

**Cover Art:** *Christ Overturns the Tables of the Moneylenders*, by Peter Koenig, 2015. Koenig is a Catholic artist whose goal in life is “to paint the drama, romance and poetry of the sacred book.” In this modern representation of the cleansing of the temple, Jesus holds a whip as he drives away the sheep being sold for sacrifices. The doves have been released and are chaotically flying around above the people, whose expressions are mixtures of shock, horror, irritation, and anger. Jesus has turned over the tables and money is scattering all around the moneylenders. This painting inspires viewers to reconsider what it means to be a church in today’s society. Should the church be a place of profit (a den of thieves) or should it use its resources for the good of people? Should it exploit the needy or should it help them? Should the church be an exploitative economic institution or one devoted to alleviating the suffering of all oppressed peoples?

Attribution: Koenig, Peter. *Christ Overturns the Tables of the Moneylenders*, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58520> [retrieved February 29, 2024]. Original source: Peter Winfried (Canisius) Koenig, <https://www.pwkoenig.co.uk/>.



*Jesus among us—  
showing us justice*

# WEST SWAMP MENNONITE CHURCH

*Third Sunday of Lent*

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**March 3, 2024**

**10:30 A.M.**

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**Preludes**                      Song of Peace ~ *Michael Shea*  
Oh, Rest in the Lord ~ *Felix Mendelssohn*  
Psalm 19 ~ *arr. Hal H. Hopson*

## **We Gather around the Word**

Opening Song                      God welcomes all

Welcome & Prayer

Songs of Praise                      How great thou art  
God of wonders  
The Lord's Prayer (It's yours)

Scripture                              Psalm 19

Worship Music                      Seek Ye First                      *Chimin' In*

Offering                              Praise the One who Breaks the Darkness ~ *A. L. Page*  
—*My Coins Count Collection*

## **We Hear God's Word**

Scripture                              John 2:13-22

Sermon                              Jesus among us: Showing us justice      *Pastor Michael*

## **We Respond to the Word**

Prayer of Confession                      Screen  
Song                              I bind my heart this tide                      #411

Sharing & Prayer

Sending Song                      There is more love somewhere  
Benediction

Postlude                              Let Justice Flow Down ~ *Douglas Romanov*

## **This Sunday**

**Worship Leader:** Deb Stevenback  
**Greeter:** Charlie Spiess, Randy Rush  
**Organist:** Joan Hallman  
**Musician:** Brenda Landt, Lynne Rush  
**Videographer:** Mark Kemmerer  
**Visual Technicians:** Marsha High, Emily Rush  
**Sound Technicians:** Glenn High, Rod Rush, Tim Scheetz

## **Sunday School Classes for Winter Quarter**

*Find Your People* Video Series: 9:30 am, Room 203.

How to Read the Hebrew Bible: 8:45 am, Room 104 or join us through Zoom.

### **West Swamp Mennonite Church**

2501 Allentown Road, Quakertown, PA 18951

215-536-7468

E-Mail: westswamp1@verizon.net

Website: www.westswamp.org

**Pastor:** Michael Howes

717-419-4228, howes.michael@gmail.com

### **Commissions & Deacons:**

**Ministry Team,** Carl Raub

**Community,** Nancy Jacobs

**Discipleship (DISCO),** Katie Mood

**Mission,** Glenn High

**Stewardship,** Alex Parzych

**Worship,** Joan Hallman

**Church Secretary:** Lynne Rush

**Treasurer:** Pat Bevan

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Tomorrow, members of the Central Plains Mennonite Conference will begin a week-long Just Peace Pilgrimage, organized by Mennonite Mission Network. Pray for open minds and hearts as participants focus on the struggle for civil rights in Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi, and how Jesus is calling his followers to respond.



A large rectangular area with horizontal lines for writing prayer requests.

*Continue to pray for those in our congregation who are experiencing illness and ongoing medical treatment.*

**Welcome to West Swamp Mennonite Church**

*March 3, 2024*

*Discovering together how to follow Jesus and make our community and world a better place*

**Calendar**

- Feb. 27, 7 pm DISCO
- Feb. 28, 6:30 pm Worship Commission
- Mar. 3, 9:30 am Prayer Breakfast
- Mar. 3, 8 am Knotting & Quilting
- Mar. 5, 7 pm Community Commission
- Mar. 12, 8 am Knotting & Quilting
- Mar. 12, 7 pm Mission Commission
- Mar. 13, 6:30 pm Chimin' In Practice
- Mar. 13, 7:15 pm Choir Practice
- Mar. 17, 12 pm Sunday Lunch Bunch
- Mar. 21, 12 pm Senior Luncheon

### ~ What's Happening at West Swamp ~

Mission Commission is currently collecting items for **MCC Relief Kits**. Donate whole kits or individual items. A complete list of items is in the Feb/Mar newsletter.

**My Coins Count** collection will take place during the offering to-day through Easter. This year's proceeds will go toward MCC's many water projects.

**Sunday Lunch Bunch:** Join the group for food and fellowship after the worship service on **Mar. 17**. March location is the Quakertown Diner.

**Mark your calendar** to come and spring clean the sanctuary on Saturday, Mar. 16, from 8 am-12 pm. Then more spring cleaning on Apr. 6 to tackle cleaning/sorting out the Sunday school rooms in the basement. Come out and have some fun.

The next **Senior Luncheon** is **Mar. 21** at 12 pm. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Room. All those 60+ are welcome.

**Still need a directory update?** Let Lynne know. (I don't want to print out more than are needed.) If you are behind in your updates, please give your directory to the church secretary to update. And of course, the secretary is willing to do updates for anyone.

**Knotting Project Need:** Here is an at-home task for someone to do to keep the Knotting Project running smoothly—matching up tops with backing material. 90-year old Ruth, who had been doing this for the knotters, passed away on Wednesday. If you know of anyone who would like to take this on (including yourself!), please contact the church secretary. Fabric will be provided. The other possibility is doing it here at church as a once a month group project.

**Puzzles:** If you like working puzzles, there is a box in the library of puzzles to share. Feel free to take some or add some. Every now and then, we'll take them to Care & Share and start on a fresh batch.

### ~ What's Happening in the Community ~

All Mosaic congregations are invited to pray for Mosaic's plans to celebrate Pentecost **together / juntos / bersama**. As we look forward to celebrating the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost this year, we will move from gathering virtually (which served us well during the covid pandemic) to a relationship-focused interchange of leaders and congregations across the Conference on Pentecost. Pray for the Holy Spirit to move each congregations to build meaningful relationships with each other.

MCC will operate its mobile meat canner at the **MCC Material Resource Center** in Souderton from **March 25-27** to process 24,000 pounds of pork to send to Cuba and Ukraine. **100 volunteers are required daily**, working a two to six-hour shift (6AM-7PM) to fill and label cans and prepare boxes. Refreshments provided. Tax-deductible donations may be made payable to "MCC Canner Project" and mailed to MCC Material Resource Center, 737 Hagey Center Drive, Unit C, Souderton, PA 18964. To volunteer, contact the MCC Material Resource Center at 267-203-8074.

**2024 Summer Camp registration at Camp Men-O-Lan is open!** Find online registration at [menolan.org](http://menolan.org) under Summer Camp or call Beth at 215-679-5144 x321 for details and more information.

#### Church Office Hours

Pastor Michael: Tuesday-Thursday, 9-4. Pastor Michael will attend a pastor's retreat on Monday.

Lynne: Monday & Tuesday, 8:30-1:30. Lynne will be on vacation Mar. 6-12.