

Laurel Street Mennonite Church

September 3, 2023

Music Leaders: Pastor Steve Crane
Worship Leader & Discussion facilitator: Angela Dietzel

9:30-10:15 am Breakfast

***Explore Stations:** After (or while) you enjoy your breakfast,
join together to explore today's theme through interactive stations.*

10:30 am Worship

Gathering

Singing: Demos Gracias/Let's Be Thankful
Announcements and Celebrations

Singing: Spirit Song
Holy, Holy, Holy (VT 76)

Connect

Welcome & Table Connections

Call to Worship and Prayer

One: Jesus says we must be born from above.

Many: God promises to give us a new heart!

One: God will remove our heart of stone and give us a heart of flesh,

Many: so that we might give our hearts to Jesus.

One: Jesus says we must be born of the Spirit.

Many: God promises to give us a new spirit!

One: God will put the divine spirit within us,

Many: so that we can follow the way of God.

One: Jesus says that God loves the world,

Many: that God is saving the world.

One: So we come now to worship our God,

All: for we are God's people.

Encounter

Scripture Reading: John 3:1-21 Readers Theater

Table Group discussion

The questions about the Bible story move from simple and general to more complex. Choose one or more questions based on the age and developmental level of the people in the group. Everyone could answer the same question, or you could pose different questions to different people.

What do you like best about the story and why?

Which part of the story do you think is the most important? Why?

I wonder what it means to be born "of water and spirit."

I wonder what questions you would ask Jesus.

When have you noticed God at work in the world? What gets in the way of experiencing or noticing God's presence?

In this story, Jesus used metaphors which can sometimes be difficult to understand. How would you "translate" Jesus' message using your own words?

Share

Offering & Singing: Spirit Song

Sharing and Prayer

Benediction