



March 15, 2026  
4th Sunday of Lent



Message: Myrrl Byler  
Worship Leader: Scott Hyland  
Song Leader: Lois Bontrager  
Greeters: Alta Bates & Arrie Ledsoome

### **GATHERING**

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Song

VT #49 *All Who Are Thirsty*

Call to Worship

Leader: Welcome Lent.

**All: Welcome questions:**

Leader: Who are you? What is truth?

**All: Welcome silence and responses that deal more with faith than proof.**

Leader: Welcome humbleness in glory. Welcome peace amid the pain.

**All: Welcome all the upside-downness of Jesus' kind of reign.**

### **PRAISING**

Praise Songs

*Revelation Song  
The Jesus Way*

### **Confession Poem**

*Jesus, Your Kingdom doesn't work the way we expect.*

*Power, honor—everything is backward.*

*Are You the king? What is the truth?*

*We feel for Pilate, wondering how a prisoner can be king.*

*If you have power, why are You here instead of sitting on a throne in glory?*

*Why don't You call in your armies?*

*Silence the naysayers, free Yourself, conquer the oppressors!*

*And You say, "My Kingdom is not of this world."*

*You say, "This is how I testify to the truth."*

*You say, "Listen to My voice."*

Offering – Education Sunday

## **HEARING GOD'S WORD**

Scripture

John 18:28-40 (CEB)

Readers' Theater

"Pilate's Story"

Message

***Dwelling in Dissonance: Submission and Power***

## **RESPONDING**

Song of Response

VT #297 *You are Salt for the Earth*

Congregational Sharing/Prayer

## **SENDING**

Sending Song

STJ #73 *The Lord Lift You Up*

Benediction/Blessing

Postlude

### PERMISSION TO PHOTOCOPY

Subscribers to Leader are welcome to photocopy, adapt & project worship materials.

Songs used with permission: CCLI 465314

HWB- Hymnal Worship Book (blue)

STJ-Sing the Journey (green spiral)

TMH – The Mennonite Hymnal (red)

STS-Sing the Story (purple spiral)

VT-Voices Together (purple)



✝ Pray for those with health concerns: Twila Miller; Miriam Miller; Mary Hilmer's brother Harold Yoder; Alta Bates' sisters Katie and Leona; Nancy Beachy's friend's grandson, Peter, with cancer and her sister Hazel on hospice; and Mike Kress who has cancer.

✝ Pray for the Mykhaylyuchenko family - Vlad, Krystyna, Vlad and Emilia, and the Khodyrieva family - Ludmila, Diana and Anastasia.

✝ Pray for Alexis Deuzoumbé as he continues nursing school and pray for his immigration process.

✝ As we hear and see the images and stories of bombings and violence, may we continue to pray for peace, for those who work for peace, and for the many millions whose lives are filled with fear and uncertainty. For the parents of Darius Meraj who live in Iran, for the Mennonite churches in Columbia and their brothers and sisters in Venezuela. For the families of our Ukrainian friends, for Christians, including Mennonite churches affected by violence in various African countries. Also, for a Mennonite church in Myanmar that was recently bombed. A deacon, treasurer and two youth leaders were killed, and 11 other church members needed emergency medical treatment. In a message from the church, they have asked all international Mennonites to pray for them. God have mercy.

**There is a fellowship meal this week on Wednesday, March 18, at 6:00pm.**

The meal will be lasagna, applesauce, green beans and salad. Monetary donations for the food are welcome but not required. Please plan to join us on Wednesday night for a time of fellowship!





Our season of Lent this year is meant to prepare us for Holy Week as we take a slow, intentional journey through the second half of the Gospel of John. *The entire season of Lent is framed by the experience of Holy Week, inviting us to linger in the intensity of the final week of Jesus' life, to dwell in the dissonance.*

February 22 – Lent 1	“Love and grief, glory and belief”	John 11:1-44
March 1 – Lent 2	“Obvious and Hidden”	John 13:1-17
March 8 – Lent 3	“Standing Up and Standing Back”	John 18:12-27
March 15 – Lent 4	“Submission and Power”	John 18:28-40
March 22 – Lent 5	“Complicity and Innocence”	John 19:1-16a
March 29 – Lent 6	“Palm Sunday”	John 19:16b–22; 12:12–27
April 2 – 6:30pm	Maundy Thursday Service	Communion & Footwashing
April 5 – Easter Sunday (Breakfast @ 8:45 / Service @ 10am)	“Death and Resurrection”	John 20:1-18

**During Lent, Stations of the Cross are available in Sunday School Classroom #1 (on the Education side of the church).** This will be a place to come and meditate and pray during the Lenten season.

**The Lenten Guided Prayer, *Dwelling in Dissonance*, was emailed to the congregation and paper copies are available by the mailboxes at the church.** Each weekly guide has scripture, prayers, meditative reading, and other prayer exercises to use through Lent. **There is a playlist to accompany the Prayer Guides.** To access it, you will need to create a free Spotify account if you do not already have one. Access the playlist at [Dwelling in Dissonance](#). Please see Julie Yoder if you have any questions.

**Maundy Thursday Service:** On Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will celebrate communion together as well as demonstrate our commitment to a servant's life by washing feet. A light meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. with the service following immediately after the meal.

***We invite all believers to come to this service, giving thanks for Christ's life, death, resurrection and the gift of Salvation.***

***We encourage you to prepare your hearts for this time.***

**Our Easter Sunday Celebration on April 5<sup>th</sup> will begin with sharing breakfast together at 8:45 a.m. followed by worshipping together at 10:00 a.m.** (please note gathering time is 8:45 instead of 8:30 this year). No Sunday School classes.



