



**Mennonite  
Church  
USA**

## Call for Sermons and Homilies

### Invitation

To submit sermons and homilies that reflect on the relationship between eating together at the Lord's Table and our life of Christian peacemaking – for publication in a new book, *We Are Each Other's Bread and Wine: Mennonite and Catholic Reflections on Eucharist and Peacemaking*

### Description

This book is a collaborative effort among Mennonites and Catholics to share reflections and convictions on the profound gifts of each tradition – the Eucharist and peacemaking – for the sake of encouraging richer Christian worship and more faithful Christian discipleship in the world. The contents of the book will be invited from Catholic and Mennonite communities in the United States, Canada and abroad. The Institute of Mennonite Studies (AMBS) plans to publish the book jointly with a Catholic publisher.

We hope the book will explore questions such as:

- How does the feast we share nourish our passion for peacemaking?
- How does the ministry of Jesus and his work on the cross inspire us to become peacemakers?
- How do our active lives of working for justice and making peace call us back to the Lord's Table?

### How to submit entries

Any sermons or homilies that are submitted must be your original work and must actually have been preached (note the date and place on your manuscript). Length should not exceed 3,000 words. If you use any quotations, please include complete bibliographical information. If you don't already have a sermon on this topic in your file, look for an opportunity to create and preach one soon.

Poetry and art on the themes of communion and peacemaking are also invited. For more information about requirements for these submissions, see [www.bridgefolk.net](http://www.bridgefolk.net).

Send hard copy as well as electronic documents (if possible). By submitting material, you are granting permission for your work to be edited and published. Entries will not be returned unless a stamped, self-addressed envelope is included.

### Deadline for submissions

**March 15, 2009**

### Send to

**Marlene Kropf**  
**Mennonite Church USA Executive Leadership**  
**P.O. Box 1245, Elkhart, IN 46515-1245**  
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## Additional background

This book grows out of the mutual exchange of gifts among Catholics and Mennonites in the Bridgefolk movement since 2002 and ongoing conversations regarding spirituality and peacemaking. At the recent Mennonite-Catholic Theological Conference held at Notre Dame (July 30-31, 2007), Elizabeth Groppe from Xavier University noted in her presentation that “Catholics have a strong Eucharistic theology and a weak peacemaking practice whereas Mennonites have a weak Eucharistic theology and a strong peacemaking practice.” Her observation that “This ought not to be so” was echoed by other conference participants.

In response, the Bridgefolk board has invited Marlene Kropf, denominational minister for Mennonite Church USA Executive Leadership and AMBS associate professor of Spiritual Formation and Worship, and William Skudlarek, administrative assistant to the Abbot of Saint John’s Abbey and teacher of homiletics, to compile and edit a collection of sermons, homilies, poetry and art that will encourage a more visible and fruitful connection between the Lord’s Supper and the church’s practice of peacemaking.

The intended audience for this book is preachers, worship planners, church leaders, teachers of preaching, students, people engaged in peacemaking ministries, and those participating in interchurch conversations.

For more information about Bridgefolk, see [www.bridgefolk.net](http://www.bridgefolk.net).

*And we accept bread at his table,  
broken and shared, a living sign.  
Here in this world, dying and living,  
we are each other’s bread and wine.  
This is the place where we can receive  
what we need to increase:  
God’s justice and God’s peace.*

Hymn, “What is this place?” (*Hymnal: A Worship Book*, #1)



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