. Any questions, contact a member of the Racial Justice Committee. (Kris Voss Rothmeier, chair; Connie Brown, Sylvia Shirk, Rod Stafford, Sarah Holcomb, Karina Kreider)

## PMC Community Notes

To submit a brief announcement for the bulletin, email it by Wednesday to [office@portlandmennonite.org](mailto:office@portlandmennonite.org)

### Thank you from Nancy and John Hiland:

Thanks to our PMC friends who sent cards, notes and remembrances for our 50th wedding anniversary. Our PMC friends have been a significant part of our journey. -John and Nancy Hiland

### Free Exercise Bicycle

Debbie and Tim Lang have an exercise bike they would like to get rid of (free). It is a 26 year old Schwinn, the seat is 3 years old, lightly used. Works well, but it is heavy. If you are interested, or if you can help them find another home for it, please contact Debbie at 503-287-8052 or [tdbj@comcast.net](mailto:tdbj@comcast.net)

## General PMC Announcements

### Host a Student from Gaza?:

Gaza is a little-known and often-forgotten strip of land on the Mediterranean Sea where life is very difficult and oppressive and also full of beauty and dreams. The PMC Gaza Twinning Committee is eager for our congregation to learn more about the people of Gaza and ways we can advocate for a more just future. One possibility is for a PMC family to host a high school student from Gaza through the [AFS-USA](#) student exchange program. Our Gaza committee would be happy to help facilitate and support a hosting family. Students will arrive in August for the 2021-22 school year. To learn more, the Gaza committee will host an information session soon. If you are interested, contact any committee member (Esther Nelson, Paul Reid, Sam Abrams, Linda Davies, Rod Stafford).

## Broader Church News and Events

### Rescheduled: Mennonites and Indigenous Land:

#### The Pacific Northwest Mennonite Historical Society Annual Meeting (March 20 / 1:30 pm)

You are invited to join the PNMHS meeting, which will begin with a talk on "The Path to Acknowledgement: Mennonite Settlement in the Pacific Northwest" presented by Sarah Augustine of Yakima, WA and Jonathan Neufeld, from Seattle Mennonite Church. *Who were the indigenous people here before settlers and Mennonites came to this land? What influenced our decisions in how and where we live?*

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84858146570>

#### ***Apostles of Change* Interview      March 17 / 4:00 pm PST**

Join Mennonite Church USA's Iris de León-Hartshorn and Frank Scoffield of Pasadena Mennonite Church as they interview author Felipe Hinojosa about his new book, *Apostles of Change*, in a webinar March 17 at 7 p.m. (ET). Hinojosa will share stories about how Latino activists transformed churches into staging grounds for protests against urban renewal and displacement. Spanish interpretation provided. Register by March 16 here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/webinar-hinojosa>

### Voices Together Hymnals

The new Mennonite hymnal, Voices Together, has arrived. Everyone who ordered a personal copy should have received it; if not, please let the PMC office know. It is a cruel irony that a new songbook has arrived at a time when we cannot sing together. But once we can worship in-person again, we will 'lift our glad voices'! Several launch events have been planned to help introduce this new Mennonite worship and song collection. You can view two past events and find information about two upcoming events (in March and May) [here](#).

## General PMC Announcements

### **Stephen Ministry can help**

In times of stress, conflict, pandemics, or forest fires you can find emotional support from PMC's Stephen Ministry program. Stephen Ministry is a way our congregation provides high-quality care and outreach to people who could use some support and encouragement in the congregation and community. Stephen Ministers are members of the congregation who have gone through 50 hours of training to provide one-to-one Christ-centered confidential care. Over the past four years, PMC has trained 28 members of the church to care for those dealing with grief, divorce, job loss, hospitalization, financial struggles, loneliness, convalescence, terminal illness, family issues, and many other life difficulties. You do not need to face these problems alone, a Stephen Minister will walk beside you. To find out more about this ministry, contact: Pastor Britt Carlson, Stephen Leaders Connie Brown, Tim Klassen, Joleen Classen. Check out the web page: [www.portlandmennonite.org/stephen-ministry](http://www.portlandmennonite.org/stephen-ministry)

### **Bearing One Another's Burdens**

In the midst of this unsettling time we are committed to [caring for each other](#) and to 'seeking the peace of the city' (Jeremiah 29:7). If you or someone you know at PMC is facing financial need, please let us know. We can offer help through our Care Fund and through the Sharing Fund of Everence. Our Care Fund currently has plenty of funds, thanks to the generous support of many in the congregation; if you have extra resources at this time, please consider contributing to our community partners, such as [Family Promise Metro East](#).

