

Focus Statement: *Evangelical* - The word "Evangelical" in the USA has become associated with a certain brand of politicized American Christianity. How do we who seek to respond to the "Good News" of Jesus deal with that "baggage?" What can we (re)claim about the importance of receiving and sharing the "glad tidings" of the way of Christ when "evangelical" seems to be such a weighty word?

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Song *Longing for Light* VT715

Announcements

Call to Worship and Prayer

One: O come, faithful God, who empowers the weak, who encourages the fearful, who enlightens the blind,

**ALL: who intones the deaf,
who energizes the lame,
who emancipates the speechless,
who enriches the poor,
who invigorates the dead;**

One: O come, faithful God, come and enable us, right now,
to worship you and work for your Kingdom, filled with your strength,

**All: your hope, your vision, your melody,
your motivation, your Word,
your inheritance, your Life!**

One: All this we pray,

**ALL: through him who came to be our Savior,
who lives to be our Lord,
who will return and fully make all things new;
In Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

Singing *For the Healing of the Nations* VT705
 Beauty for Brokenness VT712
 I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table VT801

Offering and Offertory

Children's Time *Let the children come to me* VT 512

Scripture Mark 1:14-17
 Matthew 28:18-20

Message Are We E/evangelical?

Response Time

Congregational Prayer

Sending Song *Move in our Midst* VT 827

Sending Words

“True evangelical faith is of such a nature that it cannot lay dormant; but spreads itself out in all kinds of righteousness and fruits of love; dies to flesh and blood; destroys all forbidden lusts and desires; seeks, serves and fears God in its inmost soul; clothes the naked; feeds the hungry; comforts the sorrowful; shelters the destitute; aids and consoles the sad; does good to those who do it harm; serves those who harm it; prays for those that persecute it; teaches, admonishes and judges us with the Word of God; seeks those who are lost; binds up what is wounded; heals the sick and saves what is strong; becomes all things to all people.

The persecution, suffering and anguish that come to it for the sake of the truth of Christ, have become a glorious joy and comfort to it.” VT #921 (adapted from Menno Simons)

Participants:

Prelude and Offertory	Sheila Graber
Worship Leader	Joyce Driver
Music Leader	Brody Thomas
Scripture Reader	Fred Driver
Children’s Time	April Zehr
Message	Naomi Yoder
Congregational Prayer	Merle Hostetler
Worship Tech	Tony Janzen
	Silas Immanuel
	Tim Yoder
	Roger Mertz
Ushers	Gary Miller
	Amos Hostetler
	Arlen Welty



Bring Your Baggage

East Goshen Mennonite Church

October 22, 2023

10:30 a.m.

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