

## KEEPING SILENCE

Last winter I traveled with our junior high group to Koinonia Environmental and Retreat Center, a facility of Manchester College. The lack of phone reception and its distance from most roads and air traffic patterns make it a good retreat site. It gave us the chance to spend some time together in spiritual practice, one being to keep silence.

Now junior high groups and silence sounds like an oxymoron. Like most groups of youth that age, ours at Manchester are bright, edgy, energetic, and a delight. Junior high groups and retreat means games and fun and energy. This was no different. We simply wanted to include times of silence.

Once we settled in, I introduced the notion of keeping silence and that each hour, on the hour, we would become silent together. What we were after was more than the absence of sound, but being more aware of ourselves and God's spirit. Part of the evening was a night hike with a college faculty member to identify night sounds. Having "kept silence" together helped us as a group walk through the woods, around the pond, and enjoy both the stars and stillness of the night. We could better entertain the questions of who or what do we trust? Where do we set our hearts? Where is our loyalty? I suspect these are the questions the Psalmist had in mind, and not just whether or not we could "keep silent."

—James Chinworth  
Manchester Church of the Brethren  
North Manchester, Indiana

### Text for Today

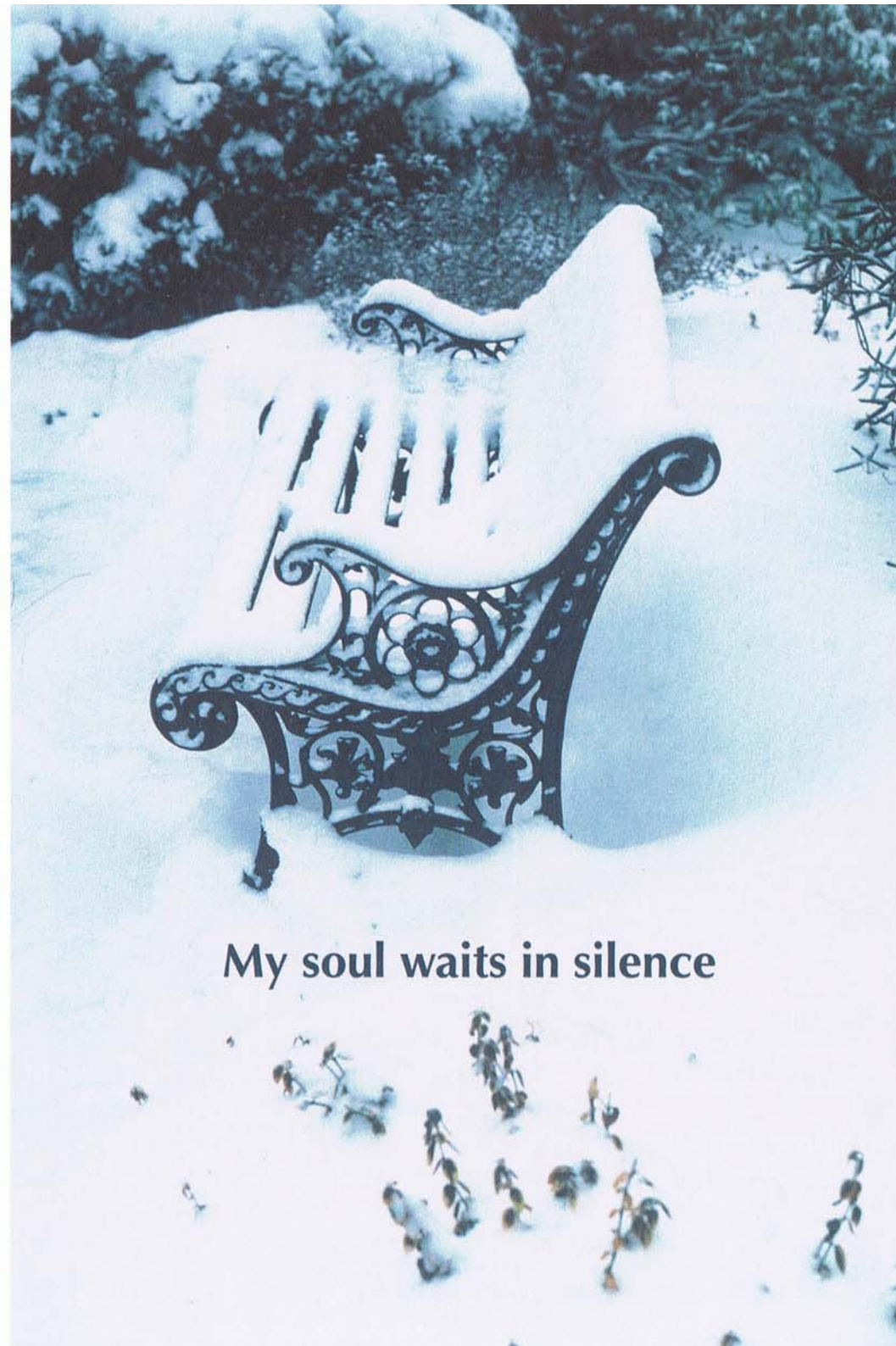
### Psalm 62:5-12 (5)

For God alone **my soul waits in silence**, for my hope is from him. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken. On God rests my deliverance and my honor; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God. Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him. God is a refuge for us.



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Sheldon Church of the Brethren  
Ministers - All Members  
January 25, 2009  
9:30 a.m. Worship



**NOTE:** The blue hymnal will be used today, unless otherwise noted.

## GATHERING MUSIC

## GREETINGS / ANNOUNCEMENTS / SPECIAL DAYS

## PRELUDE / LIGHT CANDLES

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 62:5-12)

**One:** For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from God.

**ALL:** God alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

**Women:** On God rests my deliverance and my honor; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

**Men:** Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before God; God is a refuge for us. Selah.

**Younger:** Those of low estate are but a breath, those of high estate are a delusion; in the balances they go up; they are together lighter than a breath.

