



# Hyattsville Mennonite Church

A Christ-centered welcoming church committed to peace & justice.

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## Gathering For Worship

Prelude

### Praising

Call to Worship

One: Come into God's presence,  
you who imagine and you who seek,  
you who disrupt and you who repair.

**All: *By the Spirit, we gather in hope.***

One: Come into God's abundance,  
you of great faith,  
and you who grasp at crumbs;  
you who resist, and you who persist.

**All: *In Christ, we gather and are transformed.***

One: Come into God's presence,  
singing for joy and for justice;  
bringing prayer and worship,  
your most faithful acts of resistance.

**All: *Together, we gather to worship God.***

Hymn: 642 – *Healing River of the Spirit*

Lighting the Peace Lamp

### Confessing

Confession

One: Siblings in Christ, let us confess to God, for God knows our temptation to be cruel to one another, and yet imagines for us a life of mutual blessings.

God of mercy and compassion, we confess we have not always treated our neighbors, friends, or even family members with dignity.

**We have used dehumanizing language or stereotypes.**

**We have been critical when we should have been encouraging.**

**We have told lies when we should have been honest with hard truths.**

**We have excluded people when we should have widened the invitation.**

**Forgive us for the ways that we have failed our neighbors, friends, and family with unkind words.**

Silence and Breath Prayer

**God grant me courage, to speak out in faith.**

Words of Assurance

Hymn: 694 – *Tears of Suffering*

## Hearing the Word

A Time for Children

Scripture Reading: Matthew 15:21-28

Message: **Confronting Imagination**

Michelle Burkholder

Hymn: 585 – *Faith Begins by Letting Go*

## Responding

Responding to the Message

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

*Please come forward to the mic if you wish to share something.*

Praying Together

Life of the Church

Welcoming our Guests

Ministry Highlight: World Arts Focus on Life After Release  
Announcements

### Ministry of Giving

Children's Offering: *Children are invited to bring their offering forward at this time*

Lent Offering: Life After Release (LAR)

Offering: *You are invited to bring your offering forward at this time*

*Offertory*

Prayer of Dedication

## Sending

Hymn: 608 – *O Love that Will Not Let me Go*

Benediction

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## Lectionary for Next Sunday

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 23

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

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## Calendar

**TODAY:** Fellowship Meal

**March 15:** *Lent IV*, Cynthia Lapp preaches

**March 21:** Youth Casino Night Fundraiser

**March 22:** *Lent V*, Natasha White preaches

**March 29:** *Palm Sunday*

**April 2:** *Maundy Thursday* Service, 6:30 p.m. A light meal will be served. RSVP link will be shared on the listserv

**April 3:** *Good Friday*, Holy Comforter Service, 7 p.m.

**April 5:** *EASTER*, Michelle Burkholder Preaches

Fellowship Meal, Easter Brunch, 9:30 a.m.

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## Announcements

**Lent Offering:** During Lent, HMC is fundraising and gathering volunteers for Life After Release. Our goal is to fundraise \$5,000 for LAR's Surviving Justice Retreat. To donate, you can either write a check and place it in the LAR donation basket or visit <https://givebutter.com/life-after-release>. To volunteer for a LAR program, please visit <https://www.mobilize.us/lifeafterrelease>.

**Adult Education series: *Responding to the Unraveling of Civil Rights***, led by the Racial Justice Group (RJG). March 15 - Special Workshop led by the Immigrant Rights Collective for 2 hours (8 a.m. breakfast and 8:30-10:30 a.m. session).

Wondering what we can do to make meaningful contributions to structural social change with regard to race and immigrant justice? What is our role as a progressive Mennonite congregation in an urban setting with significant immigrant populations? What can our 5-century long history of mutual aid experiences tell us about what we can offer today? In our adult ed workshop offered next Sunday March 15 from 8:30 - 10:30 am, we will be exploring ideas about race and identity, and our experiences of oppression and privilege, as factors to consider when engaging on issues of immigration justice and solidarity work. Please register to participate here: <https://bit.ly/4aXFslh>. Light breakfast is served at 8:00, Session starts at 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.