

**September 24, 2023**  
**"A World Without Poverty or Hunger is Possible!"**

**FORT COLLINS MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP**

300 E. Oak Street, Ft. Collins, CO 80524

**Worship:** 10:00 AM

**Pastor:** Steve Ramer

**Cell:** 970-412-7510



**SEASON OF PENTACOST**

**1. GATHERING**

*"Radical servanthood challenges us, while attempting persistently to overcome poverty, hunger, illness, and any other form of human misery, to reveal the gentle presence of our compassionate God in the midst of our broken world." — Henri Nouwen*

**Musical Prelude (John)**

**Call to Worship (Katie) - #853**

**Leader:** If you are delighted to be here, and if you are tired or troubled,

**All:** **you are welcome.**

**Leader:** If your faith is strong, and if your faith is battered or frail,

**All:** **you are welcome.**

**Leader:** If you are eager to praise God, and if you need to be quiet,

**All:** **you are welcome.**

**All:** **God welcomes us all to worship today and promises to meet us here.**

**Opening Prayer (Katie)**

**Congregational Singing (Cathy)**

## Welcome and Passing of the Peace

**Leader:** May the peace of Christ be with you.  
**People:** And also, with you.  
**All:** Let us offer one another signs of peace, reconciliation, and love.

*"Coming generations will learn equality from poverty, and love from woes". — Khalil Gibran*

*"As long as poverty, injustice and gross inequality persist in our world, none of us can truly rest." — Nelson Mandela*

## 2. HEARING GOD'S WORD

### Scripture: Luke 7:20-23

Luke 7: 20 When the Disciples of John the Baptist came to visit Jesus, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to ask you, "Are you the expected one, or are we to wait for someone else?" "

21 Now Jesus had just cured many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits and had given sight to many who were blind. 22 And so he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have good news brought to them. 23 And congratulations to those who are not offended by what I'm doing."

### SERMON: "A World Without Poverty or Hunger is Possible" (Steve)



Jesus was asked if he was the "expected one" (the "Messiah" or the "Son of God"). The "proof" Jesus gave, was what he was doing.

Specifically he listed that he healed the outcasts — the lepers, blind, deaf and lame! Along with that he raised the dead and was bringing good news to the poor!

Isn't a world without poverty or hunger something we should strive for?

## 3. RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

### Congregational Singing (Cathy)

### Response (everyone)

### Joys and Concerns (everyone)

### Offering & Music (John and Leanne)

### Sending (Steve) - #1002

Gardner God, you have planted and protected us by your faithful hand.

Send us the sap of your grace from Christ, the true Vine, and make us blossom and bear the fruit of love as a sign of your life in us.

Let the sweet fragrance of the shoots you have planted give you praise forever. Amen



*"Poverty is terror. Having your Social Security threatened is terror. Having your livelihood as an elderly person slowly disappearing with no replenishment is terror." — Harry Belafonte*

*"To help the poor to a capacity for action and liberty is something essential for one's own health as well as theirs: there is a needful gift they have to offer which cannot be offered so long as they are confined by poverty." — Rowan Williams*