

## ENVISIONING GOD'S FUTURE

The image on today's bulletin shows a meadow of beautiful flowers, which represents a great multitude from every nation. What a wonderful vision! In the midst of a world with many challenges, this vision of God's future stirs hope and energizes us to move forward and continue working toward such an end.

The New Testament opens with four Gospels highlighting Jesus at the heart of God's new order (called by some, "the kingdom of God"). The book of Acts can be seen as a sequel to the Gospels, and the book of Revelation a sequel to Acts. With each wave we can see an expanding universality of Jesus and the movement of God's new order. Again and again I have been stretched and transformed with others in this great multitude.

I appreciate Vernard Eller's book, *The Most Revealing Book of the Bible: Making Sense out of Revelation*. A rightful vision of God's future does not sidetrack us in passive cynicism nor speculative irresponsibility, but rather propels us with perpetual expectancy and persevering faithfulness.

How do we fit in with this multitude from every nation? As followers of Jesus, will we walk in the light that is ahead of our times—reflecting the beautiful cultural and ethnic diversity highlighted in this vision? Will we see Jesus in the eyes of someone experiencing rejection? Can we see ourselves on the same team across theological and sociological spectrums—with our sleeves rolled up and ready to work—knowing that the beauty and wonder of this great multitude from all nations is manifested in our present manner of living?

—Roger Eberly, pastor  
Turkey Creek Church of the Brethren  
Nappanee, Indiana

---

### Text for Today

### Revelation 7:9-17 (9), *NRSV*

After this I looked, and there was a **great multitude** that no one could count, **from every nation**, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"



Worship resources © 2010 Brethren Press • [www.brethrenpress.com](http://www.brethrenpress.com) • 800-441-3712



A great multitude...  
from every nation



Sheldon Church of the Brethren  
 David Loveall, Pastor  
 Ministers - All Members  
 April 25, 2010  
 9:30 a.m. Worship



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

GATHERING MUSIC

GREETINGS / ANNOUNCEMENTS / SPECIAL DAYS

PRELUDE / LIGHT CANDLES

\*CALL TO WORSHIP **April Memory Verse:** Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!  
 Luke 24:5b-6a (NIV)

\* GATHERING HYMN #273 *The Lord's My Shepherd*

\*INVOCATION

PRAISE HYMN #438 *Come, Thou Fount Of Every Blessing*

CHILDREN'S TIME (Gathering Song: *Jesus Loves the Little Children*)  
*"The Centurion's Servant"*

OFFERTORY STATEMENT

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

\*DOXOLOGY #119 (blue hymnal)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER HYMN #295 *Open My Eyes, That I May See*

PASTORAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE Psalm 23

MESSAGE "Still Waters"

PRAYER OF BLESSING ON THE WORD

\*CLOSING HYMN #296 *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

\*BENEDICTION

\*THREEFOLD AMEN #382 (blue hymnal)

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

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

Message	Pastor David Loveall
Children's Message	Jo Rolston
Music	Teri Kelderman
Ushers	Mark Bilsland and Scott Maggert
Adult Sunday School	Sally Young
Children's Sunday School	Ann Maggert and Sandi Cox

**SERVING THE CONGREGATION SUNDAY, May 2:**

Message	Pastor David Loveall
Children's Message	Marcene Cox
Music	Marcene Cox
Ushers	Mark Bilsland and Alan Cox
Adult Sunday School	None - Spring Council Meeting
Children's Sunday School	Ann Maggert and Sandi Cox

## OUTREACH MINISTRIES



Haitian Ministry directed by Rev.  
Jean-Jean & Kristie Mompremier.  
[www.unitedchristiansinternational.org](http://www.unitedchristiansinternational.org)

