

Jonah 4:

But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord, “Isn’t this what I said, Lord, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. Now, Lord, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

But the Lord replied, “Is it right for you to be angry?”

Jonah went out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city. Then the Lord God provided a gourd and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the gourd. But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the gourd so that it withered. When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah’s head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, “It would be better for me to die than to live.”

But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the gourd?”

“It is,” he said. “And I’m so angry I wish I were dead.”

But the Lord said, “You have been concerned about this gourd, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. And should I not have concern for the great city Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?”

Cover Art: *Jonah and the Gourd Vine*, Jack Baumgartner, 1999.



Jonah 4: Gracious and Compassionate

WEST SWAMP MENNONITE CHURCH

Sunday Worship

October 27, 2024

10:30 A.M.

Prelude In the Presence of Jehovah ~ *arr. Carol Tornquist*
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty *with*
O Worship the King ~ *arr. Erinn Jarrell Schwartz*
Grace Grater Than Our Sin ~ *Daniel Towner*

We Gather around the Word

Opening Song God welcomes all

Welcome & Prayer

Songs of Praise I sing the mighty power #46
All because of Jesus
What mercy and divine compassion #524

We Hear God's Word

Scripture Hebrews 7:23-28

Offering El Shaddai ~ *arr. Ken Barker*

Worship Music Draw the circle *Choir*

Scripture Jonah 4

Sermon Gracious and Compassionate *Pastor Michael*

We Respond to the Word

Song of Response There's a wideness in God's mercy #145

Sharing & Prayer

Sending Song There is more love somewhere

Benediction

Postlude Awesome God ~ *arr. Carol Tornquist*

This Sunday

Worship Leader: Deb Stevenback
Greeter: Carl & Cindy Raub
Pianist: Joan Hallman
Musicians: Brenda Landt, Lynne Rush
Videographer: Mark Kemmerer
Visual Technicians: Marsha High, Emily Rush
Sound Technicians: Carl Raub, Rod Rush, Tim Scheetz

Sunday School Classes for Fall Quarter

The TLC Class (Topics, Learning and Conversation) *When You Pray—A Study of 6 Prayers in the Bible*, 9:30 am.

Bible Project—Genesis: 8:45 am, Room 104 or join us through Zoom.

West Swamp Mennonite Church

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215-536-7468

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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: Today, Mennonite Mission Network's Mennonite Voluntary Service participants from Arizona, California and Colorado are concluding their five-day fall retreat in Salt Lake City, Utah. Pray that they may return to their learning and service placements inspired and energized by the renewal they experienced in worshipping together and in sharing their experiences.



Notes:

Welcome to West Swamp Mennonite Church

October 27, 2024

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

Calendar

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|-----------------|----------------------|
| Oct. 29, 8 am | Knotting & Quilting |
| Oct. 29, 7 pm | Community Commission |
| Nov. 5, 8 am | Knotting & Quilting |
| Nov. 6, 6:30 pm | Chimin' In practice |
| Nov. 6, 7:15 pm | Choir practice |
| Nov. 12, 7 pm | Mission Commission |

~ *What's Happening at West Swamp* ~

Coin Collection for Ripple & Crossroads: Mission Commission will be collecting coins for the next few months. There are containers for your coins in the back of the sanctuary and by the elevator (2nd floor). Thank you for your donations!

As communities in the southeastern United States work to recover and rebuild from a series of devastating hurricanes in 2024, Everence® is committing a total of \$100,000 to support relief efforts. This includes an immediate contribution of \$50,000 to Mennonite Disaster Service and another \$50,000 to kick off **Everence Helps: Hurricane Relief, a matching gift initiative** aimed at bolstering hurricane recovery efforts. From now to Dec. 31, Everence will match donations made to Everence Foundation dollar-for-dollar – up to \$50,000 – to enhance the charitable impact of contributions aimed at helping survivors restore their homes, revitalize their communities, and rebuild their futures. Find more info on the Everence website. (Note: Giving through Everence at this time doubles your donation, rather than giving directly to MDS.)

~ *What's Happening in the Community* ~

All Mosaic Conference congregations are invited to pray for **Bethel Worship and Teaching Center** (Levittown, PA), who has been affirmed as a Mosaic member and will be welcomed at Assembly. Bethel is a growing Haitian immigrant congregation that seeks to purchase the building they currently occupy. They ask for prayers for the spiritual well being of their congregation, God's wisdom for their leaders, and for their hoped-for building acquisition.

Zion Mennonite Church and other Souderton Area Churches invite you to attend an **Election Eve, Holy Communion, and Prayer Service** on Monday, Nov. 4 at 7 pm at Zion Mennonite Church, Souderton. Let's gather with our neighbors as we pray for our nation.

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) volunteers are in western North Carolina responding to the impacts of Hurricane Helene with equipment to move debris, mud, and downed trees. MDS is accepting donations for the recovery effort. Please pray for the people impacted by the hurricane and the volunteers as they respond. Visit [MDS.org](https://www.mds.org) to see the latest volunteer needs or to make a donation. Check donations can be mailed to Mennonite Disaster Service, 583 Airport Road, Lititz, PA 17543. Write "Hurricane Helene" on the memo line.

Church Office Hours

Pastor Michael: Monday-Thursday, 9-4.

Lynne: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday, 8:30-1:30.