### **Narrative Lectionary**

Gathering around the Word is a central part of our worship services. Each week we listen to the scriptures. Each week the sermon draws from the texts to guide us in our lives of faith. This fall, the Bible passages from week-to-week will come from the Narrative Lectionary. From Sunday-to-Sunday the texts will follow the sweep of the biblical story, from Creation through the early Christian church. Beginning in September and running into Advent, the main readings will come from the Older Testament. In a time as unsettled as this, the story the Bible is telling grounds us in the love and hope and future of God.

### **Fair Trade Fruit and Coffee**

Have you missed purchasing the fair trade fruit, coffee, and tea from Level Ground? Good news! It is once again available through PMC. [Simply click on the link](#) and fill out your request. Paula Brunk Kuhns will contact you to confirm the order, arrange for payment, and figure out delivery or pick up details. The link to order can also be found on the PMC website under "Online Church" and "Old Chapel Fruit and Coffee Sales".

### **Do you recycle your cans and bottles?**

#### **Will you support Sunnyside Mennonite Montessori School with your recycling?**

If you will save your cans and bottles in one of our SMMS pre-labeled bags and simply drop the bag off when full at any BottleDrop location in the metro area, the deposit money is credited to the school. Very easy and "no contact" required! FAQs about BottleDrop and list of their locations can be found [here](#). Ready to get started? We will deliver the bag to your home. Just e-mail Anne Stites ([stitesanne@gmail.com](mailto:stitesanne@gmail.com)) with your address for that bag delivery....thank you!!

## Staying Connected

### Monday Morning Pastor “Coffee Time”

Monday / 9:00 am

On Mondays, 9:00-9:30 am, Britt (occasionally Rod or Curt) hosts a “coffee time” via Zoom for anyone who would like to check in together as the week begins. The link is on our website (staying connected page). Note: We will not meet February 15.

To join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/368828512?pwd=bkNDb25xUVgrTG9kZG9vbGU1UnZnUT09>

### Friday Morning Coffee Group

Fridays / 10:00 am

A group of PMCs continues to meet, now via Zoom, every Friday morning for an informal social time. If you’d like to join, contact Linda Rush or the church office for more information.

### COVID Chronicles Podcast

The PMC podcast [COVID Chronicles](#) is a good way to stay connected with your PMC friends. New episodes drop every few days. Find it on the PMC website by simply scrolling down the home page, or look for it on PodBean. When you’d like to get in on the fun, contact host Gloria Nussbaum, 503-645-0616.

You can also find most of these links on our website at: [www.portlandmennonite.org/online-church](http://www.portlandmennonite.org/online-church)

## Land Acknowledgement

As we learn about the Doctrine of Discovery, we recognize that the land on which our meetinghouse is located and the land on which many of us live was previously home to Native American peoples who were decimated and uprooted as this area was settled. The Portland Metro area rests on traditional village sites of the Multnomah, Wasco, Cowlitz, Kathlamet, Clackamas, Bands of Chinook, Tualatin, Kalapuya, Molalla and many other tribes who lived and traveled along the Columbia River, creating communities and summer encampments to harvest and use the plentiful natural resources of the area.

## PMC & COVID-19

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). To join our Zoom meeting for worship, sign up for our [weekly update](#).

Check out our website [www.portlandmennonite.org](http://www.portlandmennonite.org) for news, sermons, event information, and ways to stay connected with each other.

PMC Staff are minimizing time in the office. Please email us for fastest response. We also check voicemail remotely.

### Electronic Giving

We have a variety of options for financial contributions, including by credit card, or direct debit from your bank account. Checks may be mailed to the church office at 1312 SE 35th Ave, Portland OR 97214. Rachel opens the mail once a week. 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.