If you are planning to join us for Easter Sunday breakfast, the Food Committee asks you please sign up and note how many are attending from your family – a sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board at the church. *This is only for planning purposes – all are welcome to join us for breakfast Easter Sunday whether you are signed up or not!*

**There are also sign-up sheets for breakfast items if you would like to bring something to share.**

## Higher Education Grants from Maple Grove for 2026-2027 School Year

In an effort to encourage our members to pursue a Christian education that emphasizes the Anabaptist vision, Maple Grove has available a grant program for students enrolling in colleges and seminaries maintaining the Mennonite Anabaptist vision. Copies of Maple Grove's policy and the application form can be accessed from Maple Grove's website by clicking [here](#). There are paper copies available on the literature rack in the foyer or contact Cindy in the church office. **Any interested students should return the application to Maple Grove's Treasurer, Steve Miller, by April 26, 2026.**



### Offering on Sunday – March 8

Attendance: 59

General Fund	\$ 2,570.00
Charity Fund	400.00
Alexis Deuzoumbé Mission	150.00
Total Offering	\$ 3,120.00



### Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale Annual Kick-off Meeting – March 16 @ 6pm

Join us at Kidron Mennonite Church (3987 Kidron Road, Kidron) on Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. We'll be hearing firsthand stories about MCC's work as well as updates on the 2026 Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale & Auction. Light refreshments will be provided.

### Refuge of Hope Spring Banquet – April 14 @ Hartville Kitchen

The Spring Fundraising Banquet for Refuge of Hope is Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, at the Hartville Kitchen with doors opening at 5:30 and a complimentary dinner at 6pm. Join us for a milestone celebration – 25 years of hope and God's faithfulness at work through Refuge of Hope! As part of this celebration, we invite you to contribute to Refuge of Hope. To confirm your attendance and reserve your seat, please RSVP by April 2<sup>nd</sup> at [www.refugeofhope.org](http://www.refugeofhope.org) or call Beth Knox at 330-453-1785.

### Lighthouse Ministries' Annual Fundraising Banquet – April 23 @ Hartville Kitchen

Please join us on Thursday, April 23, at 6:30pm at the Hartville Kitchen for our Annual Fundraising Banquet, an evening centered on the students of Southeast Canton and the inspiring work unfolding through Lighthouse Ministries! Thanks to generous sponsors, there is no cost to attend, but there will be an opportunity to give at the conclusion of the program as we work toward our \$75,000 goal before our fiscal year ends on May 31. Consider arriving a little early or staying a bit afterward, as our student-run businesses will be open both before and after the program! Doors open at 5:45pm. For more details and to reserve your seat visit [www.cantonlighthouse.org/banquet](http://www.cantonlighthouse.org/banquet). If you are unable to attend but would still like to help us reach our goal, please visit [www.cantonlighthouse.org/give](http://www.cantonlighthouse.org/give) to make your donation.

## Ongoing News @ Maple Grove

### Coffee Time & Informal Fellowship @ Church – Sundays @ 9am

Join us Sunday mornings before Sunday School – Everyone is welcome!

If you would like to help with supplying donuts and/or baked goods, please get in touch with Barb Dutcher (for baked goods) or Perry Miller (for donuts). Two dozen donuts and homemade or store-bought baked goods are needed at the church by 9am on Sunday mornings. Thanks for your help!

**Encouragement Cards** - There are encouragement cards placed in every pew so that as the Spirit lays someone on your heart, you can share your thoughts and encouraging words with them. You may place the cards in their mailbox or give directly to them. Extra cards are on the literature rack.

### Receiving of the offering

An offering basket is available at the back of the sanctuary for you to place your offering before the service begins. The basket will be brought to the front of the sanctuary during the offertory music to be blessed during the offering prayer.

You may also place your offering in the basket after the service. Thank you!



### Offering Envelope Numbers

In order to receive a year-end statement of your offerings, you must have an offering number. To obtain an offering number, please contact Kami Sommers. The offering envelopes are designed so you can designate your offering to specific funds. If funds are not designated on the envelope, they are included in the General Fund with the exception of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month, which is Education Sunday and non-designated funds go to the Education Fund.

To include something in the newsletter, please email Cindy Fleming at [secretary@maplegrovenennonite.org](mailto:secretary@maplegrovenennonite.org) by Wednesday each week – thank you!

Church Information: 2121 Smith Kramer St. NE, Hartville, OH 44632 Phone: 330-877-2400

Website: [www.mgmennonite.org](http://www.mgmennonite.org)

Facebook – Maple Grove Mennonite Church Group

(send updates to Jill Liechty or Julie Yoder)

Myrrl Byler: Pastor ([myrrl.byler@gmail.com](mailto:myrrl.byler@gmail.com))

- Office Hours: **Monday-Friday 8am-noon**

*\*Myrrl can be contacted at any time during the week by text, phone or email.*

Cindy Fleming: Church Secretary ([Secretary@maplegrovenennonite.org](mailto:Secretary@maplegrovenennonite.org))

- Office Hours: **Monday-Tuesday & Thursday-Friday – 8am-Noon**

Ministry of Congregational Care: Paul Bontrager, Harold Beachy, Jill Liechty, Myron Weaver

Prayer Chain: Kami Sommers

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES AVAILABLE**

#### **Adult Classes**

Women's Class	Library
Men's Class	Room 9-Hallway
Mixed Intergenerational Class	Room 2-Education Side
Mixed 30's-40's Class	Basement

#### **Children/Youth/Young Adult Classes**

Children's Ministry (up to 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	Rooms 7-8
Youth (Grades 7-12)	Rooms 3-4
Post-High/Young Adults	Fellowship Hall