

Mennonite Church of Normal
Morning Worship
Feb. 21, 2021

LENT 1 Deep in the sea: Called to deep relationship

FOCUS: The voice of God pierces the deep, calling us to deep relationship. With the floodwaters behind us and waters of baptism holding us, our relationship with God establishes our identity with other people and the world we live in.

Gathering in God's Presence

Prelude *Grace Medley/Lead Me Medley, arranged by James Koerts* Elsa Raab

Greetings and Congregational Life Marge Weaver

Call to Worship Marge

One: God, we are here at the water's edge, casting off from shore

Many: into unknown waters.

One: With fear and trembling, we drop our oars,

Many: letting them go, trusting the sea.

One: God, we trust the signs of your covenant:

the ark through the water,

the waters of baptism,

Many: the bow in the clouds and the dove from the heavens.

All: We call to you as you called us deeper into steadfast love.

Praising the Name of Jesus

With Voices in Song VT 545 Here I am, Lord (HWB 395)
VT 456 Oceans

Prayer Marge

Hearing God's Word

Children's Time Annette Harnish

Invitation to Listen VT 405 Listen to the Word

Scripture Genesis 9:8-17, Mark 1:9-15 JB Ponnou-Delaffon

Sermon On earth, as it is in heaven Gary Martin

Response Hymn VT 640 My Shepherd Will Supply My Need (HWB 589)

Receiving God's Grace

Prayer of Confession and Assurance Marge

Many: Deep calls to deep.

We call to you from the depths of our hearts.

One: We confess when we have stayed too close to the surface,
avoiding You,

avoiding our neighbors.
We confess when we have felt in over our heads,
needing You,
needing our neighbors.

(In this silence, name the force(s) that keep you from deep relationship)

Deep calls to deep.

You call us from the depth of your love.

**Many: Calling us to deep relationship,
we come to you, God.**

Response Ritual and Hymn

stone of deep relationship

Marge

VT 701 You Are All We Have (STJ 29)

Sharing and Prayer

Erin Ponnou-Delaffon

Sent in the Spirit's Power

Sending Hymn

VT 377 New Earth, Heavens New (HWB 299)

Benediction

Marge

Postlude

Gentle Shepherd

Elsa Raab