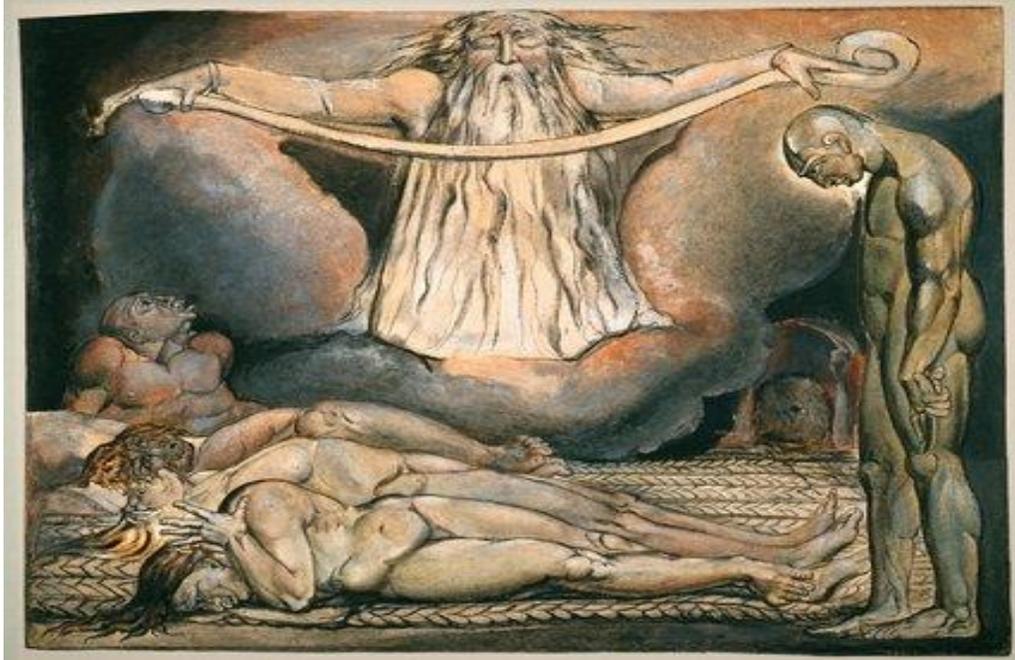


MANHATTAN MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP



Eternity Sunday

¹ *House of Death* by William Blake

WELCOME

CALL to WORSHIP

We enter rhythms and movements, seasons and circumstances.

The completion of one rhythm gives way to a new rhythm.

One season transitions into another.

Many listen to the music

Yet few catch the importance of the silence between the notes.

The moments of silence in the song is also the song.

A pause in poetry is also the poem.

Let us dwell in the uncomfortable mystery,

The place between life and death and new life.

Let us worship in the Mystery.

(Reflective pause)

CALL to DISCIPLESHIP

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?”

– Gospel of Matthew 16:24-26

SONG

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Guide us, O God, by your Word, and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Revelation 6:1-8 (NRSV)

Rejoice Then I saw the Lamb open one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures call out, as with a voice of thunder, “Come!” I looked, and there was a white horse! Its rider had a bow; a crown was given to him, and he came out conquering and to conquer.

When he opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature call out, “Come!” And out came another horse, bright red; its rider was permitted to take peace from the earth, so that people would slaughter one another; and he was given a great sword.

When he opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature call out, “Come!” I looked, and there was a black horse! Its rider held a pair of scales in his hand, and I heard what seemed to be a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, “A quart of wheat for a day’s pay, and three quarts of barley for a day’s pay, but do not damage the olive oil and the wine!”

When he opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature call out, “Come!” I looked and there was a pale green horse! Its rider’s name was Death, and Hades followed with him; they were given authority over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, famine, and pestilence, and by the wild animals of the earth.

ETERNITY SUNDAY (also called *Totensonntag*)

Eternity Sunday falls on the last Sunday of the church year as a memorial for those who have died during the preceding twelve months. It is rooted in the German Protestant tradition and is akin All Souls Day or the Mexican holiday Dia de Muertos (Day of the Dead).

REMEMBERING & RELEASING

BREAKOUT ROOMS

What provokes peace in you?

OFFERING

INTROS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS & CONCERNS

Holy One, hear our prayer

COMMON PRAYER²

Holy One: Your kindom come. Your will be done. On earth as it is in heaven. Nourish us with bread that sustains body and soul. Transform us into a forgiven and forgiving people, a loving and beloved community; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, both personal and systemic. For yours is the kindom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

SONG

BLESSING

We go into the darkness
because the light only illuminates so much of the cosmos.
In the rich darkness we discover the fabric of eternity.
In the fullness of Christ's peace, we go. Amen.

² *Kindom* is a gender-inclusive term for God's reign (and beloved community). At MMF, we believe God has many pronouns.