



# Grace Mennonite Church

October 20, 2019

10:30 a.m.

## *Snakes and Ladders*

*Envy is the sin no one confesses. It's been called "the ulcer of the soul" in that all that envy does is take joy away and give only pain without pleasure. Envy strips us of our ability to love because envy's love is devoted only to the bittering of oneself because of what one doesn't have – eventually leading us into our own individual exile. Contentment, alternately, is a form of gratitude and appreciation. If envy is feeling bitter about what one doesn't have and blaming God for it, then contentment is appreciating what one does have, and thanking God for it.*

## GATHERING & PRAISING

Prelude

\*Gathering hymn SJ #113 *For mornings bright* (v. 1, 3)

Welcome

Call to worship

*Leader: We gather this morning to worship you, O God,  
and yet our attention is drawn elsewhere.*

**People: We seek your face, your presence, your comfort, even  
though we think about those things that are missing.**

*Leader: We gather together to worship,  
distracted as we may be.*

**People: In this time of worship,  
settle our spirits, guide us nearer to you.**

*All: As we worship you*

*Lead us from envy to contentment.*

Opening Prayer

\*Opening hymn HWB #89 *For the beauty of the earth* (v. 1, 3, 4)

\*Greeting one another

## LISTENING & RESPONDING

Scripture reading

Psalm 73:1-14, 23-28

Children's time

Message "Envy and Contentment"

Pastor Matthew Yoder

\*Hymn of Response HWB #542 *Holy Spirit, gracious Guest* (v. 1, 4, 6)

## SHARING, PRAYING & OFFERING

Sharing, prayer concerns, celebrations, and announcements

Congregational prayer

Offering/Offertory

Offering Prayer

## SENDING

\*Sending hymn SJ #96 *I'm pressing on the upward way* (v. 1, 2)

\*Benediction

*And now, may God grant you a spirit of kindness, to seek others'  
good and rejoice when they have it. May you feel the love of Christ,  
to remind you that you are sufficient, and may the Holy Spirit move  
you to love as God loves. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
Thanks be to God! Amen.*

\*Postlude

\*Denotes Standing (if able)