PMC

5.2.2021 — 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)

PASTORS & STAFF

Rod Stafford
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Curt Weaver
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Rachel Joy
Administrator
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WELCOME!

Welcome! We are glad you joined us this morning. We are in the midst of Eastertide. During the fifty days that follow Easter Sunday, we continue to ponder what it means to live in the wake of Christ's resurrection. I hope you will find the service meaningful.

~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.*

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

FACILITATORS

Prelude:
Crystal Miller
May Wang

Worship Leader:
Kim Brandt

Song Leader:
Nancy Good

Musicians/Singers:
Ashley Sider
Julian Sider
J Sider
May Wang
Richard Good
Rodger Good
Bob Good

Children's Time:
Rod Stafford

Sermon:
Britt Carlson

Prayers:
Rod Stafford

Technical Support:
Curt Weaver
Rachel Joy

Prelude: 'Gravity of Love' — *Voices Together* 494

Greeting

Psalm 84:10-12

♫ Medley: 'Gathered Here' (*Voices Together* 3) and
'Spirit of Life' (*Voices Together* 368)

Children's Time

Acts 15:1-18

♫ 'O Lord My God/ How Great Thou Art' — *Voices Together* 436

Sermon

♫ 'Christ Has No Body Here But Ours' — *Voices Together* 568

Prayers

Sending Words

Benediction

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Today's Worship

Prelude: 'Gravity of Love' (*Voices Together* 494)

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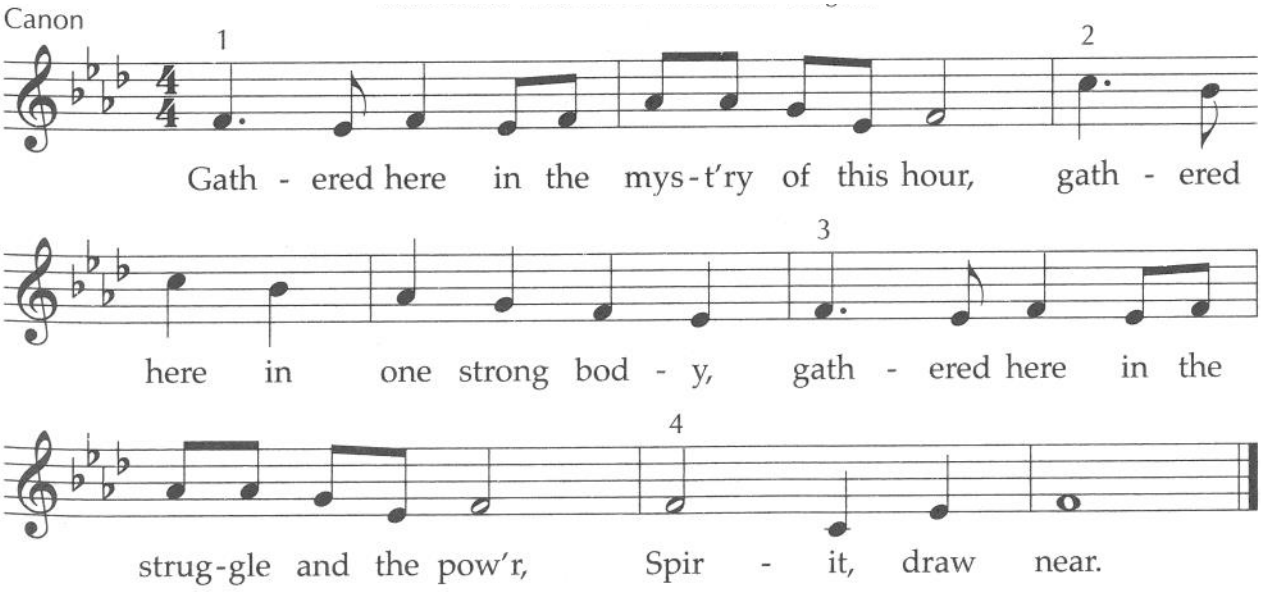
Greeting

Psalm 84:10-12 (NRSV)

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
than live in the tents of wickedness.
For the Lord God is a sun and shield; he bestows favor and honor.
No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly.
O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

