

Shalom Mennonite Church

February 23, 2014

Ephesians 4: A New Maturity *The Unity of the Church*

I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, Ephesians 4:1

Gathering in God's Presence

Welcome & Special Announcements Jeffrey Graber

Gathering Music & Procession *Anthropology* – Shalom Band

We carry in a flame, the Bible and a prayer cloth. May we trust the Light to guide us, the Word to teach us, and prayer to knit our lives together with God as we begin our time of worship.

Call to Worship

Prayer of Invocation

Giving of Bibles to Second and Ninth Graders

Opening song - HWB 21 *All praise to our redeeming Lord*

Proclaiming the Word

Children's Time Marathana Prothro

First Reading John 17:20-24

Hymn STJ 52 *Jesus, help us live in peace*

Second Reading Ephesians 4:1-16

Quiet Reflection

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

Meditation "Erstwhile Enemies" Rob Burdette

Quiet Reflection

Responding to the Word

Hymn of Response HWB 304 *There are many gifts*

Offertory and Prayer *Soon and very soon* – Shalom Band

Sharing Time and 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 Song HWB 421 *Bless'd be the tie that binds*

Benediction

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

Love at the Heart of Growth

Ephesians 4:1-16 concentrates heavily on the Church....The Church is the sphere into which the readers have entered through their faith and their baptism, the context into which they live out their calling. The major image for this concern...is that of the body....The Church is also the fullness of Christ...and in its final state can be seen as “the mature person.” All this is part of a dynamic picture of a corporate entity which grows as its individual members are involved in a continual process of mutual adjustment and which is on the move toward unity, completeness, maturity and conformity to Christ....The essential ingredient for the achievement of the harmony of unity in diversity is love. Love is the energizing power behind the community's drive to maintain unity, at the heart of its process of truth and all the way through its process of corporate growth.

- Andrew T. Lincoln

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Sunday, February 23, 2014

Greeters: Kristen Mayhue, Brett & Marathana Prothro, Dick & Mary Rempel
Musicians: Yvonne Bontrager, Shalom Band
Visual Arts: Deb Voth
Sound & Closing: Tim Buller
Cover Art: Jyoti Sahi (India), *Jesus Christ – The Life of the World*

Pastor: Sara Dick
Transitional Pastor: Rob Burdette
Administrative Assistant: Grace Wenger
Church Moderator: Barth Hague

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 am - Sunday School 10:45 am - Worship
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