



Annual Celebration of Congregations and Conference

Gathering for Worship via Zoom – August 2, 2020

Zoom Tech Support Team:

- Brian Brubaker (head tech support, offline help: 412-251-8787)
 - Dorothy Leissa (monitor of chat window)
 - Kirsten Peterson (monitor of chat window, offline help: 574-238-2238)
-

Gathering (10:15 a.m.)

Prelude: *Melody in A minor at Joe's Run*

Welcome (10:30 a.m.)

Tech Overview

Morgantown Church of the Brethren

Cheryl Miller, Philippi Mennonite Church

Brian Brubaker, Hyattsville Mennonite Church

Call to Worship

LeAnne Zook, Hyattsville Mennonite Church

Come into the House of the Lord.

This House is not a building – there is no stone, no brick, no wood to contain us.

This House is not a place – there is no valley or mountain or sea to claim as our own.

This House is not an enclosure – there is no gate, no wall, no fence which separates us from us, us from the Lord.

Come into the House of the Lord.

This House is a Body – our breath and blood and skin, God-imaged, God-created.

This House is a Spirit – Presence in the absence,
unconstrained and free of our attempts to describe its form.

This House is a Community – called into Holy being by the search for justice, the call for mercy,
the cry for a new way, as led by our Teacher, Jesus, the Christa and Christ.

Come into the House of the Lord.

Hymn: HWB 16 – *God is here among us*

Jack Rutt, Mennonite Congregation of Boston*

Commissioning of New Leadership Council: [HWB 725](#)

Prayer

Dave Mishler, AMC Conference Minister

Offering

Karin Miller, AMC Treasurer, Springs Mennonite

Confession

LeAnne Zook, Hyattsville Mennonite Church

Our bodies have power. Our bodies are power – God embodied in our own skin and breath.

But we see constantly how fragile and so easily broken our bodies are.

The ache and pains of the bodies that pick our fruit, cut our meat, shelve our groceries, lift our packages, standing behind registers and assembly lines, cleaning our houses and serving our food.

The weariness and fear of those that walk in darkness, walk for miles for clean water, for food, for school, for a job, for medical care, for safety.

The bodies that have crossed a border and now lie in the desert or float in the waters or huddle in a cage, the bodies on a street corner, in a school gym, in a nightclub, in a church, the brokenness of the bodies on a prison floor, in a police van, wearing a hoodie, sleeping in their bed, getting a drink of water in the night, jogging, face down on the street with a knee on their neck.

We confess as a community and as a church that our own bodies have not borne these burdens.

We have allowed other bodies – bodies that are different from us, bodies that are far away from us, bodies that speak a different language, worship a differently named God, bodies whose skin tones and history do not match our own – to hold the sins of our world.

We cry out – Enough! Enough brokenness, enough blood, enough injustice, enough weariness.

Enough of our complacency, of our willful ignorance. Enough of looking away. Enough of our silence.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Hymn: [*Lamb of God \(Agnus Dei\)*](#)

Words of Assurance: [Psalm 19](#)

London Fox Taize Choir*

Hyattsville Mennonite Church

Scripture Reading:

[Isaiah 55:1-5](#)

Matthew 14:15-21

Naomi Tice, Springs Mennonite Church/MMN

Brenda Rich, West Philadelphia Mennonite Fellowship

[Message](#)

Hymn: HWB 229 – [*Tú has venido a la orilla*](#)

Jayne Byler, Stahl Mennonite Church

[Message](#)

Hymn: HWB 349 – *Spirit of the living God*

Michelle Burkholder, Hyattsville Mennonite Church

Cindy Lapp & Eric Stoltzfus, Hyattsville Mennonite

Prayers for the Congregations

LeAnne Zook, Hyattsville Mennonite Church

Benediction and Sending: STJ 157

Go into the world doing what the Lord requires:

living with kindness and justice,

walking your path humbly with God.

Then you will find yourselves blessed.

Know that yours is the kingdom of heaven

yours the strength and mercy of God,

yours all the blessings

given to God's beloved children

Hymn: HWB 118 – [*Praise God from whom*](#)

Laurelville Mennonite Church Center*

Postlude: Slideshow Video of AMC Congregational Life

What has been giving you life?

What is your reality like?

What is the experience of you, your family, your church, your community in this time?

*not a member/part of AMC