

**Mennonite Church of Normal**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter      May 2, 2021**

**Focus:** Jesus asked his disciples: “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered it: “You are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God.” Jesus affirmed Peter for *how* he got the correct answer: he was in tune with the Divine. Jesus then said, “You are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my church.” Anabaptists interpret Jesus’ words differently from Protestants and Catholics. Of the three places to locate authority for Jesus’ church, Anabaptists selected the most difficult one! What are implications for authority, leadership, and pastoral role in Jesus’ church?

**Gathering in God’s Presence**

<b>Prelude</b>	Will you let me be your servant. Arr Burkhardt	Dorothy Loepp
	Be thou my vision. Arr Manz	
	How great thou art. Arr Burkhardt	

<b>Welcome/Congregational Life</b>		Gary
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<b>Call to Worship</b>	VT 62 God is here among us	
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<b>Opening Prayer</b>		Gary
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**Praising the Name of Jesus**

<b>Songs of Praise</b>	VT 103 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee	
	VT 298 What is the World Like	

<b>Words of Praise</b>	VT 884 <i>slide needed</i>	
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**Hearing God’s Word**

<b>Children’s Story:</b>		Holly Zehr
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<b>Invitation to Listen:</b>	VT 405 Listen to the Word	
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<b>Scripture Reading:</b>	Matthew 16:13-20	Tanya Kimbembe
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<b>Sermon:</b>	<i>We are the rock?</i>	Gary
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**Receiving God’s Grace**

<b>Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness</b>	VT 156 There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy	
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<b>Witnessing, Sharing and Prayer:</b>		TBD
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**Sent in the Spirit’s Power**

<b>Benediction</b>		Gary
<b>Postlude</b>	Joyful Joyful we adore Thee arr Callahan	Dorothy

### **Matthew 16:13-20**

<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" <sup>14</sup> And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." <sup>15</sup> He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah,<sup>[a]</sup> the Son of the living God." <sup>17</sup> And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you, you are Peter,<sup>[b]</sup> and on this rock<sup>[c]</sup> I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." <sup>20</sup> Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was<sup>[d]</sup> the Messiah.<sup>[e]</sup>