

MennoCon19

Words from Worship

Wednesday morning, July 3

Call to Worship & Invocation - Madalyn

L: God of all who worship here today, we come to you broken and afraid...

P: Peace I give you.

L: We bring our pain with us today, to this place of worship...

P: Peace I give you.

L: We bring our doubts with us today... of ourselves... of our future...

P: Peace I give you.

L: We are uncertain, hesitant to acknowledge the tension in our hearts and in our lives...

P: Peace I give you.

L: We are unsure of what community means now, in this body...

P: Peace I give you.

L: Show us, in your infinite wisdom, how to embrace our vulnerability... to name and acknowledge our fears... as part of our healing in your love.

P: My peace be with you.

L: Thank you, loving God, for your peace that passes all understanding.

(Note: Call to Worship by Madalyn Metzger. Invocation adapted from one by Jon Keller, Church of the Brethren)

Wednesday evening, July 3

Call to Worship (spoken by Vikki)

Leader: God you make your very self known to us through creation, through people who are made in your image, through your Word which became flesh and made a dwelling among us.

All: Jesus Christ, you are our peace.

Leader: In your in-breaking, you bring peace where there is no peace. You lead your people in the way of peace, inviting us to participate in your great redeeming work in the world, enacting your peaceable kingdom.

All: Christ, you are our peace.

Leader: God, we have walked through the valley of the shadow of death where fear would seek to paralyze us, sterilize us and leave us dead. There is injustice and violence, apathy and hatred all around us. And you, you are with us through the very valley of the shadow of death. Your love is stronger than our fear, and stronger than the evil that seeks to destroy. You whisper peace. You proclaim peace. Christ...

All: Christ, you are our peace.

Leader: We LONG for your peace, Oh God, to be fully realized. All things are held together in you. Give us the courage to receive your peace. Give us the courage to be peace-makers, to embody your peace, so that we will be called, "Children of God."

All: Christ, you are our peace.

Benediction for #MennoCon19 3.7.2019

A benediction prepared for evensong by Dr. Sibonokuhle Ncube

Peace be with you, Sons and Daughters of God, for whom creation groans, we are made manifest!

May we again and again, experience that power that resurrected Jesus from the dead!

I declare grace and peace multiplied to you all from ravaged lands or bounty-filled pantries on this terrestrial globe!

Let His Shalom that surpasses all understanding, by the power of the Holy Spirit, overwhelm us past all isms!

I declare the excellence of the very peace proclaimed by the angels on that night divine, To propel us to radical love with benevolent abandon;

Setting our hearts on fire for neighbour as self, the stranger, the poor, widowed, orphaned, the hungry, the thirsty, the broken, imprisoned and creation;

Turning gun to ploughshare and pipelines to solar panels!

Tonight, let our hearts burn with zeal as our faith with works causes His Kingdom to prevail in this generation and beyond!

Go on now!

Go in God's peace.

Go and change the world with Him and through Him!

Go and leave no one behind - from A to Z, America to Zimbabwe; The bride and Spirit cry, come Lord Jesus, the tables are turned over! Peace be with you.

Amen.

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Friday morning, July 5

Call to Worship – Vikki

L: Spirit of life, your breath of life fills the whole world and holds all things together.

P: Breathe on us, Breath of God

L: Your winds create each of our stories, all different and powerful, blowing by the force of your love

P: Breath in us, Breath of God

L: Help us be grateful for the many experiences that Holy Spirit creates in our lives for the breath of loving greetings, prophetic words and soft prayers

P: Breathe through us, Breath of God

L: We breathe. (Pause) Letting your life, love and hope flow

P: Breathe with us, Breath of God

Friday evening, July 5

Call to Worship – Madalyn

(adapted from a call to worship written by Gord Waldie, <http://worshipofferings.blogspot.com/2008/04/for-may-11-2008-pentecost-sunday.html>)

Please join me in our responsive Call to Worship...

Leader: The Spirit is here among us

All: within us, around us, between us.

Leader: The Spirit is here to strengthen us

All: bringing courage, bringing conviction.

Leader: The Spirit is here to move us

All: making us sing and praise.

Leader: The Spirit is here.

All: May we feel the Spirit as we gather. May we be fed by its fiery strength. May we be emboldened by its powerful wind.

Leader: We gather in the Spirit's arms to be nurtured as we worship.

All: And may our worship fill us with the Spirit, as it empowers us to move forward today, and in the days to come.

Prayer – Chris

Let us lift our hands as a sign that we are ready to receive tonight.

God, tonight we come to you with our hands raised and our hearts open, ready to be revived, refreshed, & renewed by the outpouring of your Spirit. We surrender to your work tonight and we invite you into this space once again to move however you desire to move within us. We are so grateful for your presence and we know that with it comes liberty. It is with that freedom that we vow to show our praise and adoration to you tonight as we enter into this time of worship. In your name Jesus we pray.

Amen

Saturday morning, July 6

Call to Worship

Leader: God, your people are hungry.

Participants: God, send me.

Leader: God, your people need help.

Participants: God, send me.

Leader: God, we know you call us to go.

Participants: God, send me.

Leader: God, we know you call us to be a light in a dark world.

Participants: God, send me.

Benediction (Written by Shannon Dycus)

Madalyn: May God bless us with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, so that we may live deep within our hearts.

Chris: May God bless us with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that we may work for justice, freedom and peace.

Madalyn: May God bless us with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that we may reach out our hands to comfort them and turn their pain into joy.

Vikki: And may the Holy Spirit bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we can make a difference in this world, so that we can do what others claim cannot be done.