## 2009 CHURCH OFFICERS

### **Moderator**

Linda Adams

### **Deacons**

Clarence & Rhelma Evans  
Linda Adams & Jo Rolston

### **Clerk**

Jo Rolston

### **Treasurer**

Sandi Cox

### **Adult Sunday School Teachers**

Linda Adams  
Donna Brinkman  
Alan Cox  
Marcene Cox

Scott Maggert

Sally Young

### **Children's Message**

Marcene Cox

### **Children's Sunday School**

Ann Maggert and Sandi Cox

### **Church Facility Trustee**

Scott Maggert

### **Church Sign**

Alan Cox

### **Custodial Care**

Members take monthly turns

### **Farm Trustee**

Ross Cox

### **Fellowship Time**

Clarence & Rhelma Evans

### **Lawn Care**

Jed Cox  
Ross Cox

### **Messenger Agent**

Donna Brinkman

### **Ministerial Committee**

Marcene Cox  
Ross Cox  
Rhelma Evans  
Jo Rolston

### **Nominating Committee**

Ann Maggert  
Sally Young

## OUR CHURCH

Worship Service . . . . . 9:30am

Christian Education (Sept.-May) .10:50 am

Communion

1st Sunday of Each Month

The Sheldon Church of the Brethren

3011 Marsh Ave

Sheldon, Iowa 51201

(712) 324-3842

Email: [pastor@sheldonbrethren.org](mailto:pastor@sheldonbrethren.org)

Web Addresses:

The Denomination:

[www.brethren.org](http://www.brethren.org)

Northern Plains District:

[www.northernplainsdistrict.com](http://www.northernplainsdistrict.com)

The Church:

[www.sheldonbrethren.org](http://www.sheldonbrethren.org)

[www.worship.sheldonbrethren.org](http://www.worship.sheldonbrethren.org)

### **Outreach & Evangelism**

Alan Cox

Marcene Cox

Sally Young

### **Parsonage Committee**

Ann Maggert

### **Pianists**

Donna Brinkman

Marcene Cox

Jill Dykstra

Teri Kelderman

Lynn Rolfsmeier

### **Special Music**

Marcene Cox

### **Sunday School Superintendent**

Jo Rolston

### **Ushers**

Mark Bilsland

Alan Cox

Scott Maggert

## Anniversaries and Birthdays for April

*Anniversaries*

20 - Marne Bothmer

2 - Scott & Ann Maggert

28 - Ryan Maggert

*Birthdays*

06 - Mark Diers

07 - Jeannette Grove

18 - Ann Evans

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 all members and guests. You came to worship, go now to serve!  
You've been blessed by God's love, go now to share it!

### **Adult Sunday School**

In Adult Sunday School we are using the *Serindipity Bible For Groups* with a Bible study format. The topic this week is "A Clean Slate" (Section 48, #6, page 1434). Next week there will be no Sunday School because of the spring council meeting following worship service.

### **Devotional**

The May-June *Upper Room* devotionals are on the back table. Please take one for your daily devotions.

### **Reminders**

- 1) If you have not checked your mailbox for awhile, please do so!
- 2) Continue to bring your old and discarded shoes to put in the box at the back of the sanctuary so Northwest Enterprises can process them for Soles 4 Souls. They are committing 1.2 million pairs of shoes to Haitian victims.
- 3) Spring council meeting will follow the worship service Sunday, May 2.

## Community

**April 16-30 - Meals On Wheels** - Be at HyVee at 11:15 a.m. See Jo Rolston to sign up.

# Those Who Need Our Prayers

*Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. - Romans 12:12 (NIV)*

1. Clarence Evans is recuperating at home with the help of Rhelma and Home Health therapy.
2. Prayers and condolences to the Sally Young family on the recent passing of her son, John, and her sister-in-law.
3. Pastor David Loveall is dealing with bad headaches and a weak back.
4. Muriel Loveall had a good report on her eye procedure from Mayo Clinic.
5. Jeannette Grove at Fieldcrest Assisted Living, 2501 East 6th St. Apt. #111. Visit her, call her at 324-0028, or send her a card. She fell and broke her left elbow.
6. Jennifer Caldwell, daughter of Linda Adams, who needs prayer support.
7. Julie Fisher, daughter of Clarence and Rhelma Evans, who has thyroid cancer.
8. Ann Evans and Rev. John Elder who have cancer.
9. Matt Pruin and Darla Vaandrager of Sheldon who have brain cancer.
10. Our congregation and children, may all continue to grow in the Lord.
11. Living Peace Church, Sioux City. May its ministry be continually blessed.
12. UCI - Jean-Jean & Kristie Mompremier's ministry in Haiti.
13. Lost Brothers and Sisters. May we minister unto and lead by example.
14. Those Serving in the Military. Keep them from harm and danger.



SERMON NOTES of Sunday, April 25, 2010

“Still Waters”

Scripture: Psalm 23

