Jesus is the Center of our Faith: 
A Life of Prayer

Today we reflect on several different times throughout Jesus’ ministry that he prayed. As told in the Gospel of Luke, Jesus lived a life of prayer, constantly centering himself on God, who God called him to be, and the mission that God called him to embody. If we as followers of Jesus want to grow in our faith, we also must live lives of prayer. Do we dare?

GATHERING AND PRAYING

Prelude  Pastor Katherine Goerzen
Welcome & Congregational Announcements  Elizabeth Alderfer
Lighting the Peace Lamp

* Call to Worship  Psalm 121
* Gathering Hymn  “Sweet hour of prayer”  vs. 1 & 3  No. 11
* Gathering Prayer
* Hymn of Prayer  “Jesus, be the center”  No. 31 STS
* Passing the Peace  The Peace of Christ be with you – and also with you.

Proclaiming

Offering Our Gifts
Worship Music  Kristin, Michelle & Luke Unruh, Mark & Joshua Schmidt
Children’s Story  Daily Examen  Pastor Rosie Jantz
Scripture Reading  Excerpts from Luke  Kristi Unruh
The Word of God for the people of God ~ Thanks be to God!
Sermon  “Centering Prayer”  Pastor Phil Schmidt

Responding in Prayer

* Hymn of Response  “Be thou my vision”  vs. 1, 2 & 4  No. 545
* Faith Sharing  Ron Schroeder
* Hymn of Prayer  “Lord, listen to your children”  No. 353
* Congregational Sharing and Prayer

Sending

* Sending Hymn  “What a friend we have in Jesus”  vs. 1 & 3  No. 88 CS
* Benediction and Postlude

Today

We are so glad you are here with us to worship God and experience God’s love. This morning you were greeted by Donavon and Deloris Schmidt and Diane Loewen. A special welcome is extended to all visitors.

At the back of the sanctuary there is a quiet room for infants and mothers, as well as a toddler nursery for those age three and under, staffed today by Eric Litwiller.

In the pew pockets are Welcome Cards and Prayer Request Cards. If you are a visitor to Tabor, please fill out a Welcome Card and return it in the offering bag. If you have a prayer request or praise item, please fill out a Prayer Request Card and return to a Pastor’s mailbox.

10:45 a.m.—Faith Formation for everyone. Adults are invited to join the Prayer Elective class meeting in the sanctuary overflow.

This Week

Sun. May 14 - Tues., May 16: Tabor serves at New Hope Shelter

Tuesday, May 16
10:00 a.m.—Staff meeting

Wednesday, May 17
5:20—Tabor Mennonite Women Mystery Supper
7:00 p.m.—TMYF

Thursday, May 18
Newsletter items are due
10:00 a.m.—Stories and Stuff will meet for fellowship and goodies.

Saturday, May 20
6:30 p.m.—Building Fundraiser at White Owl Barn
TMYF Lock-in

Next Sunday, May 21

8:30 a.m.—Russian Pancake Breakfast served by TMYF.
9:30 a.m.—Next Sunday we continue our Worship Series on “Anabaptist Essentials: Jesus is the Center of Our Faith, Praying With Jesus.” Our focus will be Praying from the Cross, scripture is Mark 15:34; Matthew 27:46; Luke 23:34, 46, and Pastor Phil will be preaching.
10:45 a.m.—Faith Formation for everyone.
2:00 p.m.—Chapel at Bethesda
5:00 p.m.—Membership Meal
Prayer Requests
The following requests were shared on Sunday, May 7.

★ On behalf of the Christian Education Commission, Gayle Funk gave thanks for Tabor's Faith Formation teachers and leaders on Sundays and Wednesdays this past year! Thanks be to God for their faithfulness!

★ Gayle Funk gave thanks for the Hesston College Bel Canto Singer's music ministry in the worship service. Thanks be to God.

★ Les Goerzen gave thanks the thirty plus people who came to help spruce up the church building and grounds. Working together was also part of the renewal. Thanks be to God.

Remember to Praise God for:

★ The end of a good school year and the many students who are a part of Tabor Church. May the summer be filled with joy!

★ The blessings we all have experienced through those who have mothered us throughout our lives. Thanks be to God!

Dates to Remember:
May 26-29: Jr. Hi at Camp WaShunGa
May 29: Memorial Day service
June 4: Tabor Leadership Retreat
June 5-9: Vacation Bible School
June 25: Goessel Community Picnic
July 4-8: Mennonite Church USA Convention in Orlando, FL

Centering Prayer

1. Choose a sacred word as the symbol of your intention to consent to God's presence and action within. (word examples: God, Jesus, Abba, Father, Mother, Mary, Amen, Love, Listen, Peace, Mercy, Let Go, Silence, Stillness, Faith, Trust)

2. Sitting comfortably and with eyes closed, settle briefly and silently introduce the sacred word as the symbol of your consent to God's presence and action within.

3. When engaged with your thoughts,* return ever-so-gently to the sacred word.

4. At the end of the prayer period (at least 20 minutes), remain in silence with eyes closed for a couple of minutes.

*thoughts include body sensations, feelings, images, and reflections

1https://www.contemplativeoutreach.org/sites/default/files/private/method_cp_eng-2016-06_0.pdf

The Examen

For what moment today am I most grateful?

For what moment today am I least grateful?

Announcements and conference prayer requests are on the announcements page, which was either emailed to you or can be found in your church mailbox. Additional copies can be found in the literature rack.