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God's mission through the Church Week 3: the Church, reconciled

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, worship participants met through Zoom or in small groups for Backyard Worship.

Gathering as God's People

Greeting

Centering

Land acknowledgement

Call to Worship

God invites us all on a journey. (arms crossed like an "x" close to chest) In love, God gathers us. (palms cupped and held close together) For love, God forms us. (arms crossed like an "x" close to chest) To love, God reconciles us.

(hands making motion of molding clay, like making a snowball) With love, God sends us. (arms crossed like an "x" close to chest) God, we ask for your blessing (fingers of both hands intertwined) as we come before you in worship.

(arms crossed like an "x" close to chest)

Amen.

Show and Tell: Sharing about something from your household that comes from a far-away place.

Hearing God's Word

Story: "Jacob and Esau: Genesis 25:27-34; 27:1-28; 32:1-33:17," [from Shine On: A Story Bible (Harrisonburg, VA: MennoMedia, 2014), 34]

First Scripture Reading: Matthew 9:9-13

Second Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Third Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 2:4-12

Responding

Discussion

Sharing our Testimonies and Petitions

Prayers of the People

Sending to Serve

Offering our time, attention, or talents: Silent Reflection

Offering prayer: Lord, we can only offer what you already have freely given. Take what we have, bless it, break it, and make it good news for the multitudes. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Benediction:

God invites us all on a journey.

In love, God gathers us.

For love, God forms us.

To love, God reconciles us.

With love. God sends us.

And so . . .

May the peace of the Christ Jesus go with you,

wherever he may send you.

May he guide you through the wilderness.

May he protect you through the storm.

May he bring you home rejoicing

at the wonders he has shown you.

May he bring you home rejoicing

once again into our midst.

In the name of Jesus, go in peace.

Amen.