

# **Joseph the Reconciler**

# Waterford Mennonite Church

October 22, 2023

Prelude		John Zehr
Gathering Songs		Colleen Stoltzfus
	<i>Morning Has Broken</i>	VT 495
	<i>Could It Be That God Is Singing</i>	VT 42
	<i>Be Still and Know</i>	VT 37
Welcome & Call to worship		Karsten Hess, Isaac Pfahler
Lighting the peace lamp*		
Song	<i>My Soul Cries Out</i>	VT 412
Offering	<i>Please pass the friendship pads</i>	
	(Gifts are for the Operating Fund unless designated otherwise)	
Children's Time		Erin Smeltzer
Scripture	Genesis 43:15; 45:1-18	
Monologue	"The Cupbearer Muses"	Deron Bergstresser
Sermon	"Come Closer"	Firman Gingerich
Song of Response	<i>Nothing Is Lost on the Breath of God</i>	VT 653
Congregational Prayer		Deron Bergstresser
Benediction		
Sending Song	<i>O Healing River</i>	VT 706

*Thank you to Zoë Brown for creating the visual at the front of the sanctuary.*

VT = Voices Together; SJ = *Sing the Journey*; SS = *Sing the Story*

\*We light the peace lamp every Sunday to lament all unnecessary and violent loss of life around the world.

## **Prayers**

*Esther Rose Graber*, who celebrates her 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday on Monday the 23<sup>rd</sup>, for God's grace and joy to be poured out on her. Join in her celebration by signing a card for her at the table in the foyer.

For *Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission* and its partners from eight countries, including Mennonite Mission Network, as they begin their annual International Central Council meetings in the Democratic Republic of Congo tomorrow for five days of worship, prayer, discernment and decision making for the coming year.

We remember this week our 5<sup>th</sup> grade student *Kenzie Zimmerman*, and her teachers *Lorna Claassen*, *Laurina Graber-Ditzler*, *Jordan Smeltzer* and *Murray Bowman*.

For *Cora Askren* and *John Kaufman* as they celebrate the life of Lin Garber, Cora's brother and John's uncle, who passed away Thursday morning, October 19.

For *Kern Road Mennonite Church* as they enter into this season of transition.

*Our Pastoral Team* as they have a day retreat on Tuesday at Pathways Retreat Center, and for our Congregational Coach *Marty Lehman* who will be their facilitator.

## **Welcome Guests**

We are glad to have you join us in worship today. Children of all ages are welcome in worship. There are sermon boards for children outside the sanctuary doors; please pick one up as you enter. If desired, there is a nursery available in the west end of the foyer for infants and toddlers. Large print copies of the hymnal and hearing aid systems are available from the ushers. We invite you to stay for our nurture hour. Look for the welcome brochure on the front table in the foyer.

## Our Mission Statement

As the people of Waterford Mennonite Church, we

*Welcome everyone to faith and fellowship in Jesus Christ,*

*Minister to the needs of one another and our neighbors through the Holy Spirit, and*

*Call out each other's gifts for the joyful work of God's reconciling mission.*

We celebrate that everyone is created in God's image, and as followers of Jesus we welcome people of every age, ability, race and ethnicity, sexual orientation, marital status, socio-economic situation, gender identity, and citizenship status as full participants in the life of our congregation.

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