♫ — Medley: 'Gathered Here' (VT 3) and **Spirit of Life' (VT 368)**



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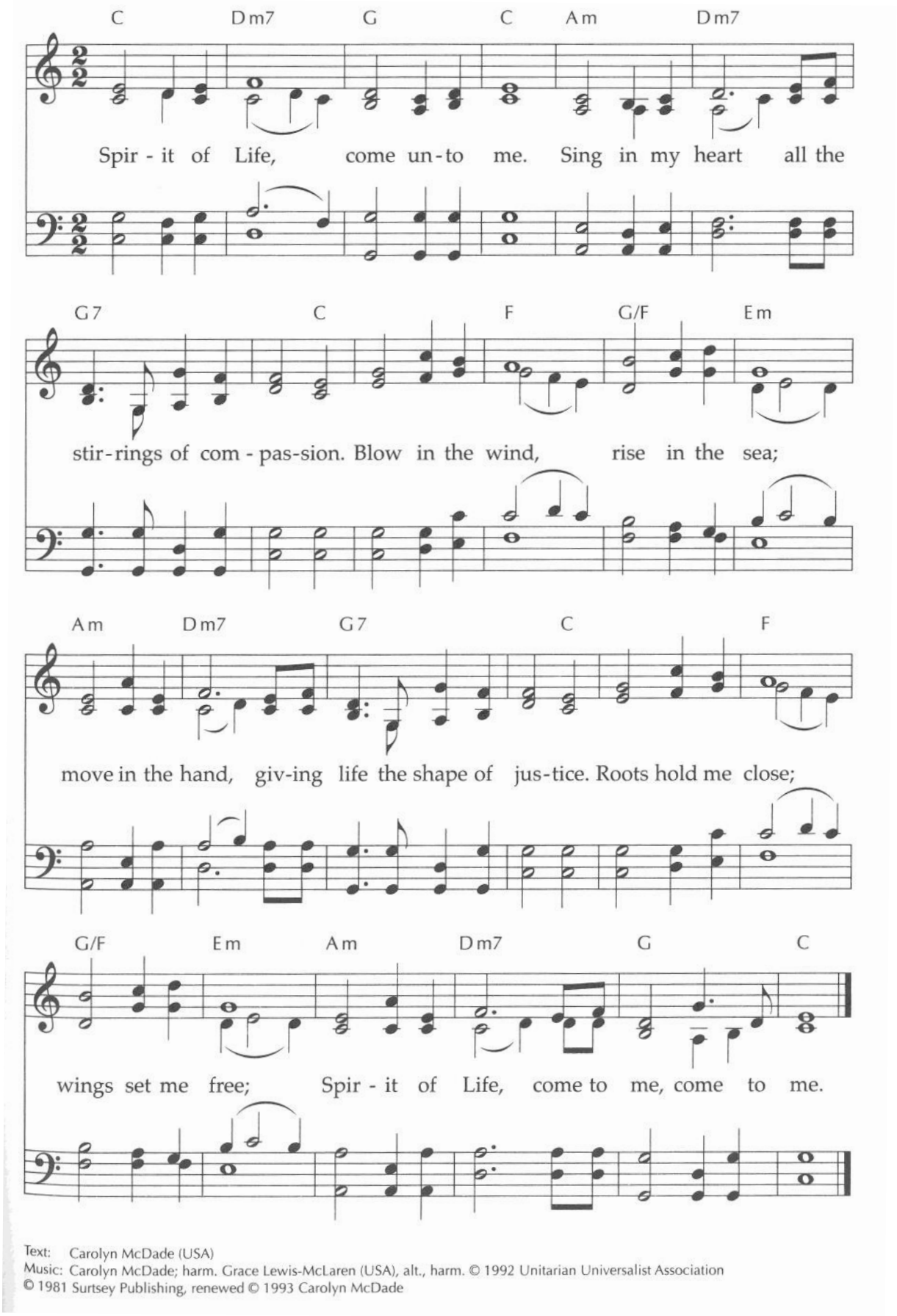
♫ — 'Spirit of Life' / *Voices Together* 368



