

Shalom Mennonite Church

March 11, 2012

Confronted by Christ

*In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves,
and the money changers seated at their tables.
Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out.
He poured out the coins of the money changers
and overturned their tables...
“Take these things out of here!
Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!”
John 2:13-16*

Gathering in God's Presence

Welcome and Special Announcements

Susan Graber

Opening Psalm Reading

Psalm 19

Gathering Music

Call to Worship (adapted from Psalm 19)

The instructions of the Lord are perfect;
they revive our souls.

The decrees of the Lord are trustworthy;
they make us wise.

The precepts of the Lord are right;
they bring us joy.

The commands of the Lord are clear;
they give us insight for living.

*God has given us gifts more valuable than gold,
sweeter than honey in the honeycomb.*

Hymn HWB 41

Come, thou Almighty King

Proclaiming the Word

Hymn HWB 163

Obey my voice

Scripture Reading

Exodus 20:1-17

Hymn HWB 163

Obey my voice

Children's Time

Greg Nickel

Scripture Reading

John 2:13-22

Quiet Reflection

The periods of silence in our worship will begin and end with the ringing of a chime.

Meditation

“proper authorization”

Eric Massanari

Quiet Reflection

Prayer of Confession and Hope

God of justice and righteousness, deliver us from complacency about our lives and the world in which we live. Drive out from us careless sin. Make us sensitive to all that is sacred; shock us with awareness of any violation of human life in which we participate. May our standard be your Spirit, and not the ways of this world, through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Hymn HWB 502

Spirit of God! descend

Responding to the Word

Offertory & Prayer

Sharing Time & Introductions

During this time in the service we welcome visitors, invite responses to the worship service, and share prayer concerns and joys. Please sign the Welcome Pages (black books) in the pews so we can learn each others' names.

Prayers of the People

Sending

Sending Hymn HWB 593

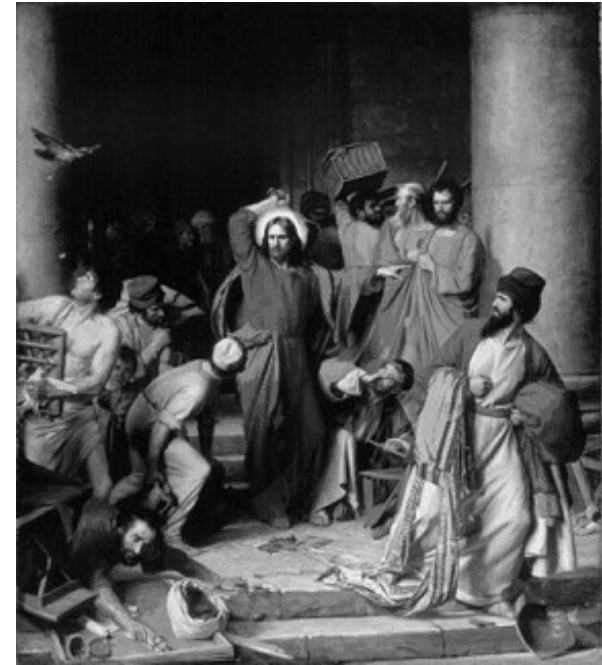
O Power of love

Blessing

*from Ruth C. Duck's *Words for Worship*, United Church Press, 1981.

Hearing devices are available from an usher or the sound booth.

Confronted by Christ



So where can you find someone truly wise, truly educated, truly intelligent in this day and age? Hasn't God exposed it all as pretentious nonsense? Since the world in all its fancy wisdom never had a clue when it came to knowing God, God in his wisdom took delight in using what the world considered dumb—preaching, of all things!—to bring those who trust him into the way of salvation.

While Jews clamor for miraculous demonstrations and Greeks go in for philosophical wisdom, we go right on proclaiming Christ, the Crucified. Jews treat this like an anti-miracle—and Greeks pass it off as absurd. But to us who are personally called by God himself—both Jews and Greeks—Christ is God's ultimate miracle and wisdom all wrapped up in one. Human wisdom is so tinny, so impotent, next to the seeming absurdity of God. Human strength can't begin to compete with God's "weakness."

1 Corinthians 1:20-25 (*The Message*)

Cover Image: *"Jesus Cleanses the Temple"* by Carl Bloch, courtesy of Christian Theological Seminary.

Third Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 11, 2012

Greeters: Lola Schmidt, Stan & Marlene Smucker,
Tim & Lela Mae Sawatzky
Scripture Readers: Henry Guhr, Louisa Nickel, Megan Upton Tyner
Musicians: Martha Unruh, Merle Schlabaugh
Sound & Closing: Brett Prothro

Pastor: Eric Massanari
Associate Pastor: Sara Dick
Administrative Assistant: Grace Wenger
Church Moderator: Matt Schmidt

Our purpose is to worship and praise God together, to pray for and encourage each other to live our covenant with God and to share Christ's good news with others. As Anabaptist Christians we will reach out to others, welcome all people, be aware of our neighbors and respond to their needs, and give ourselves to service.

9:30 a.m.- Sunday School 10:45 a.m.- Worship
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