

Morning Worship
Sunday, August 22, 2010

Follow Jesus

Prelude Karen Wiebe
Call to Worship #662
Prayer
*I Sing the Mighty power of God Hymn 46
Special Music Women's Trio
Emm Hiebert, Karen Wiebe, and Barb Thimm

Mature in Faith

Reading from "Remember the Future" by Jake W. Elias
Doug Casey as Onesimus & Mike Goossen as Philemon
Scripture: Philemon
Sermon: **USEFUL** (for radical social change) Gail Cross

Carry the Good News

*O Bless the Lord, my Soul Hymn 600
Based on Psalm 103
Offering: Bethel College
Prayer of Dedication
Sharing
Prayer
*Jesus Shall Reign Hymn 319
Sending
*Song of Hope [Canto de Esperanza]
Postlude
**Those that are able please stand.*

The purpose of **F**irst **M**ennonite **C**hurch is to:

Follow Jesus
Mature in faith
Carry the Good News

Sunday School, Worship, and all our church activities equip and strengthen us to fulfill that purpose.

We invite members, friends, and visitors to join us on the journey!

9:15-9:40 – Snacks & conversation in Fellowship Hall

9:40-10:20 – Sunday School

PreK-5th Grade - Room 30

Senior Youth – Room 13

Junior Youth – Room 11

Adult Classes – Room 22, Room 35, Fellowship Hall

Songs written by Isaac Watts in our Hymnal: Create my Soul anew, #3; Come, we that Love the Lord, #14; Before Jehovah's awful throne, #18; Lord of the worlds above, #39; I sing the mighty power of God, #46; From all that dwell below the skies, #49; Great God, how infinite art thou!, #82; How wondrous great, #126; I'll praise my Maker, #166; Alas, and did my Savior bleed? #256; When I survey the wondrous cross, #259 & 260; Lord, I have made thy word, #317; Joy to the world, #318; Jesus shall reign, #319; O God, our help in ages past, #328; Teach me the measure of my days, #485; My Redeemer and my Lord, #547; My Shepherd will supply my need, #589; O Bless the Lord, my soul, #600; This is the day the Lord has made, #642

The text is by Isaac Watts (1674-1748), the father of English Hymnody. Refusing an offer to be educated at Oxford, for which he would have had to become Anglican, Watts was educated for eight years at the nonconformist academy at Stoke Newington. He was called to be a pastor of Mark Lane Independent Chapel in London (1701). Shortly after arriving, Watts became quite ill and remained a semi-invalid for the remainder of his life. Accepting the invitation of parishioner, Sir Thomas Abney, to spend a week at his country house, Watts stayed thirty-six years. He was noted as a writer of books on grammar, pedagogy, ethics, psychology, three volumes of sermons, twenty-nine treatises on theology--fifty-two works in all—plus over six hundred hymns.

Watts was fifteen when he wrote his first hymn. This began a musical revolution in Reformed worship. Hymns of human composition were thus introduced to the Anglican and Dissenting Churches of England. Watts was not the first to write hymns, but he was the first to have a method. Watts believe our songs are a human offering of praise to God. Therefore the words should be our own. The psalms if sung should be Christianized and modernized. Thus he wrote two types of hymns: those of human composition and those loosely based on psalms. Monuments to Watts stand in Abney Park, in South Hampton Park, and in Westminster Abbey. There is also a memorial wall and a museum on the site of his birthplace.

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