

## Worship Participants

Worship Leader: Dan Schrock  
Song Leaders: Jenny Hooley, Greg Smucker  
Accompanist: Terri Plank Brenneman  
Offertory: Elisabeth and Rafael Barahona  
Visuals: Elisabeth and Rafael Barahona  
Ushers: Dale and Anita Snyder  
AV Operator: Jason Moshier  
Congregational Chair: Greg Smucker

*Hearing assistance devices are available in the room beside the doors to the sanctuary. Please see the A/V operator if you would like one.*

*We offer childcare during worship after children's time for infants & toddlers. Children under 2 years of age may go to the Cherub Corner room, while 2 and 3 year olds may go to the MYF room.*

Infant Care: Shirley Dick, Jennifer Schrock, Andrea Bontrager Yoder  
Toddler Care: Alisha Snyder, Laverne Nafziger

## Fellowship Time

After today's service, please enjoy a time of fellowship with each other in the sanctuary. Coffee will be served with the meal that follows. Please consider these conversation questions during this time:

- What do you enjoy doing in your free time?
- What drew you to Berkey?
- What was a highlight from your week?

*A recording of this service is available in the office.  
If you are visiting, be sure to sign up for our weekly email newsletter!  
[www.berkeyavenue.org/newsletter](http://www.berkeyavenue.org/newsletter)*



**Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship**  
Ministers: Marilyn Rudy-Froese, Dan Schrock  
Phone: (574) 534-2398 E-mail: [office@berkeyavenue.org](mailto:office@berkeyavenue.org)  
[www.berkeyavenue.org](http://www.berkeyavenue.org) [www.facebook.com/berkeyavenue](http://www.facebook.com/berkeyavenue)

June 18, 2017

## Extending the Table: We all belong

Practicing God's Presence at the Table

*Focus statement:* Hospitality takes intention; it is a spiritual practice of prayer, listening, and staying grounded in truth, drawing on the well of God's love.

### Gathering in Praise

Songs:  
*God of the Bible* green, 27  
*For the beauty of the earth* blue, 89  
Call to Worship and Prayer  
Song: *Lord Jesus, you shall be my song* green, 14

### Hearing God's Word

Song: *Will the Children?* insert  
Children's Time Vanessa Adcock, Patty Lehman  
Offering  
Song: *I am the God that leads* insert  
Scripture Reading: Mark 12:28-34  
Sermon: "Practicing God's Presence at the Table" Marilyn Rudy-Froese

### Responding

Song: *There's a wideness in God's mercy* blue, 145  
Congregational Sharing and Prayer Dan Schrock

### Litany of Release and Blessing for Marilyn Rudy-Froese

Leader: Marilyn, today we celebrate the years you have served at Berkey Avenue as our pastor. Together we have journeyed as a people of God. We have worshipped and prayed together, shared hopes and sorrows with one another, grown and struggled, laughed and loved, given and received.

**Congregation: Your leadership has been a gift of God's grace. We say good-bye with a mixture of gratitude and sadness for this rich time now ending.**

L: You have become an important part of our ongoing story and we yours. We remember and celebrate the gift you have been to this congregation.

**C: You have been both a leader and a servant in your ministry here at Berkey. Thank you for your years of dedication and service.**

Dan: Marilyn, you have been a gifted and valued part of our pastoral team. I have appreciated your passion for excellence in ministry, your uncanny ability to know what to do in almost every situation, and your inner strength and resilience. You have immeasurably enhanced this congregation's well-being. May God's blessing be upon you and the congregations that will be fortunate enough to employ you in the future.

Marilyn: Dan, it has been a joy and a blessing to work together. I have appreciated your attention to detail, your knowledge of this congregation, and the wisdom and spiritual depth with which you approach ministry. We bring complementary gifts to ministry; it has been good to grow and deepen my ministry on this team. May your ongoing ministry here at Berkey continue to be fruitful and life-giving for both you and this congregation as you minister in Christ's name.

L: Marilyn, you came to us offering your Spirit-given gifts, your skills, and the depth and breadth of your experience as a fellow follower of Christ. Now our paths are separating and our footsteps will take us in new directions, but we all still walk towards Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. So as a congregation we must allow you to step off this path and travel your new one.

**C: Marilyn, with God's help, we release you as our pastor here at Berkey. We will no longer look to you to provide the pastoral ministry we seek. We ask God's blessing on your future ministry. We offer our support and encouragement to you as your ministry unfolds in a new setting.**

L: Now we ask you, Marilyn, to release this congregation from its loyalty to you as pastor. Do you release us from turning to you and depending on you to provide the pastoral ministries we seek?

Marilyn: I do, with the help of God. As of today, our paths part. We have travelled together in faith and trust looking out for each other and for Christ on the way. It has been a joy to have had the opportunity to minister with you. Thank you for inviting me into the sacred spaces of your lives. Thank you for entrusting me with the responsibility and privilege of being your pastor. Now the space between us is one of friendship. I will no longer look to you as the persons to whom I am responsible as pastor.

L: While your ministry here has ended, the mark you have made on this congregation will remain. Thank you. Let us join together in a prayer of blessing, using the words of Ephesians.

**C: We pray that, according to the riches of God's glory, you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through God's Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your heart through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. We pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to God who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.**

Song: Grace and peace to you

insert

### **Transition to Fellowship**

Welcome & Introduction of Visitors

*(Please pass the friendship registers.)*

Announcements

Song: Go, my friends, in grace

purple, 57

Sending