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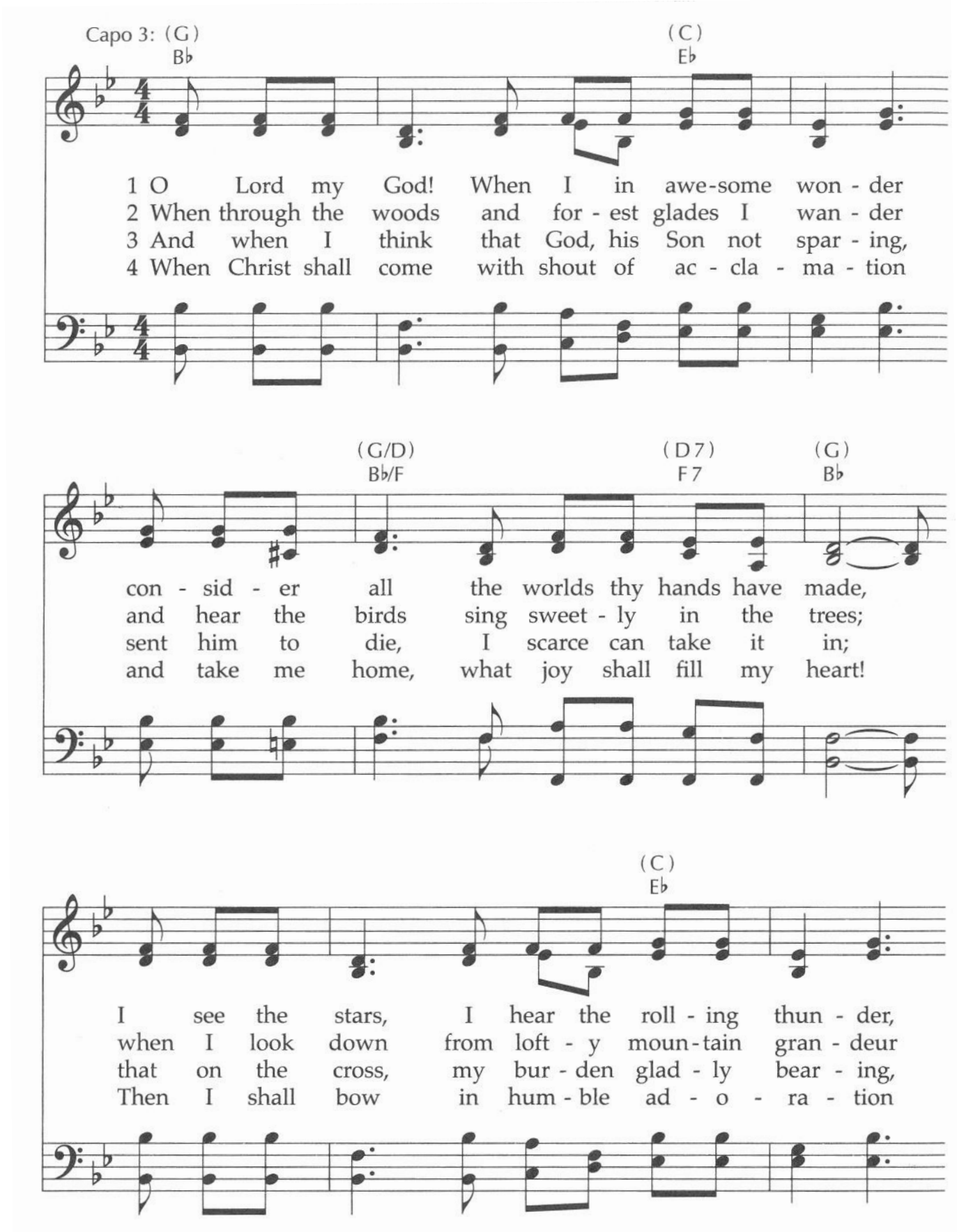
Children's Time

Acts 15:1-18 (NRSV)

Then certain individuals came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved." And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to discuss this question with the apostles and the elders. So they were sent on their way by the church, and as they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, they reported the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the believers. When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they reported all that God had done with them. But some believers who belonged to the sect of the Pharisees stood up and said, "It is necessary for them to be circumcised and ordered to keep the law of Moses."

