

January 14, 2024  
"Memories of Dr. King"

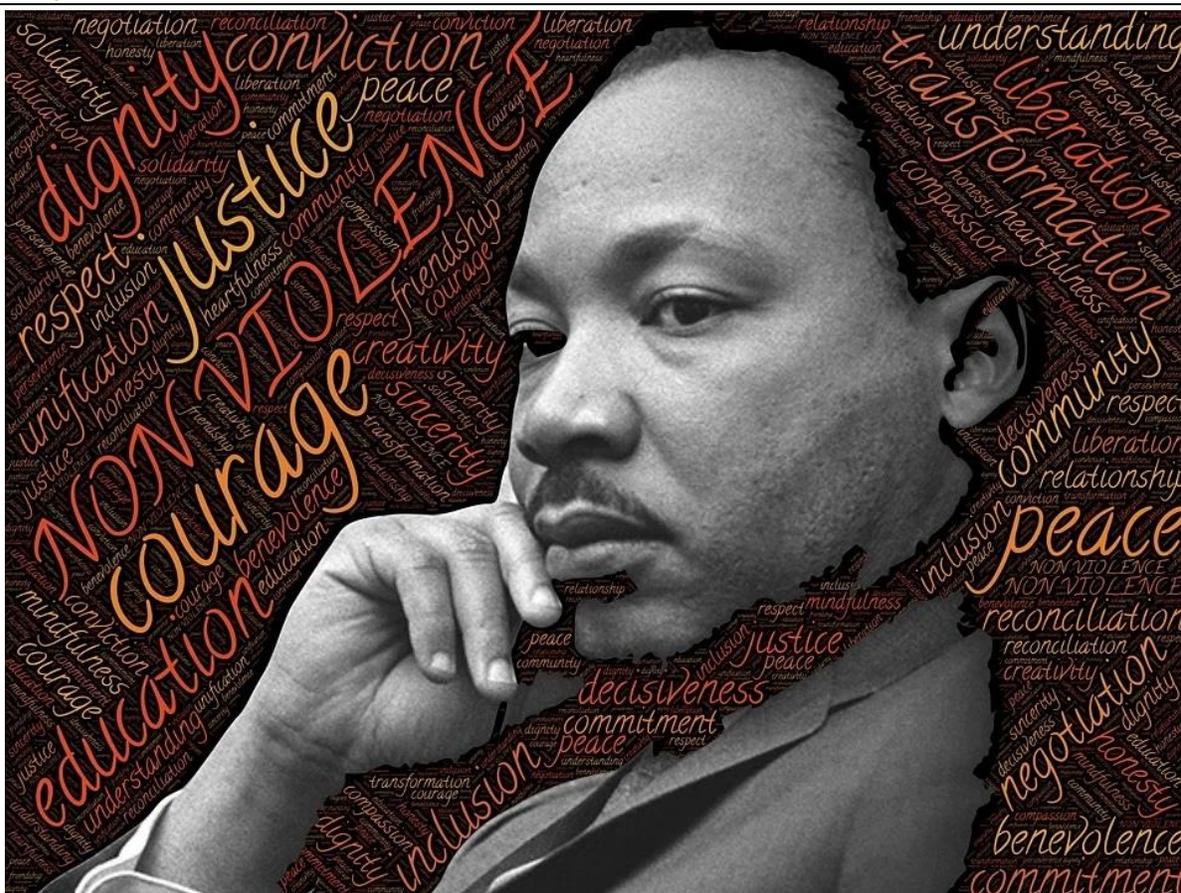
FORT COLLINS MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

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

Worship: 10:00 AM

Pastor: Steve Ramer

Cell: 970-412-7510



SEASON OF EPIPHANY

Epiphany means "to make manifest." This is the season when we see Jesus' divine mission revealed to the world. After delivering their monetary tributes and pledging their allegiance to their new king, those intrepid Astronomers climbed back into their saddles again. But the journey home was via a different path since being wholly transformed, they could not go back the way they came. Today, the star still leads us to reflect its light.

**1. GATHERING**

**Musical Prelude (John)**

**Call to Worship (Lynette)**

L: Sisters and brothers, rejoice.  
P: We live, sustained by God's presence and love!  
L: As we mourn the wounds of God's children,  
P: God weeps with us.  
L: As we give thanks for brothers and sisters who endeavored for peace,  
P: God gives thanks with us.  
L: As we continue the struggle for justice,  
P: God struggles alongside us.  
L: As we strive for true peace,  
P: God strives along with us!

L: As we work to build the beloved community,  
P: God works by our side.  
L: As we offer our gifts and reflect the brilliance of God's light,  
P: God will light up the world!  
L: My sisters and brothers, rejoice.  
All: Sustained by God's presence and love we delight to worship Our God!

*"The moral arc of the universe bends at the elbow of justice." — Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

## Opening Prayer (Lynette)

God, we find our delight as we worship you this morning. We find our delight as we recall the gift of your servant Martin Luther King Jr. We are grateful for his faithfulness to you that has become a great source of inspiration for many.

May we be inspired this morning to once again commit ourselves to the massive work of justice for all of your creatures here on earth, because without justice there can be no true peace.

## Congregational Singing

### 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.

*"I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word." — Martin Luther King, Jr.*

*"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." — Martin Luther King, Jr.*

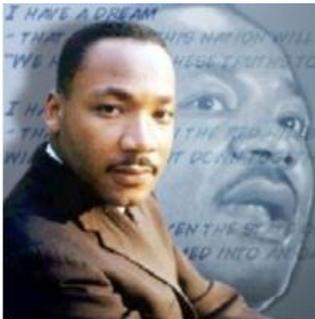
*"Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend." — Martin Luther King, Jr.*

## 2. HEARING GOD'S WORD

### Scriptures: Amos 5:21

21 I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. 22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of the well-being of

your fatted animals, I will not look upon. 23 Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. 24 But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.



### SERMON: "Memories of Dr. King" (Steve)

When faced with what Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. called the "triple evils" of poverty, injustice, and war, most people feel overwhelmed, enraged, and disheartened.

But, when we feel a palpable sense of Jesus' love in our lives, we have the hope and energy to take action. Join us as we remember Martin Luther King, Jr.

## 3. RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

### Gift of the Stars (Lynette)

#### Congregational Singing

*"Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable... Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals." — Martin Luther King, Jr.*

*"Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step." — Martin Luther King, Jr.*

### Joys and Concerns

### Offering & Music (John)

### Sending

Go from this place to reap the harvest of God's love.

Go from this place beaming with the light of God reflected in you.

Go from this place to continue to sow seeds of justice, peace and love.

Go from this place to nourish and to be nourished, knowing that God is ever a part of our lives. — Amen