

Assembly Mennonite Church  
Worship for Cluster Groups  
September 20, 2020

**“Becoming a people of God:  
We can choose to follow God  
even amidst empire”**



## Gathering

Call to Worship

Come, rejoice, for we have been called!  
The God who created us, who poured us full of love,  
Who blessed, us, and called us by name,  
Is inviting us on a journey to become a people of God  
Let us worship together  
Thanks be to God!

*Be Still and Know*

Peace Light – *Where did we see peacemaking this week?*

*Grant us courage to build peace.*

*Grant us love to share our light.*

*Grant us hope that peace can keep shining.*

***Grant us strength to use our power for good. Amen.***

## Offering

Great and loving God: You have given us Your first and Your best.  
We wish to follow in Your way, and we know that these gifts are one  
way to start. Deepen our love. Grow in us grace and generosity so that  
these gifts become more of our first and more of our best.  
Make us also good stewards of the rest we have kept for ourselves.  
Receive these gifts and use them to speed the coming of Your Reign.  
Amen.

## Hearing the Word

Looking Inward

First Reading – Joseph’s Rise to Power (Genesis 39 & 41)

Second Reading – *Rosie Revere, Engineer*, by Andrea Beaty

Action of Response

Third Reading – “Holy Intrusion: The Power of Dreams in the Bible,”  
by Walter Brueggemann (*The Christian Century*, June 28, 2005)

## Responding to the Word

Looking Outward

Confession

*God of Abraham and Sara, Hagar, Ishmael, Isaac,  
God of Jacob and Esau, Of Joseph and all his brothers--  
You know each of us  
as closely as you knew each person in the stories we are telling.  
You know that, like them,  
we often think that we know best  
we do hurtful things because we are jealous  
we try to trick people for our benefit  
we make choices that hurt other people  
and we don’t use our power and privilege to help others.  
When we think of times when we have acted  
like the characters in these stories we feel squirmy,  
we feel embarrassed, we feel guilty, we are sorry.  
God, wrap us up in your blanket of forgiveness  
and guide us to walk in your way. Amen.*

Reflecting - How does what we have heard inform how we think about  
what it means to be God’s people now?

## Sharing Joys & Concerns

God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

## Sending

*Go Now in Peace*

Extinguishing the Peace Light

*The light that was in one place at one time  
is now in all places at all times.*

Benediction

*We have met in the presence of God,  
Sustained by an old, old promise  
Now, as you go from this place,  
You are invited, like Abraham and Sarah  
To walk in the way of love and light.  
Go in peace.*