

Hello!

Welcome, friends, to this musical collaboration between Atlanta Mennonite Fellowship, Berea Mennonite Church, Chapel Hill Mennonite Fellowship, Faith Mennonite Church, Manhattan Mennonite Fellowship, Mennonite Congregation of Boston, Milwaukee Mennonite Church, and Saint Paul Mennonite Fellowship!

You are invited to participate in the creation of three songs for our upcoming joint service on April 18, and are welcome to chime in on one, two or all — whatever makes your heart happy. Below are details about the songs we'll sing, and how to record. In the following Google Drive folder, you will find all materials that you should need—Guide Tracks of each song to record with, sheet music from Voices Together, and directions for recording (found in this document, below): <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1zTNJU5csUBmiMBEf6lrpaYuvNIm35ci>.

The deadline for submitting your recordings is Monday, April 12, but the earlier the better!

Please let me know if you have any questions, or need any tech help. My information is below. I look forward to “singing” with you!

Be well,

Stephanie Hollenberg
Alternative Service Coordinator of the Mennonite Congregation of Boston
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VT #2: Uyai mose / Come, all you people

NOTES: There are three voice parts in this song: Low Voice (what has been described as a “growl”), Middle Voice (harmony), and High Voice (Melody). If you play djembe or other percussion, we welcome your beats, too! If you have questions about the pronunciation of the Zimbabwean, please refer to the video in the Google Drive folder.

While we do need adult voices on this offering, **kiddos** are particularly welcome to join in on this!

In the Guide Track (which is audio only), you will hear me give instructions for what comes next; here is the arrangement, written:

- Low Voice begins, 1x
- Low Voice + Melody (Zimbabwean), 1x
- Low Voice + Melody + Harmony (Zimbabwean), 1x
- Low Voice + Melody + Harmony (English) + Percussion, 1x
- Low Voice + Melody + Harmony (English) + More percussion + Claps, 1x
- Low Voice + Melody + Harmony (English) + Percussion + Claps (these end early!), 1x

VT #36: Let us build a house (All are welcome)

NOTES: You will find a visual Guide Track in the Google Drive folder, with me conducting. It includes an explanation at the beginning about breathing, so please take note of that if you have questions about where to breathe. Verses are in Unions; the Refrains are in parts, as you are able. Thanks to Maddie Ruth for playing the accompaniment for us!

VT #386: One is the body

NOTES: For our purposes for this service, I have chosen to make some textual edits. Firstly, in place of “God the Father,” we will sing “God the Parent.” Secondly, in place of “Called to his service are women and men,” we will sing “Called to his service are all hu-man-kind.” (If you’re curious, I’m interpreting “his” to mean Jesus, not God, so have kept that pronoun.) I’m aware “humankind” doesn’t rhyme with the following line, and some of you may be quite attached to the original language; however, in an effort to recognize that all gendered beings are called to discipleship, we will use these changes for this service.

Instructions for Recording:

Detailed Instructions:

1. Find a quiet place and space yourself a foot or two from the recording microphone (depending on your mic)
2. Play the recorded track on one device that is attached to your earbuds or headphones. Set the level in your earphones to be loud enough so you will naturally sing out.
3. On another device or program (i.e. GarageBand, Voice Memos), record an audio file of you singing along *as you listen to our recording*
4. Practice with the Guide Track a few times, until you feel familiar with it. When ready to record, press “record” on your second device before you start the Guide Track on your first device.
5. Sing with confidence and try to stay right in time with our track. Missed notes usually get lost in the mix but if the timing is too far off it can stick out.
6. Please upload the audio recording, with a photo of yourself, to this Google Drive Folder: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-2RsgEjkiKUvYJhXxsQyfFcRhu_3o6sY. If you can, please “rename” the file to include your name, so that I can credit you at the end!

Notes:

- If you don’t know how to record audio, record yourself with your phone’s “camera,” and I will extract the audio from it.
- You may want to record a few takes, and choose the one you feel the best about. But please know that **perfection is not our goal – it is the offering that is the gift!**
- Please submit your recordings to be before Monday, April 12!
- If you have any questions, please let me know! Stephanie.hollenberg@gmail.com.