The apostles and the elders met together to consider this matter. After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, "My brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that I should be the one through whom the Gentiles would hear the message of the good news and become believers. And God, who knows the human heart, testified to them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us; and in cleansing their hearts by faith he has made no distinction between them and us. Now therefore why are you putting God to the test by placing on the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our ancestors nor we have been able to bear? On the contrary, we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will." The whole assembly kept silence, and listened to Barnabas and Paul as they told of all the signs and wonders that God had done through them among the Gentiles. After they finished speaking, James replied, "My brothers, listen to me. Simeon has related how God first looked favorably on the Gentiles, to take from among them a people for his name. This agrees with the words of the prophets, as it is written, 'After this I will return, and I will rebuild the dwelling of David, which has fallen; from its ruins I will rebuild it, and I will set it up, so that all other peoples may seek the Lord— even all the Gentiles over whom my name has been called. Thus says the Lord, who has been making these things known from long ago.'

♫ — 'O Lord My God/How Great Thou Art' — *Voices Together* 436



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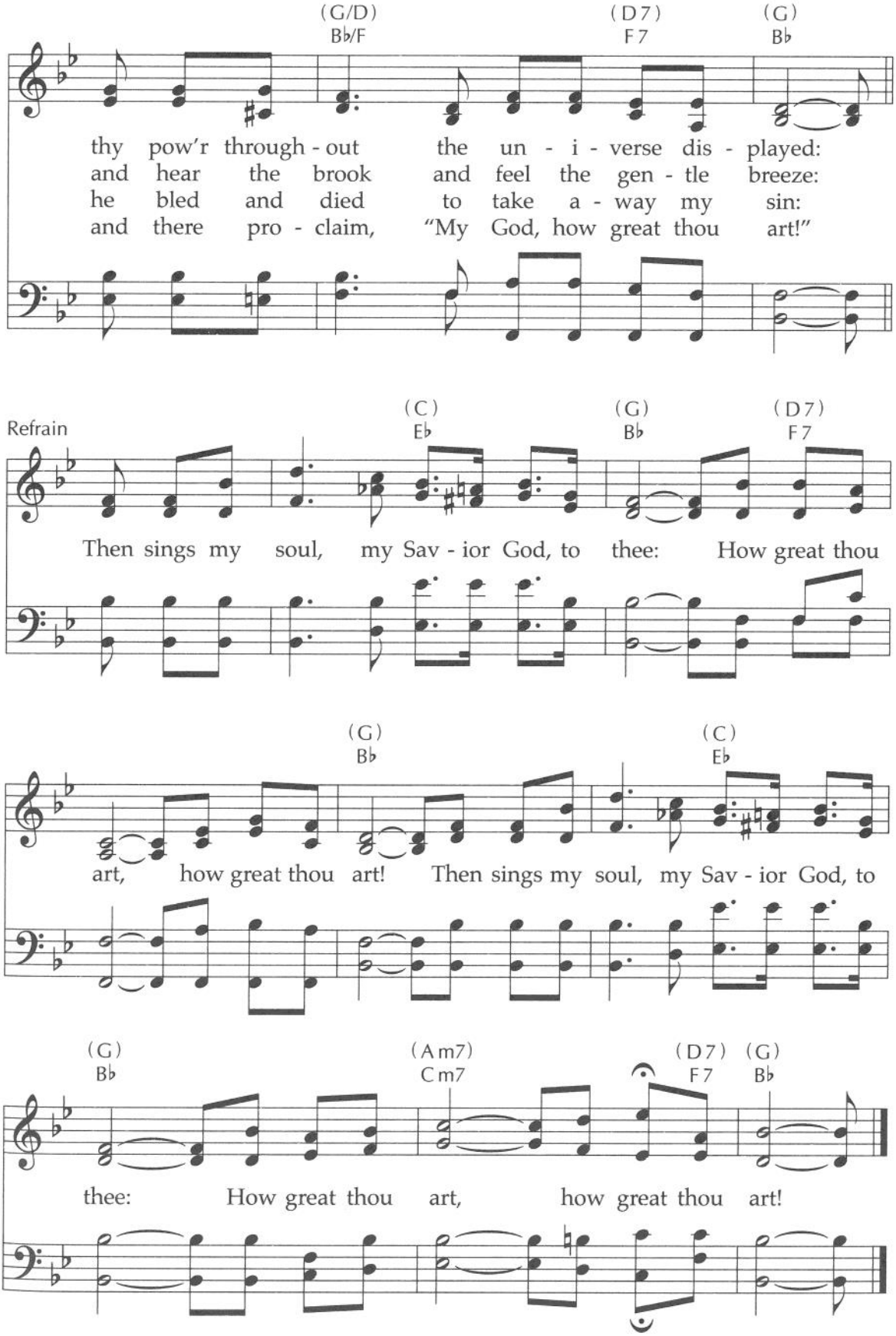
♫ — 'O Lord My God/How Great Thou Art' — *Continued*



