

Focus Statement: *Seeking: Who will you listen to?* Seeking the fruit of the garden, Adam and Eve allow the snake’s manipulative voice to become louder than God’s voice. In the wilderness, Jesus defies the deception of the tempter by listening intuitively—to God, to his inner moral compass, to the teachings of his faith. Whose voices—and what messages—take up too much space in your head? Who will you listen to?

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Offering and Offertory

Centering Call

Listen!

There is hope to be found here.

Listen!

God calls you by name here.

Listen!

There is love that abides here.

This world is full of chatter, so may we do our best to listen.

God is speaking.

We are here to worship God.

Amen.

Gathering Song *Listen, God is Calling* VT 765

Poem “Who Will You Listen To?” By Rev. Sarah Speed

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God,

Too often we treat your Word like a radio station—something we can tune in and out of when it’s convenient. Our minds are full of ads, emails, news updates, and notifications.

In the midst of this clutter, we tend to gravitate toward the voices that think like us—easily ignoring the voices being silenced, easily ignoring your voice. Forgive us for failing to listen. Forgive us for getting caught in distractions.

Forgive us for forgetting what your voice sounds like. Drain the distractions from our minds and help us turn once again toward you.

With earnest hearts we pray, amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Songs *I Sought the Lord* VT 161
 Your Love is Washing Over Me VT 166

Scripture Genesis 2: 15-17, 3:1-7
 Matthew 4: 1-11

Children’s Time *Let the children come to me*

Sermon “It Is Also Written...”
 Truth, Timing, and Temptations

Response: Affirmation of Faith

In a world full of noise,
we believe that God is speaking.

In a world full of chaos,
we believe that God is singing.

In a world full of temptation,
we believe that God is healing.

Church, who will you listen to?

We will listen to God—our Creator, Friend, and Guide.

Church, what will you listen for?

**We will listen for water in the desert,
for the wind of the Spirit,
for the laughter of children,
for the sound of open doors,
and for God’s voice, who calls us beloved.**

Congregational Prayer

Sending Song *The Lord Lift You Up* VT 832

Benediction



seeking:
*Who will you
listen to?*

Participants:

Worship Leader
Music Leader
Prelude and Offertory
Scripture Reading
Children's Time
Poem Reading

Joyce Driver
Nathan Pauls
Peggy Wysong
Kevin & Jenna Prah
Sonya Overman
Bethany Boese, Caleb Longenecker
Joyce Driver
Naomi Yoder
Chris Holsopple Kauffman
Hannah Bachman
Dean Eshleman
Twila Eshleman

Sermon
Congregational Prayer
Worship Tech

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

East Goshen Mennonite Church
February 26, 2023
10:30 a.m.

Liturgies, poems, prayers by Rev. Sarah A. Speed

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Website Naomi referenced: <https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/ignatian-prayer/the-examen/how-can-i-pray/>