

Shalom Mennonite Church

April 6, 2014

Encountering God: What have we witnessed. . . in our need for renewal?

I am the resurrection and the life. John 11:25

Gathering in God's Presence

Welcome & Special Announcements

John McCabe-Junhke

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

Today we come before you God, dry and brittle.
Lord, breathe new life into our aching bones.
We come into your presence, fatigued and numb.
Lord, breathe new life into our tired living.
We come to the table, desperate and hurting.
Today Lord, breathe into us a new hope!

Invocation

Opening Hymn HWB 16

God is here among us

Proclaiming the Word

Old Testament Scripture

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Confessing our Sin

Out of the depths, we cry to you O Lord.
Lord, hear our voice.
If you were to count our transgressions and number our sins, Lord,
how could we stand before you?
Lord, open your ears to our cries.
We are nothing but bone and sinew and skin; our souls are empty.
Breath, come to us on the four winds.
We set our minds on the things of the body; we delight in the flesh.

Spirit, dwell within us and make us whole.

Our soul waits for you, more than those who watch for the morning.

More than those who watch for the morning,

our soul waits for you.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Claiming our Assurance

Our soul waits for you.

In your Word, we hope for you.

For in the Lord, there is steadfast Love.

For in the Spirit, there is eternal life.

And it is the Lord who will redeem us from our wrongdoing.

Drama

Children's Story

Kathy Snyder

Hymn HWB 234

When Jesus wept, the falling tear

Sermon Scripture

John 11:1-26

Testimony

Mark Schnabel

Quiet Reflection

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

Message:

“Unless a seed falls”

Rob Burdette

Quiet reflection

Responding to the Word

Hymn of Response HWB 472

I am the Bread of life

Offertory and Prayer

Prayers of the People

Sending Song HWB 430

God be with you

Benediction

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

Unbind him and let him go, said Jesus. But go where? Home? Could Lazarus dwell contentedly at home again in the house of Mary and Martha? If you come from eternal life, how do you settle for anything less than eternal life? But Lazarus, the ultimate human witness to the way, the truth and the life, is called forth from eternal life . . . to mere everyday life. That is, in Johannine terms, to engage again in the ominous final struggle against the powers of darkness over the Light. And the world cannot bear the Light.

Suzanne Guthrie, *The Christian Century*, March 8, 2005

Lent Banner in the sanctuary: The blue cloth represents the breath of God bringing about life in both dry bones and in the rising of Lazarus, each represented by the yellow cloth. Where the blue and yellow meet we see the revived life represented by the green cloth.

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Sunday, April 6, 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: David & Mary Duerksen, Chuck & Cindy Regier
Musicians: Anita Bohn, Greta Hiebert
Drama: Patty Burdette, Tim Huber, Barb Goering
Visual Arts: Marla Sawatzky Rowe
Sound & Closing: Brett Prothro
Bulletin Cover: Frank Day, *Mourning at Mineral Springs*

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

9:30 am - Sunday School 10:45 am - Worship
800 E. First St., Newton, KS
Phone: (316) 283-7395 office@shalomnewton.org
Web site: www.shalomnewton.org