Vol. 68 March 25, 2018 #12 Palm Sunday 9:45 **SUNDAY SCHOOL** (More info below) **WORSHIP SERVICE** 11:00 Prelude Kim Rempel Congregational Singing/Palm Processional Barb Draper "Hosanna, loud hosanna" WB#238 Welcome and Announcements Gloria Bauman Call to Worship Come, people of God, this is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it. This is the day Jesus enters Jerusalem. All: Open the gates of righteousness so that we can enter and give thanks to the Lord. L: The gates are open, come on in. Give thanks, for God is good! **Opening Prayer** Congregational Singing "Hosanna! Hosanna!" STS#74 "Just a closer walk with thee" STJ#106 Prayer of Confession: (Unison) Jesus, Messiah. The crowds around you can be thrilling, or frightening. One moment they are clay in your hands, ready to be shaped. The next they are squeezing you, like putty in a clenched fist, demanding that you conform. Is that what we do? When we count the cost of your words for us, it hurts. We get it, why the masses turned and your disciples faded away. Do you? The time is ripe for change, then and now. Why can't you lead that change in a way we understand? How is it that you define success so differently? It scares us to question you. It's worse if we don't. Forgive us for holding in questions so long that we can't bear the answers. Forgive us

for fearing the crowds, and the consequences.

Show us again this new way of living. Help us to love like you. Amen.

Open our eves and hearts

to receive your teaching.

Words of Assurance Scripture Reading - Luke 19:28-42 Children's Story Nancy Mann Dismissal for Junior Church Giving of Tithes and Offerings Offering Prayer Congregational Singing "When we walk with the Lord" WB#544 Scripture Reading - Colossians 2:6-17 Jeanette Towns Sermon: "Religion vs Christianity" Rob Martin Hymn of Response "I stand amazed in the presence" WB#528 Time of Sharing, Testimony and Silence Pastoral Prayer Nancy Mann Sending Song "Guide my feet" WB#546 Benediction

Children of all ages are invited to Jr. Church following the children's story. We ask that parents/guardians accompany very young children as needed. *An unstaffed nursery is available during the worship service.*

Postlude

Our morning worship services are being videotaped and put on our website. If for any reason you would not like a portion of the service to be included, please contact the AV person.

A warm welcome to our visitors this morning. We hope our time of worship together has been an encouragement to you. You are invited to drop by our Welcome Table and learn more about our church and our ministries. God bless you and we hope to see you again!

> Church Greeters Today: Cliff & Mary Bauman Next Week: MYF

THIS WEEK AT FMC

<u>TODAY</u> - We will open our service with a Palm processional. Children are invited to meet in the church library at 10:45 am to receive their palms and prepare to participate in the processional. Jr Church leaders and anyone else who would like to support the children are invited to come to the library at this time. We receive the joyful participation of our children in worship.

<u>Friday – 10:00</u> – Good Friday Service with Communion and Footwashing

YAF CIRCLE

Young Adult Spiritual Discussion Group will meet TODAY at 9:45 am in the Youth Room. We watch a short video from our series Animate

Faith!, share in discussion and have fun with treats. All young adults are welcome.

April 22 - Young adult hike after church hosted by Elmira Mennonite Church young adults. Bring a bag lunch to eat before we go hiking.

LOOKING AHEAD at FMC

April 3 - 9:00 - Ladies Quilting & Knotting

April 4 - 8:00 - Elders

April 10 - 8:30 - Ladies Breakfast at Bonnie Lou's

April 13, 14, 15 - Dinner Theatre – "Family Ties Through Thick and Thin"
The story of a family losing the older generation, written by Barb
Draper. Friday and Saturday roast beef dinner (\$20) at 6:00 p.m. show
at 7:30. Sunday show only, at 2:30 p.m. Tickets available in the lobby.
Freewill theatre offering for Woolwich Community Services and
Mennonite World Conference Global Church Sharing Fund.

Sunday School Classes available at 9:45
Kidz Korner basement
Drawing Class Room 12

Discussion Class Room 9
Seniors Bible Study Room 11

ADDITIONAL FMC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday, June 22, 8:30 a.m. - Meet at Elmira Mennonite Church for Area Senior's Fellowship Bus Trip to Martin's Family Fruit Farm to tour processing plant and Walters Theatre for dinner and to see *Amish Love and Forgiveness*. Tickets are limited and are \$100 on a first-come-first-served basis. A waiting list will be established. See Darrell and Florence Jantzi for availability.

See announcement sheet for other announcements.



"Loving God...Loving Our Neighbour"

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