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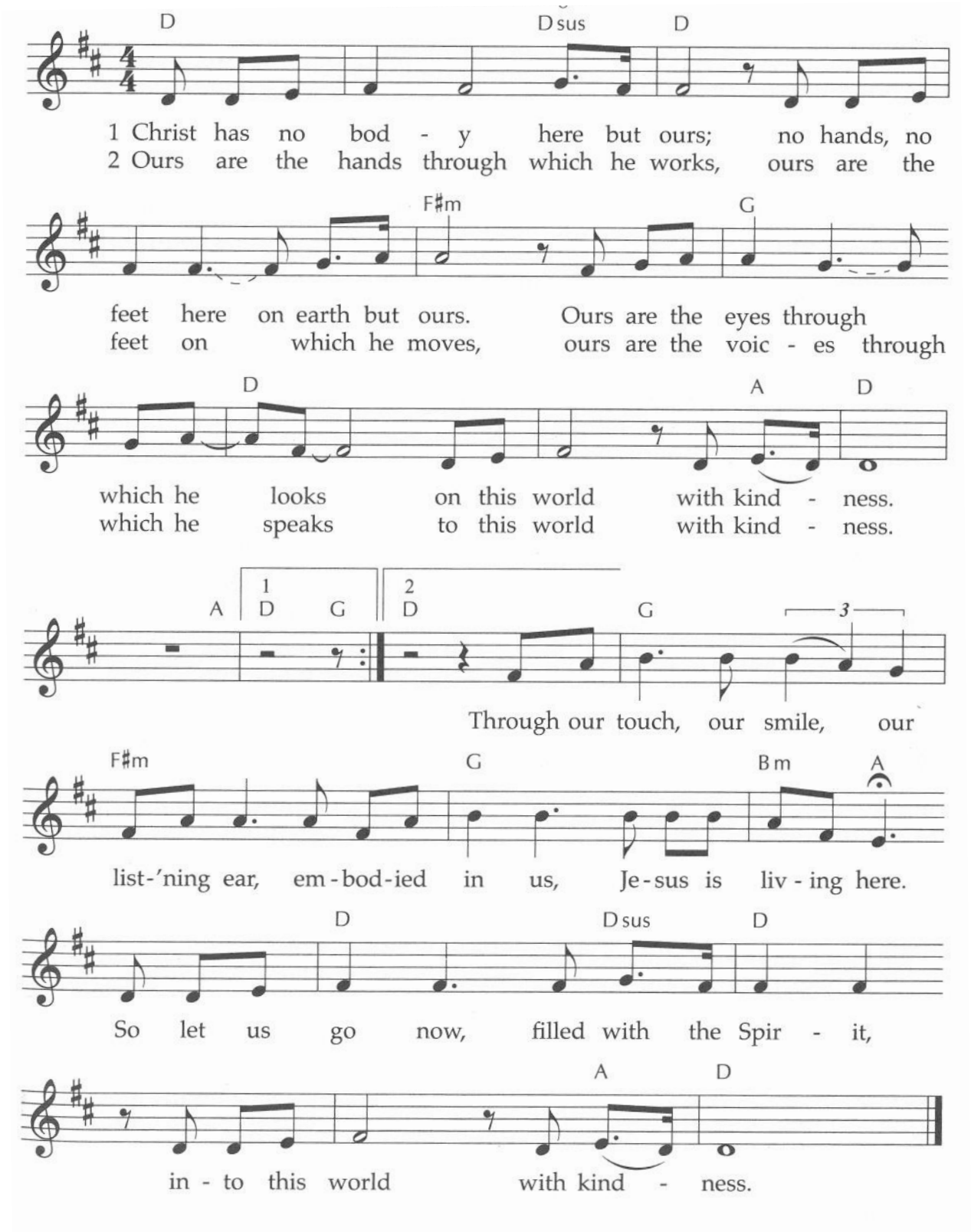
Sermon

