

Shalom Mennonite Church

March 9, 2014

The First Sunday of Lent

Encountering God: What have we witnessed...

He fasted for forty days and forty nights,
and afterward he was famished.

Matthew 4:2

Gathering in God's Presence

Welcome & Special Announcements

Sue Graber

Gathering Music & Procession

*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

Lord, we come before you veiled in weakness and frailty;

grant us strength and instruct us in your ways.

Lord, we stumble into your presence;

grant us refuge from the raging storms of life.

Lord, we want to witness your redeeming love and strength.

Grant us pure hearts as we worship you now.

Prayer of Invocation

Opening Hymn HWB 2

In thy holy place we bow

Proclaiming the Word

Old Testament Scripture

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Confessing Our Sin (see bulletin insert)

Drama

Children's Time

Kathy Snyder

Hymn STJ 100

Here I am

New Testament Reading

Matthew 4:1-11

Testimony

Adriana Journey

Quiet Reflection

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

Sermon

"If you are a child of God"

Rob Burdette

Quiet Reflection

Responding to the Word

Hymn of Response HWB 559

O thou in whose presence

Offertory and Prayer

Prayers of the People

Sending Song HWB 553

I am weak and I need thy strength

Benediction

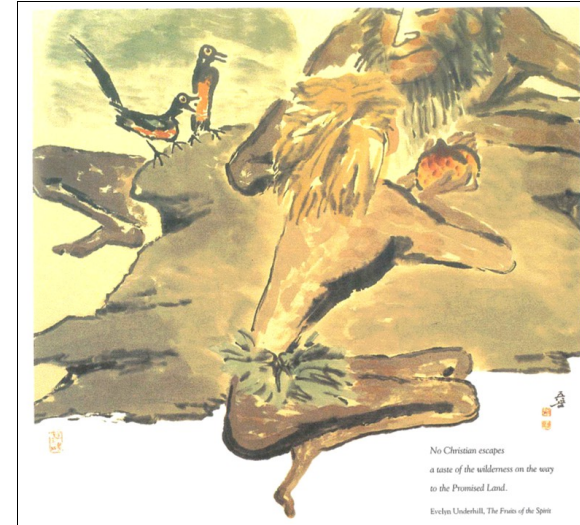
Hearing devices are available from an usher or the sound booth.

The First Sunday of Lent

Encountering God: What have we witnessed...

When tempted, the first couple failed to remember that being made in the image of God was a trustworthy promise that they indeed were like God (Genesis 3). Without that memory, they forgot their purpose to embody God's goodness and sought an experience beyond the invitation granted by the Creator. When Jesus encountered a similar temptation from Satan in the wilderness (Matthew 4), his memory permitted him to trust that his status before God could only be nullified by disobedience but never by interrogation.

Joy J. Moore is associate dean for African-American church studies and assistant professor of preaching at Fuller Theological Seminary in California.



Sunday, March 9, 2014

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.

Greeters: Bob & Yvonne Bontrager, Kristen Mayhue,
Marlene & Stan Smucker
Musicians: Karen and Merle Schlabaugh
Drama: Mark Schmidt Andres, Barb Goering, Joe Smucker
Visual Arts: Marla Sawatzky Rowe
Sound & Closing: Russ Neufeld
Bulletin Cover: An Dong-Sook, *Temptation of Christ*

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

9:30 am - Sunday School 10:45 am - Worship
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