



April 2, 2017 • Volume 62, No. 14
Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. • Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Restore us, O God! *We breathe.*

Focus statement: When we come to the end of our own human strength, vitality, and purpose, we recognize the reality of death in and around us. God, who is Spirit, breathes life into us, revealing God's glory and purpose. We, and the community, are restored.

Gathering

Pre-service: *Breathe* (words in bulletin) Praise Team
Call to Worship (*back of bulletin*) Karina Morales

Prayers: *Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me (2x),*
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

You are all we have, you give us what we need.
Our lives are in your hands, O Lord,
our lives are in your hands.

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord,
we will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord (2x)
Our God, you reign forever, our hope, our strong deliverer.
You are the everlasting God. The everlasting God.
You do not faint, you won't grow weary.

(repeat)

You're the defender of the weak. You comfort those in need.
You lift us up on wings like eagles.
Our God, you reign forever, our hope, our strong deliverer.
You are the everlasting God. The everlasting God.
You do not faint, you won't grow weary.

You're the defender of the weak. You comfort those in need.
You lift us up on wings like eagles.
From everlasting to everlasting God, You are everlasting.

Sharing our Tithes and Offerings
Offertory: *O Breath of Life (SJ 35)*

We Hear God's Word

Scripture Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Conversation with Children Pastor Dawn Ranck Hower

Lenten Ritual: Breath Prayer

Confession and words of assurance

Leader 1: God, we confess that when we look into the valleys of our lives, we are tempted to fix our gaze on the remnants of our past. We see the dry bones, and we doubt in our minds—"Will these bones ever live?"

Leader 2: But in the midst of our doubt, we proclaim that *you* are the life-giving Spirit. You breathe new life into all that is dead.

Leader 1: For you, O God, raised up the dry bones in the valley.

Leader 2: Your Son, Jesus, brought Lazarus out from the tomb

Leader 1: and your Spirit lifted anew the hearts of the disciples.

Both: Teach us, O Lord, to wait for your breath.

Leader 2: Blow your mighty wind into the hollow chambers of our hearts, that we may never settle for death but rise again as your beloved people.
(Pause for silent confession)

Leader 1: God, holy Breath,

Both: restore us.

Leader 1: But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you, once more. Our whole selves waited for you, O Lord, and you answered us. In you there is unfailing love and full redemption. You redeem us from all our sins.
Amen.

Breathe on me, Breath of God (WB 356)

Scripture Reading: John 11:1-45
Sermon: "God is NOT done!" Pastor Dawn Ranck Hower

Responding

Holy Spirit, come with power (WB 26)

Sharing and Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Ruth Carrasco

Sending

Nothing is lost on the breath of God (SS 121)

Benediction

Greeters: John & Rhoda Weaver; **Usher:** Kylah Morales

Praise Team: Wanda Coleman, Jenn Esbenshade, Bryan Hower,
Danika Snader, Tammy Snader

Sound: Judy Nguyen; **Closing:** Lois Zimmerman

Nursery: Sue Martin & Lois Zimmerman

LAST SUNDAY: March 26, 2017

Attendance: 45

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

April 6: Lucas Pierce; **April 8:** Rhoda Weaver

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

April 6: Betty & Paul Martin

NEXT SUNDAY: April 9, 2017

Coffee: Darryl & Peg Jackson; **Worship Leader:** Steven Lantz

Greeters: Tammy Snader & Dot Weaver

Usher: Anna Mae Weaver

Song Leader: Bryan Hower; **Sound:** Wade Esbenshade

Nursery: Evelyn Baily & Kylah Morales; **Closing:** Peg Jackson

Upcoming Events

(All events held at church unless otherwise indicated)

Apr 5 Senior Youth at Groffdale Mennonite, 7 p.m.

Apr 8 Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7 a.m. Squireside Café

Apr 12 Sewing Circle, 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

Senior Youth at Ridgeview Mennonite, 7 p.m.

Apr 13 Maundy Thursday Meal, 6:30 p.m.

At Ridgeview Mennonite Church

Apr 14 Good Friday Service, 7:00 p.m.

Apr 16 Easter Celebration

Apr 19 Senior Youth at Groffdale Mennonite, 7 p.m.

Apr 21 Women's Lunch, 11:30 a.m. Yoder's Restaurant

Apr 26 Senior Youth at Ridgeview Mennonite, 7 p.m.