♫ — 'Christ Has No Body Here But Ours ' / *Voices Together* 568



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Prayers

Please Pray For...

- **Chris Barghout** as he grieves the loss of his aunt Lynn Barghout.
- **Katherine Jamison Pitts** on the loss of her mother.
- **Donna Kolowsky** on the loss of her father.
- **Aimee Ford Connor**, who was in the hospital last week, and for her father who is dealing with severe osteoporosis pain.
- **Ryan Gingrich, Karin Weaver, and their families** as they grieve the sudden death of their father Gale Gingrich in April. Gale is also the brother of **Jessie Hostetler** and Florence (Gale's wife) is the sister of **Stanley Kropf**. A virtual Celebration of Life will take place via zoom on Sunday, May 2nd beginning at 2pm pacific time. Access is provided through this ZOOM Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88135185839
- **Annie and Ken Lind**, as they move to Hope Village in Canby
- **Debra Hubbard** as she recovers from hand surgery

Sending Words

Offering

GIVE ONLINE

Benediction

Sharing Time

(Not streamed to Facebook)

— Announcements begin on next page —

Announcements

This Week

'Be Careful What You Ask For' **Sun, May 2 / 7:00-8:00 pm (Zoom)**

The Racial Justice Committee of PMC is glad to welcome Lisa Collins for a congregational viewing of her filmed one-act play, 'Be Careful What You Ask For,' The filmed version of the play premiered at this year's Fertile Ground Festival in Portland. The play features the dialogue of a white, progressive, married couple and asks about the ways we talk about racial injustice, politics, videos of police brutality, and nationwide protests. Following the screening, there will be time for conversation with Lisa. Dr. Lisa Collins is a co-founder of Coming to the Table, Portland. She has a Masters degree from the Strategies for Trauma Awareness & Resilience (STAR) program at Eastern Mennonite University and a doctoral degree from Lewis and Clark College. Zoom link to join: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87098821241

Gale Gingrich: A virtual Celebration of Life **Sun, May 2 / 2:00 pm**

Zoom link to join: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88135185839

The Gingrich family invites you to a virtual celebration of life of Gale Gingrich, which will take place via zoom on Sunday, May 2nd beginning at 2:00 pm pacific time. An obituary can be found online at vtgolden.com/gale-a-gingrich. Gale has many friends. In order to ensure that all of them have the opportunity to participate please send this info to anyone you feel would like to be a part of the celebration. If you have questions, please email Karin Gingrich Weaver (krgweaver@msn.com).

SMMS Plant Pick Up **Tue, May 4 / 10:00 am—12:00 pm**

The SMMS Plant Pick Up will happen this coming Tuesday, May 4th, 10:00 - 12:00, in the PMC parking lot. Thank you to everyone for supporting Sunnyside Mennonite Montessori School in our mission to make high-quality early childhood education affordable.

Church Retreat in Rockaway Beach, Sunday, May 9

We will be able to go out to the coast for a modified one-day version of our all-church retreat on Sunday, May 9. We hope to stream worship to Facebook that day, but will not have a Zoom worship service. We will gather in-person at 10:30 am for an outdoor worship including ocean baptisms, then enjoy an outdoor brown-bag lunch provided by the camp (if you register after April 25 you will need to bring your own lunch) and outdoor free time in the afternoon. Please register if you expect to be on the camp grounds for parking, restrooms or activities. Twin Rocks Friends Camp is in Rockaway Beach, on Highway 101. We will need to follow social distancing protocols including wearing masks at all times and keeping distance, and our group size will be limited to 150. A day use fee for use of the camp is $10 per person; scholarships are available. More information and sign up on our website at: www.portlandmennonite.org/may-9-retreat-day.

