

Shalom Mennonite Church

November 9, 2014

Keep Awake!

*“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this . . .
Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”
Matthew 25:1a, 13*

Gathering in God’s Presence

Welcome & Special Announcements Sue Graber

Gathering Music & Procession *Concerto in G Major*, by Boccherini
*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 - Psalm 70 (New Revised Standard Version)

Be pleased, O God, to deliver me.

O Lord, make haste to help me!

Let those be put to shame and confusion
who seek my life.

**Let those be turned back and brought to dishonor
who desire to hurt me.**

Let those who say, “Aha, Aha!”
turn back because of their shame.

**Let all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you.**

Let those who love your salvation
say evermore, “God is great!”

**But I am poor and needy;
hasten to me, O God!**

You are my help and my deliverer;
O Lord, do not delay!

Prayer of Invocation

Opening Song STJ 3 *Jesus calls us here to meet him*

Proclaiming the Word

First Reading Matthew 25:1-13
*Scripture passages are read in English and Spanish to reflect the
community in and around Shalom.*

Children’s Time Tim Huber
*Nursery care for young children is available after Children's Time
till the end of the service.*

Hymn HWB 188 *Sleepers, wake!*

Second Reading Amos 5:18-24, adapted

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

Meditation Sara Dick

Quiet Reflection

Responding to the Word

Hymn of Response HWB 419 *Lead on, O cloud of Presence*

Offertory and Prayer *I Believe in You*, by Bob Dylan

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 STJ 77 *The peace of the earth be with you*

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

Keep Awake!

We no longer have to ask ourselves if we are approaching a state of emergency. We are in the midst of it, right here and now, and we expect the future to mirror the past.... It is in the midst of this dark world that we are invited to live and radiate hope. Is it possible? Can we become light, salt, and leaven to our brothers and sisters in the human family? Can we offer hope, courage, and confidence to the people of this era? Do we dare break through our paralyzing fear? Will people be able to say of us, 'See how they love each other, how they serve their neighbor, and how they pray to their Lord?' Or do we have to confess that at this juncture of history we just do not have the needed strength or the generosity? How can we live in hope so as to give hope? And how do we find true joy?

-Henri Nouwen, *Clowning in Rome*



Greeters: Bob & Yvonne Bontrager, Lola Schmidt,
Marlene & Stan Smucker
Musicians: Russ Neufeld, Greg Nickel, Brett Prothro, Tom Szambecki,
Chloe Woodward (cello) with Susan Mayo (accompanist),
Don Woodward
Visual Arts: Joanna Fenton Friesen
Sound & Closing: Greg Nickel
Bulletin Cover: "Waiting for the Bridegroom" by Gisele Bauche

Pastor: Sara Dick
Transitional Pastor: Rob Burdette
Children's Choir Director: Abigail Christensen
Administrative Assistant: Grace Wenger
Church Moderator: Barth Hague

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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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