Church News and Information

The Mennonite Subscription: *The Mennonite* is a monthly magazine featuring voices from across the Anabaptist-Mennonite world. If you are interested in joining our group plan, please return the form that is in your mailbox (along with \$37 payment) by **April 2**. New subscribers can receive a one-year subscription for the discounted rate of \$30.

Easter Flowers: Please let Pastor Dawn know if you can bring a bouquet or potted flower for our Easter celebration.

Camp Fund: Consider giving a donation to make it possible for children in our congregation to enjoy a week at a Christian camp this summer. Mark "Church Camp" on offering envelope.

Palm Sunday Worship Service: Palm Sunday closes the Lent season and opens Holy Week. A reenactment of Jesus entry into Jerusalem is charged with irony, and it is about us as fully as it is about the people of ancient Jerusalem: Our faith, too, is fickle; we are the crucifiers of the One whose coming we have called "blessed." (Therefore our withered palm branches will produce the dust applied to our foreheads next Ash Wednesday.) Jesus enters the city knowing that he will die.

Maundy Thursday Meal & Service: April 13, 6:30 p.m.
Ridgeview Mennonite Church has invited us to eat a meal together like Jesus shared his last supper with his friends. The evening will include a simple meal, Scripture reading, singing, communion, footwashing, and time for reflection and confession.

Pastor: Dawn Ranck Hower; dawn.ranck@verizon.net; 1/215/237-1485

Leadership Team Chair: Robert A. Martin

Elders: Ruth Carrasco, Wade Esbenshade, Robert A. Martin

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A nursery is available for children ages 4 and younger.

Good Friday Service: April 14, 7:00 p.m. Enter and exit this service in silence. Ridgeview Mennonite Church will join us for this somber service on the saddest day of the church year. Jesus is on his way through the Roman legal system. This is the day he is accused, jailed, judged, and executed. The question confronting Christians on Good Friday is whether we are willing to follow Jesus to the cross.

Easter Service: April 16, 10 a.m. We have seen the risen Lord! Easter Sunday begins a 50-day period during which the church celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the triumph of life over death.

Community News and Information

Harmonies Hymn Sing: Sunday, April 2, 2017, at 6:30 p.m., Blossom Hill Mennonite Church. Free to the public.

Moving into the City, Moving out of the City: What Makes People Move: Join the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society at New Holland Spanish Mennonite Church at 7 p.m. on **Monday, April 3**, for an evening looking at migration. Steve Nolt, Senior Scholar at the Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies, will explore the movement of Lancaster Mennonites from the country into the city in the 50s and 60s. Christine Baer of Church World Service, will lead an accompanying panel discussing the current movement of Mennonite-connected immigrants from the city to the country.

Field trip registration open: Registration is open for four of the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society's 2017 field trips. Join a bicycle tour of Native American historical sites, learn about Pennsylvania German barns, hear the story of Christian Burkholder, and celebrate 300 years of Mellinger Mennonite Church. To register and learn more, visit www.lmhs.org.

Join a one-day Native American Learning Tour in PA: Mennonite Central Committee is planning two one-day events shedding light on early Native life and settlements. On **April 9**, join us in Lancaster County with a special focus on Manor Township.

And on **May 6**, join us in the Lehigh Valley with a visit to the Museum of Indian Culture. For more details, and to register online, visit mcc.org/events.

Mennonite Children's Choir Spring Concert Series: Sunday, **April 9** at 4 p.m. Stumptown Mennonite Church, Bird-in-Hand; Saturday, **April 22** at 6:30 p.m. Lititz Moravian Congregation, Lititz; Sunday, **April 23** at 4 p.m.; Forest Hills Mennonite Church, Leola; Sunday, **April 30** at 4 p.m. Chiques Church of the Brethren, Manheim.

Lancaster Family History Conference: The Thirty-eighth Annual Lancaster Family History Conference presents "New Arrivals in a New Land: A Tribute to Our 1717 Immigrant Families" with a keynote by John L. Ruth. It takes place from **May 18-20** at the Lancaster Farm and Home Center. Register at www.lmhs.org.

Bicycle Tour of Native American Sites: Catch the fresh air and learn about Native Americans in Lancaster County with a bicycle tour in Conestoga starting at 8 a.m. on **Saturday, May 13** with the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society. Manor Township was home to numerous settlements of Native Americans. Participants will explore these sites on a 16-mile bike hike. Bikers will hear storytellers talking about this saga at 14 stops along the way. Registration costs \$30, \$20 for students. Register by May 6 at <http://www.lmhs.org/events/field-trips/> or by calling (717) 393-9745.