Adult Ed: Braiding Sweetgrass **April 11—May 23 / Sundays at 9:30 am**

Come and join PMC's Climate Justice Committee's Sunday School class on Zoom to explore how our Mennonite values relate to challenges posed by environmental degradation and climate change. In the words of Carol Rose of the Tucson Mennonite Church, "We won't get out of this climate crisis with the same thinking that got us into it." More information and zoom link on our website here.
Note that this class will not meet on Sunday, May 9.

— Announcements continue on next page —

General PMC Announcements

NAMI Walks Your Way fundraiser
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) is a grassroots organization which provides advocacy, education and support for persons impacted by mental illness. NAMI Multnomah currently offers a range of support groups and educational programs (check them out here!). NAMI supporters will come together again this year to make a statement that mental health matters, that no one should be embarrassed to ask for help, and that recovery is possible. Funds raised through our online walk event help support NAMI programs and services, which are offered at no cost to participants. The 2021 virtual Walks Your Way event is planned for May 22 and is open for participants to walk, hike, bike, spend time with family or engage in other meaningful activities. Please join me by participating as a team member and/or donating to NAMI. Last year seven PMCers joined the team as Virtual Walkers to raise more than $2,500 and promote NAMI to friends and family far and wide. Our team name is Strength in Numbers and you can sign up to join the team or donate online. Please reach out to Diana Platas if you have any questions.

Ken and Annie are Moving!
Ken and Annie Lind will be moving to Hope Village in Canby on May 1. Their new address will be:
1441 S Ivy St, Unit 1106, Canby, OR 97013 For the time being, the best phone number for contacting them is: (503) 884-9352. Ken and Annie and their family have been an important part of PMC for many years. We are grateful for all of the gifts they have brought to our congregation - faith, wisdom, laughter, prayers, creativity, vulnerability, friendship and much more. They are planning to stay connected to PMC. They will join via Zoom and occasionally visit when we can meet in-person again. Keep them in your prayers as they move from their home of nearly 44 years. We will miss you!

Britt is moving to the Netherlands
"This is a hard announcement to write. My time at PMC is going to be coming to a close on August 19, 2021. Last week in our sharing time, I announced that Brandon, my fiancé, has accepted a two-year position with his current company in Veldhoven, the Netherlands, and we will be moving over there in mid-September after we get married. This is a bittersweet announcement to make. I'm over the moon happy to be marrying Brandon and pretty excited about living in Europe, but it is very difficult to think about leaving PMC. PMC has been a place of healing and hope for me personally. At PMC, ministry has been something we've done together—from our women's retreats, to our volunteer-based worship, to doing walkabouts on Thursday nights at Night Strike. I have felt knit (or maybe quilted) into our community. You all have shared your lives, hopes, sorrows and stories with me, and I've done the same with you. You hold a special place in my heart as a place where I was taken care of—held gently, expanded, listened to, and encouraged. I'm leaving PMC a better pastor and, I hope, a more faithful disciple of Christ because of your witness to me of who Jesus is. Thank you. I feel God's smile as we have been likeminded (well…most of the time), we'd had love for one another, we've been united in the Holy Spirit, and had the purpose of God's peaceable kingdom these past five years." -Britt

Reparations:
PMC is committed to developing the practice of reparations as part of our anti racist work. In the 2021 budget, $1000 was included as a kind of down payment on our commitment. Having heard from a number of people, and on the recommendation of the Racial Justice Committee, the Table has affirmed giving $500 to the scholarship fund of the NAACP Portland chapter and $500 to the Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA). Several members of PMC are members of the NAACP, Portland. We are looking forward to learning more about the work of NAYA. If anyone would like to add to these funds, you can make a contribution to PMC, designate it for NAACP or NAYA, and we will send it along.

