

# Shalom Mennonite Church

August 12, 2012

## *Faith: Doubt and Clarity*

### **Part 2, The Sound of Sheer Silence**

*...and after the fire, there came the sound of sheer silence.  
When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle  
and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.*

1 Kings 19:12b-13

### **Gathering in God's Presence**

#### **Welcome and Special Announcements**

Sharon Penner

#### **Gathering Music and Processional**

*We carry in a flame, the Bible, and a prayer cloth. May we trust the Light to guide us, the Word to teach us, and prayer to knit our lives together with God as we begin our time of worship.*

#### **Invocation (inspired by Psalm 131)**

We come now to worship.

**You gather us in,  
God of Life,  
Lord of Love.**

Release our hearts from pride and arrogance.

**Free our minds.  
Uncloud our vision.**

**Set our souls in silence and peace.**

We come to rest on your breast, O Mother of Mystery.

**You gather in all your children,  
God of Life,  
Lord of Love.**

*Amen*

#### **Gathering Hymn STJ 112**

*I owe my Lord a morning song*

### **Proclaiming the Word**

#### **Children's Time**

Barb Goering

#### **First Reading**

John 6:35-42, 60-66

#### **Quiet Reflection**

*The periods of silence in our worship will begin and end with the ringing of a chime.*

#### **Second Reading**

1 Kings 19:1-13

#### **Scripture Reflection**

Laurie Hesed

#### **Quiet Reflection**

#### **Hymn HWB 545**

*Be thou my vision*

#### **Meditation**

“faith by subtraction”

Eric Massanari

#### **Quiet Reflection**

#### **Hymn HWB 556**

*Lord, thou hast searched me*

### **Responding to the Word**

#### **Offertory & Prayer**

#### **Sharing Time & Introductions**

*During this time in the service we welcome visitors, invite responses to the worship service, and share prayer concerns and joys. Please sign the Welcome Pages (black books) in the pews so we can learn each others' names.*

#### **Prayers of the People**

#### **Sending**

#### **Sending Hymn STJ 49**

*Rain down*

#### **Benediction**

*Hearing devices are available from an usher or the sound booth.*

*God is not attained by a process of addition  
to anything in the soul,  
but by a process of subtraction.*

- Meister Eckhart

*As soon as I understood  
(even to a limited degree)  
that this is G-d's world  
I began to lose weight  
immediately...*

- Leonard Cohen, from *Book of Longing*

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**Sunday August 12, 2012**

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Greeters: Jon & Beth Piper, Lola Schmidt, Marlene & Stan Smucker  
Musicians: Anita Bohn, Sam Smucker, Tom Szambecki & Martha Unruh  
Visual Arts: Doris Weber  
Sound and Closing: Andrew Thiesen

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Pastor: Eric Massanari  
Associate Pastor: Sara Dick  
Administrative Assistant: Grace Wenger  
Church Moderator: Matt Schmidt

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Our purpose is to worship and praise God together, to pray for and encourage each other to live our covenant with God and to share Christ's good news with others. As Anabaptist Christians we will reach out to others, welcome all people, be aware of our neighbors and respond to their needs, and give ourselves to service.

9:30 a.m.- Sunday School    10:45 a.m.- Worship  
800 E. First St., Newton, KS  
Phone: (316) 283-7395    [office@shalomnewton.org](mailto:office@shalomnewton.org)  
Web site: [shalomnewton.org](http://shalomnewton.org)