

National Youth Conference 2022 Worship Resources

Foundational (Colossians 2: 5-7)

Tuesday Morning (July 26) Church of the Brethren History Rap

By Walt Wiltschek, Worship Coordinator

1: They've given us three minutes to share the history of the Church of the Brethren.

2: Three minutes?

1: Yeah, you only have so much time at NYC. You have to pack in what you can.

2: Well, then, sure...why not. We can do it in three minutes.

1: All right! Then I think I'd start something like this...

In Seventeen-oh-eight--
Write that down, that's the date--
There's a guy called Alex Mack;
Said the church is out of whack.
So this group, they made a vow,
In the town of Schwarzenau.
It's not going like God planned,
So we have to take a stand.
Eight dunked in the Eder,
(De)'spite the law and the haters;
Faith put to the test,
So they looked to the west,
Took a ship, crossed the ocean,
And they put their church in motion;
Praised the Lord, settled down,
In a place called Germantown.
Mack's son and Peter Becker
Start to do some work together,
Do a Christmas Day baptism
'neath the ice of Wissahickon
Sauers printing what they could,
Glory to God, my neighbor's good;
Count the cost of non-resistance

When the war gets in your business!
Make sure all have what they need,
But we'll do fine without a creed.
Conrad Beissel stirs up strife,
Goes to live a cloistered life.
Mission trips head for the hills,
Preach the Word and do God's will;
Elder Wolfe says, "Don't stop there,"
and they head for the frontier.
John Kline goes South and North,
Till he's shot while on his horse;
Henry Kurtz breaks out his pen,
And Sarah Major shames the men.
Annual Meetings, hear the Spirit,
Change is coming, will we fear it?
Breaking bread, a feast of love,
On earth like heaven up above.
Mattie Dolby, Samuel Weir,
Saying things we need to hear.
Colleges and Sunday school,
While Holsinger says, "Just be cool!"
Guidance came from old James Quinter,
But the church began to splinter,
Anabaptist Pietism--
Three-way split, we have a schism.

Goshen statement, that's seditious,
Brethren shaking in their britches;
Bethany starts training pastors;
Camps and homes, we're growing faster!
Kulp and Helser, Ryan, Stovers,
Spread the church the whole world over;
Seeds still growing till this day,
And Africa now leads the way.

In the wake of devastation,
Brethren show cooperation.
M.R. Zigler, Anna Mow,

Dan West says, "Hey, have a cow!";
And when each disaster strikes,
Brethren go by car or bike.
One bold call starts BVS;
When we serve, we're at our best.

Move to cities from the farm,
C.O. status, Vietnam;
Studebaker doesn't run:
I want a shovel, not a gun.
We respond to global hunger,
While we care for kids and younger;
From our gifts we keep on giving,
It's another way of living.

Staff in Elgin and New Windsor,
Our small size will never hinder.
As the decades keep on moving,
We find God goes right on proving,
That we're strongest when we see us
Try to do the work of Jesus.
That's the word, three centuries--
And here we are at NYC. Peace!

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Tuesday Morning (July 26) Scripture Reading

Adapted by Walt Wiltschek, Worship Coordinator

Matthew 5: 1-16

Reader 1

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on a mountain (as Moses had done before Him) and He sat down (as Jewish teachers of His day usually did). His disciples gathered around Him. 2 And He began to teach them.

Reader 2

3 Blessed are the spiritually poor—the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

Reader 3

4 Blessed are those who mourn—they will be comforted.

Reader 2

5 Blessed are the meek and gentle—they will inherit the earth.

Reader 3

6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness—they will be filled.

Reader 2

7 Blessed are the merciful—they will be shown mercy.

Reader 3

8 Blessed are those who are pure in heart—they will see God.

Reader 2

9 Blessed are the peacemakers—they will be called children of God.

Reader 3

10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness—the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

Reader 2

11 And blessed are you, blessed are all of you, when people persecute you or denigrate you or despise you or tell lies about you on My account.

Reader 3

12 But when this happens, rejoice. Be glad. Remember that God's prophets have been persecuted in the past. And know that in heaven, you have a great reward.

Reader 1

13 You, beloved, are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes bland and loses its saltiness, can anything make it salty again? No. It is useless. It is tossed out, thrown away, or trampled.

Reader 2

14 And you, beloved, are the light of the world. A city built on a hilltop cannot be hidden.

Reader 3

15 Similarly it would be silly to light a lamp and then hide it under a bowl. When someone lights a lamp, she puts it on a table or a desk or a chair, and the light illumines the entire house.

Reader 1

16 You are like that illuminating light. Let your light shine everywhere you go, that you may illumine creation, so men and women everywhere may see your good actions, may see creation at its fullest, may see your devotion to Me, and may turn and praise your Father in heaven because of it.

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Tuesday Morning (July 26) Blessing and Sending

Adapted from *St. Mary's Market Drayton* adaptation of Iona community blessing

Journey into your day with these words adapted from a blessing by the Iona Community in Scotland:

Children of God, may the blessing of divine light be on us, light around us and light within us.

May sacred sunlight shine upon us and warm our hearts till they glow like a great fire where strangers may warm themselves as well as friends.

May the light of Christ shine from our eyes, like a candle set in the window of a home, inviting the wanderer to come in out of the darkness of the storm.

From deep within our hearts, may we pray today: that we are that light and that salt, so that when people talk about us, they are talking about Jesus. Go and live for the glory of God and your neighbor's good. Amen.