— Announcements continue on next page —

County Risk Level and PMC Meetinghouse

PMC is currently following phased reopening guidelines from our leadership Table. These guidelines are intended to maintain the church's witness in the Hawthorne neighborhood and the broader city through an approach that seeks to "look not to our own interests, but to the interests of others" (Philippians 2:4). Multnomah County is re-entering the Extreme Risk category. Per our reopening policy, this means that PMC's meetinghouse is closed to all groups and staff work from home as much as possible. All synchronous church activities take place online. PMC-sponsored classes and workshops continue to take place online only. PMC-sponsored activities that take place outside of the meetinghouse follow physical distancing and face covering rules. For more information about our guidelines, please see our April 18 congregational meeting materials, or contact anyone on the PMC Leadership Table.

Broader Church News and Events

MC-USA Executive Board Meeting Notes

The Executive Board of Mennonite Church USA approved a $1.4 million budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year, announced a special delegate session for May 27-30, 2022 in Kansas City, Missouri, and reviewed several proposed resolutions during its April meeting. Read more at: https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/board-approves-21-22-budget/

Drift Creek Camp—Getting Ready for Summer **Now-June18**

Drift Creek Camp is excited to be able to offer summer camps this year! To get the camp ready, they could use small groups of volunteers from now through June 18 on projects including carpentry, plumbing, painting, and general repair. They are also looking for volunteers to help during the one-week camp sessions June 18-July 9, including bakers, nurses, lifeguards, pastors, and some cooking for weekends between camp sessions. If you are interested, contact camp director Brenda Kauffman (info@driftcreek.org).

MDS Oregon Unit Annual Meeting **May 22**

The annual meeting for the Oregon unit of MDS was postponed in March, and has now been rescheduled to May 22, via Zoom. This meeting is open to anyone with an interest in MDS activity related to the multiple disasters that have occurred over the last year. Pre-registration is necessary to receive the zoom link. To register, or If you have any questions, please contact Clyde Hockman (chockman@canby.com, 503-263-1210). An agenda and more information is available from the church office as well (office@portlandmennonite.org).

MennoCon21 **July 6-10 (hybrid)**

MC USA is hosting its first-ever, hybrid convention on July 6-10, 2021, in Cincinnati, Ohio, and online! Registration for MennoCon21 opens April 6 for in-person and online attendance. Learn more here: https://convention.mennoniteusa.org/ and registration is at: https://convention.mennoniteusa.org/registration/. The hybrid-convention will include a delegate session. If you would like to represent PMC as one of our three delegates, please email Rod Stafford (rod@portlandmennonite.org). We would be glad for a range of ages and experiences. Funds are available to help cover registration costs.

Menno Snapshots

Glen Guyton, executive director of Mennonite Church USA, responded to the verdict in the George Floyd murder case in his blog, "Unfulfilled: A Reaction to the Chauvin Guilty Verdict." Read it here: https://www.mennoniteusa.org/glens-blog-unfulfilled

— Announcements continue on next page —

General PMC Announcements

To submit a brief announcement for the bulletin, email it by Wednesday to office@portlandmennonite.org

Worshipping Together
We are starting to look ahead to the time when we can gather in-person to worship together. We will need to continue streaming our services at least until everyone can safely come to our meetinghouse. Last month we asked the congregation for input about streaming worship services in the months ahead. You can read a short summary of the more than ninety responses HERE. To prepare for the time we can begin to gather in-person, the Leadership Table has authorized funds to install a relatively simple streaming system in the sanctuary. You can read more and watch a short video of Rod talking about that decision at the same link.

Grocery gift cards
Do you know someone in need of help with purchasing groceries? We have grocery gift cards available for you to give to someone who has a need. Just fill out this form (which forwards to Britt), and we'll get a card in the mail to you.

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

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".

Staying Connected

Monday Morning Coffee Time **Mondays / 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.
To join: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/368828512?pwd=bkNDb25xUVgrTG9kZG9vbGU1UnZnUT09

Friday Morning Coffee Group **Fridays / 10:00 am**
A group of PMCers 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

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. To join our Zoom meeting for worship, sign up for our weekly update.

Check out our website 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**. You can also check with your bank about sending electronic payments. Contact Rachel Joy (office@portlandmennonite.org) if you have any questions.