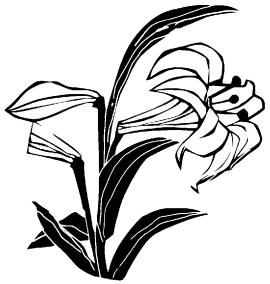


Extending the Table, Eastertide 2019

Eastertide is the season of fifty days of feasting that extends from Easter through Pentecost, longer than the forty day fast of Lent that came before. The stories of the risen Christ (often involving eating) are at the center of the Eastertide texts, with the followers of Jesus trying to make sense of their strange new reality - the Jesus they knew in a new form they don't yet understand.

We, too, find ourselves in a strange new time -- the community and worship we know in a space that is unfolding. We want to be intentional about creating spaces of welcome and nurturing people to live into God's radical hospitality both within and outside our walls. Our theme for the season is Extending the Table. As we ground our hospitality work in the biblical stories of the risen Christ, we will hear preachers from both within and outside of the congregation, challenging us to take seriously the invitation to extend the Good News of welcome to all.



This is also a season full of rituals. We will dedicate babies, bless trees and bicycles, “mug” youth, and welcome new members. The season will culminate with Pentecost, when we will celebrate the unpredictable movement of the Holy Spirit and recommit ourselves to each other and to Christ in a service of recovenanting. June 9 will also be a service of dedication for the new worship space. We will unveil a new banner and rejoice in the completion (or near-completion) of our building project!

Our children's times during this season will focus on some of the visual symbols in our building that remind us who we have been and who we are becoming.

Small groups will do most of the worship leading during this season and second hour electives will be offered: Exploring Church Rituals, Death Has Lost Its Sting, Quiet Centering Time, and Some Assembly Required, (See electives half-sheet for fuller descriptions)



	lectionary texts - year C	Worship leader and Preacher	Theme	Additional celebrations
April 28	John 20:19-31	WL: Jon Zirkle P: Randy Roth	Making space for doubt	Nafziger-Peterson Parent-Child dedication Senior Breakfast/ GC Commencement
May 5	John 21:1-19	WL: Cantaloupe P: Aaron Sawatsky- Kingsley	Tree planting and tending our spaces	Planting trees and tree blessing (During the service. Wear appropriate shoes for tree planting)
May 12	Psalms 23 John 10:22-30	WL: Alpha P: no preacher	We shall dwell in the house of the Lord	Moving into the new space! (service begins in the current worship space) Bicycle blessing (after second hour)
May 19	Leviticus 19:33-34	WL: Derailed P: Osee Tshiwape	Immigration and welcome	Anja Kenagy covenanting
May 26	John 14:23-29	WL: Cashew P: Ted Koontz	Service as a form of Hospitality	
June 2	John 17:20-26	WL: Auklets P: Peter and Mary Graber	Anabaptist Disabilities Network	2% offering, Mary and Peter from Anabaptist Disabilities Network MYF "mugging"
June 9	Acts 2:1-21 John 14:8-17, (25- 27)	WL: Anna Yoder Schlabach P: Lora Naziger	The Holy Spirit at work!	Pentecost, Recovenanting, Communion, Fellowship meal, Building Dedication