**Older:** Put no confidence in extortion, and set no vain hopes on robbery; if riches increase, do not set your heart on them.

**One:** Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this; that power belongs to God,

**ALL:** and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord. For you repay to all according to their work.

\*Gathering Hymn #6 *Here In This Place*

## \*UNISON INVOCATION

Precious Lord, as we gather together today to honor and glorify your

name, we pray that you will call us, and that we shall clearly hear that call, that we may drop what we are planning to do in order to follow you today, this week, this life. You are our Lord, and we are your servants. When we are tempted to judge, demonstrate your mercy. When we feel impatient with others, remind us of your patience with our own obstinate behavior. Fill us with your Spirit that we might become messengers of your salvation. In your name we pray. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Jonah 3:1-5,10

MUSIC MINISTRY - Alina, violin

CHILDREN'S TIME (Gathering Song: *Jesus Loves the Little Children*)

FILL THE ARK - Gathering of Quarters

OFFERTORY STATEMENT

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

\*DOXOLOGY #119 (blue hymnal)

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER HYMN #353 *Lord, Listen To Your Children*

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pray For: Robins, IA Church

Praying For Us: Worthington, MN Church

NEW TESTAMENT READING I CORINTHIANS 7:29-31

PRAISE HYMN #70 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

GOSPEL READING Mark 1:14-20

MESSAGE "Put Down Those Nets!"

PRAYER OF BLESSING ON THE WORD

\*CLOSING HYMN #145 *There's A Wideness In God's Mercy*

\*UNISON BENEDICTION: Arrest us, O God. The time of preparation is now past. The time of expectation is now fulfilled. As the new world rides into our midst like a child on the shoulder of Christ, let us stop - look - and listen. For the form of our old world shall pass away, and the newly born shall lead us. Amen.

\*THREEFOLD AMEN #382 (blue hymnal)

\* - *Please Stand, if you are able*

**SERVING THE CONGREGATION SUNDAY, January 25:**

Message	Rev. Lucinda Douglas
Children's Message	Rev. Lucinda Douglas
Music	Jill Dystra
Music Ministry	Alina Douglas
Ushers	Alan Cox and Scott Maggert
Adult Sunday School	Scott Maggert
Children's Sunday School	Ann Maggert and Sandi Cox

**SERVING THE CONGREGATION SUNDAY, February 1:**

Message	Rev. David Loveall
Children's Message	Marcene Cox
Music	Marcene Cox
Ushers	Alan Cox and Scott Maggert
Adult Sunday School	Sally Young
Children's Sunday School	Ann Maggert and Sandi Cox

**PRAYER REMINDERS**

Our Congregation & Children	Clarence & Rhelma Evans
Ann Evans	Joyce Adkins (shoulder/knee)
Linda Beal	Dyan Sterk (vertigo)
Living Peace Church, Sioux City	Pete Aberson (back)
United Christians International	with Jean-Jean & Kristie
Lost Brothers and Sisters	Those Serving in the Military
Reaching Out to Our Community	Mary Fike (18 weeks chemo)

**Anniversaries and Birthdays for January**

<i>Anniversaries</i>	16 - Michelle Harder
21- Clarence & Rhelma Evans	Myron Rolston
<i>Birthdays</i>	18 - Julie Dumar
02 - Ann Maggert	22 - Toni Clemmens
04 - April Fox	25 - Doyle Rolston
05 - Doug Osterbuhr	28 - Ron Brinkman
Helen VanKekerix	29 - Elmer VanKekerix
06 - Caitlin Jans	31 - Samuel Maggert
08 - Thomas Harder	
10 - Michael Keller	
15 - Jerry Rolston	
Janice Fritts	

Many happy returns of the day of thy birth. May sunshine and gladness be given and may the dear Father prepare thee on earth for a beautiful birthday in heaven.

**Church Events**

**Welcome!**

Welcome to Rev. Lucinda Douglas this morning.

Welcome to all members and guests. May you receive God's blessing from today's service. Enter to receive the Light; Depart to let it shine!

**Adult Sunday School**

In Adult Sunday School we are using the *Serindipity Bible For Groups* with a Bible study format. Our topic this week is "Running Ahead" from I Samuel 13:1-15. We welcome your attendance and participation!

**Fill the Ark**

A decision needs to be made as to when we will complete this project. The plan was to go until Christmas, but we missed two Sundays due to weather. What are your thoughts? Let Linda Adams know.

**Passing**

The funeral of Dr. Charles Burton Wilmarth of Mason City was held Saturday, January 24. Chuck passed away while he was on a trip to Boro Boro with his wife Karen (Landhuis). Our thoughts and prayers are with this family this day.

**Community Events**

**Male Mentors Needed** - Bethany Christian Services is looking for male mentors, age 21 or older, who would be willing to give an hour a week to mentor a male youth. Currently waiting for mentor matches are four 13 year-old males from Sheldon and one 14 year-old male in Primghar. These boys are in need of positive male role models. If you are interested, please call Barb Trowbridge, Mentor Coordinator, Bethany Christian Services, 712-737-4831.

**Guest Speakers**

Feb. 1 - Rev. David Loveall (Communion)	Mar. 1 - Rev. David Loveall (Communion)
Feb. 8 - Pete Aberson	March 8 -
Feb. 15 - Don Adkins	March 15 -
Feb. 22 - C.J. Wurpts (NWC student)	March 22 -