



Hyattsville Mennonite Church

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

Vol. 73

May 10, 2026

No. 34

Gathering For Worship

Prelude

Praising

Call To Worship

One: Friends, the Spirit of Truth has gathered us here — not by accident, not by obligation, but by love.

Many: Come, Holy Spirit, come!

One: The Spirit of Love draws us together — to restore, to reconnect, to remember that we belong to God and to one another.

Many: Come, Holy Spirit, come!

One: The Spirit of Freedom knits us together — widening our hearts toward justice, empathy, and peace, calling us toward liberation and wholeness for all people.

Many: Come, Holy Spirit, come!

One: Beloved, she is already here. Moving. Working. Dwelling within us. Will you open your hands to receive what she has to give?

Many: We come with open hands. Fill us with truth, love, and freedom — that we may carry them into our neighborhood, our community, and all creation. Amen.

Hymn: 112 – *Womb of Life and Source of Being*

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Confessing

Confession (a conversation)

Drawing on John 14:15–21 and “The Way of the Cross is the Way of Embodiment” by Maxwell Kuzma.

Left: We gather as people who have been known before we were formed — called, consecrated, and beloved.

Right: Yet we confess that we have not always lived as those who are loved.

Left: We have hidden ourselves from one another, and called it safety.

Right: We have buried who we are, and called it virtue.

Both: Forgive us, Holy One.

Right: In a world that draws tight borders around bodies, identities, and belonging — it can be easy to turn inward, to stay only among those who already see as we see.

Left: But the movement of the Holy Spirit is never contained by binary thinking.

Right: We confess that we have sometimes let the noise of a polarized world make us smaller —

Left: — when you are calling us wider.

Both: Forgive us, Holy One.

Left: The commandment is love — radical, embodied, self-giving love. Of others, yes.

Right: But of self, too.

Left: We have contained our own spirits —

Right: — and called it faithfulness.

Both: Forgive us, Holy One.

Left: You were not formed by accident. The Spirit of truth has not abandoned you to the world's categories.

Right: She remains with you. She is within you.

Left: She is not afraid of what she finds.

Both: We are known. We are held. We are loved. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Hymn: 58 – *Holy Spirit, Come to Us*

Hearing the Word

A Time for Children

Scripture Reading: John 14:15-21

Message: **The Spirit of Love**

Michelle Burkholder

Hymn: 225 – *We Come/Our Hearts Are Empty*

Responding

Responding to the Message

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Please come forward to the mic if you wish to share something or raise your hand to have a mic brought to you.

Praying Together

Blessing Pastor Michelle for Sabbatical

One -God calls us to work and service.

All - God calls us to joy and rest.

One - We are especially thankful for Michelle's work and service as our pastor.

All -In Michelle's life and work, we see the love of God. We see the fruit of the Spirit:

**love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness,
faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.**

One - Our tradition teaches that even the most fruitful workers need Sabbath, need rest. So go. Take Sabbath. Find rest for your soul, mind and body. Let loose your curiosity and creativity. Dream dreams and take naps.

All - We will carry on faithfully with the ministry to which we are all called. We will miss you and we will pray for you, Becky and Simon as you travel and play, renew and relax. May this time away strengthen and empower you for continued service and ministry with us and among us. We look forward to your return with joy.

Life of the Church

Welcoming our Guests

Announcements

The Ministry of Giving

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

Offering

Offertory

Prayer of Dedication

Sending

Hymn: 839 – *Go, My Friends, in Peace*

Benediction

Lectionary for Next Sunday

Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
John 17:1-11

Calendar

- May 12:** Celebration of Life for Joyce Fish, 2 p.m. Collington Chapel
May 13: Pastor Michelle begins a 3-month sabbatical.
May 15-17: Retreat at Rolling Ridge
May 17: Fellowship Meal, Cynthia Lapp preaches
May 24: New Member Sunday, Pentecost, Communion
May 30: Ember Day Retreat at Still Place
June 2: Franklin's Fundraiser benefiting CUCE/ PG Day Center
June 7: Takoma Park Pride Parade, 9:15 a.m. TPSS Co-op. No service at HMC
June 14: HMC Pride Celebration
-

Announcements

Faith in a Time of Genocide: Adult Ed will meet May 17 at 9:45 a.m. before breaking for the summer. We will be utilizing *A Moment of Truth: Faith in a Time of Genocide*, a study guide developed by three Christian organizations who support Palestinian liberation. This resource invites congregations into a sacred dialogue with the Kairos Palestine II document—a living confession born from the heart of Palestinian Christian suffering.

Pastor Michelle on Sabbatical: HMC generously supports its pastors to take a sabbatical every four years. May 13 - August 12 Pastor Michelle will be away from HMC and on sabbatical.

Ember Day Retreat at Still Place: Saturday, May 30th 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Ember Day is a mostly silent retreat that has two guided reflections that focus on a particular aspect of nature and what gifts and learnings we may receive to guide our inner/spiritual lives from that facet of the natural world.

Franklin's Fundraiser benefiting CUCE/PG Day Center: Tuesday, June 2, ALL DAY in the store and the restaurant.

HMC Pride in Takoma Park: Church will look different on June 7. We will meet at 9:15 at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Co-op, 201 Ethan Allen Ave, and walk together in the Pride Parade. Let's be church on the move and in the streets. More details each week. No service at the HMC building on June 7.

Pride Choir: You are invited to join the choir for HMC Pride on June 14. Rehearsals on June 3 and 10 (and maybe June 13). To sign up or for more info contact Pastor Cindy.