



# Osler Mennonite Church

*A Welcoming Community for Peace  
Following Jesus on the Path of Reconciliation*

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**10:00 a.m. Worship Service**

**October 1, 2023**

Creation Care Sunday

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome/Land Acknowledgement/Announcements**

### **Call to Worship: Psalm 8**

L: LORD, our Lord, your majestic name fills the earth! Your glory is higher than the heavens. You have taught children and infants to tell of your strength, silencing your enemies and all who oppose you.

**C: When I look at the night sky and see the work of your fingers - the moon and the stars you set in place - what are mere mortals that you should think about them, human beings that you should care for them?**

L: Yet you made them only a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor. You gave them charge of everything you made, putting all things under their authority - the flocks and the herds, and all the wild animals, the birds in the sky, the fish in the sea, and everything that swims the ocean currents.

**All: O LORD, our Lord, your majestic name fills the earth!**

## **Prayer of Invocation**

**Gathering Hymns: VT #81 All Creatures, Worship God Most High  
VT #120 For the Beauty of the Earth**

### **Reading: Psalm 148**

Alleluia! Praise our God from the heavens, praise God in the heights! Praise God, all you angels, praise God, all you hosts! Praise God, sun and moon, praise God, all you shining stars! Praise God, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! Let them praise the Name of our God by whose command they were created. God established them forever and ever and gave a decree which won't pass away. Praise our

God from the earth, you sea creatures and ocean depths, lightning and hail, snow and mist, and storm winds that fulfill God's word, mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars, wild animals and all cattle, small animals and flying birds, rulers of the earth, leaders of all nations, all the judges in the world, young men and young women, older people and children – let them all praise the Name of our God whose Name alone is exalted, whose majesty transcends heaven and earth, and who has raised up a Horn for God's people to the praise of the faithful, the children of Israel, the people dear to God! Alleluia!

**Children's Gathering Song:** VT #510 Today Earth Is Singing  
Children's Time and Parking Lot Pet Blessing: Luke Bushman

**Offering / Offertory Prayer / Music for Meditation**  
**Sharing of Joys and Concerns / Prayer of the Church**

Prayers-for those who are sick

-for faith responses to climate crisis

**Hymn: VT #551      Beautiful Things**

**Epistle Reading:** Romans 8:18-25

All creation eagerly awaits the revelation of the children of God. Creation was subjected to transience and futility, not of its own accord, but because of the One who subjected it – in the hope that creation itself would be freed from its slavery to corruption and would come to share in the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that from the beginning until now, all of creation has been growing in one great act of giving birth. And not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit – we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free. In hope we were saved. But hope is not hope if its object is seen; why does one hope for what one sees? And hoping for what we cannot see meanings awaiting it with patient endurance.

**Scripture Response:**

Leader: For the Word of God in Scripture,  
For the Word of God among us,  
For the Word of God within us,

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**Hymn: VT #514      I Saw a Tree by the Riverside**

**Sermon: This Way to Narnia: Grace Through Our Pets**

**Hymn: VT #209 We Dream of a Turning**

**Benediction:** Creator God, thank you for people and pets that help us see your grace. We feel your presence near and know that you are always with us. Help us to show grace to others. Amen.

\*Offerings can be done via e-transfer to [osler.mc.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:osler.mc.treasurer@gmail.com)

**TODAY'S WORSHIP**

Speaker: Patty Friesen

Song Leader: Michelle

Children's Time: Luke

**October 1** *Creation Care Sunday*

Worship Leader: Henry Funk

Accompanist: Naomi

Sound: Doug Ushers: Benjamin/Dick

**Office Hours:** 8:30 am – 12:30 pm Wednesday and Friday

**Patty's Week:** Tues. sermon; Weds. office; Fri. Office, MC SK EM Search

**Luke's Week:** Weds. OMC Office/Mega Menno Mtg; Thurs. planning & Prep; Fri./Sat. Time Off in Lieu of RJC Retreat & Stat Holiday; Sun. Church at NPMC

**Birthdays:** 1- Bruce Boldt, 2 - Robin Neudorf & Naomi Schellenberg, 3 – Natalia Guenther, 6 – Lanae Martens-Funk & Jadrian Guenther, 8 – Matthew Stefaniuk

**Today – Oct 1:** MC SK Creation Care Sunday, 3:00 pm prayer walk in Saskatoon as the culmination of the Season of Creation. We will meet at the Rotary Park on Saskatchewan Cres. E at the Peace Prayer Pole. The walk will be approximately 1½ hours (4 km) along the river and it is accessible. This will also serve as the Forest Church for October.

**OMC Friday Walking Group** at 9:00 am at the church (*Last one for the season*). Free coffee every Friday in the church office – 10:00.

**CALENDAR**

Oct 1 9:15 am Centering Prayer Room 2

**10:00 am Patty Friesen speaking**

10:30 Parking Lot Pet Blessing

Oct 8 9:15 am Centering Prayer Room 2 with John G

**10:00 Thanksgiving Sharing, Communion**

11:30 Second Sunday Lunch Bunch

Oct 15 9:15 am Centering Prayer Room 2

**10:00 am Luke Bushman speaking**

12:00 Parking Pad Party

2:00 pm Theatre of the Beat: I Love You and It Hurts

**Oct 22 10:00 am Heather Peters, MCC SK speaking**

11:45 am Lunch with Heather, Osler restaurant

**NEXT SUNDAY: Oct 8** *Thanksgiving Sharing, Communion*

Speakers: John Reddekopp

Worship Leader: Patty Friesen

Song Leaders: Kevin

Accompanist: Melanie

Children's Time: Wilf

Sound: Stephanie

Ushers: Benjamin & Dick

**OMC/CMU Zoom Explore Class** Wed., October 4-November 8, 10:00 a.m. Coffee Room: Reconsidering Anabaptist Identity after 500 years with Karl Koop.

**Pre-quote:** I hope you'll find words that will help you keep your head up. After all, a beautiful life is not a perfect one. It's a life where you stand up and keep going, no matter what happens. *Thanks goggle.*

**Quotes:**

You can, you should, and if you're brave enough to start, you will.

*Stephen King*

I am thankful to all who said no to me. It is because of them that I'm doing it myself. *Albert Einstein*

Positivity is a superpower. *Ryan Brewlow*

Small steps motivate. Big steps overwhelm. *Maxime Lagacé*

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We gather on Treaty Six Lands, Nehiyaw Territory, and the Homeland of the Métis

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 12 & 13 MC Sask and MCCS are partnering with the New Leaf Network to host a Saskatoon hub for The Table conference. Conference participants will hear stories of hope for tired congregations, bear witness to experiments in welcome and inclusivity, and be led through worship and spiritual practices, all aiming to re-anchor in hope for flourishing for the church in Canada and all our neighbors. Keynote speakers include Joash Thomas of International Justice Mission and Hillary McBride, author of *The Wisdom of Your Body*.

Visit <https://www.newleafnetwork.ca/thetable/#registration> for more details. And watch for a Saskatoon hub-specific registration option to be posted in the next few days.

**RJC Tournament of Memories: Alumni & Friends Volleyball & Soccer | October 13 - 14.** Join the fun at RJC's alumni & friends' volleyball & soccer tournament. Come and play or watch the fast-paced action in the RJC gymnasium and soccer field. Volleyball players are asked to register with Alex Tiessen ([development@rjc.sk.ca](mailto:development@rjc.sk.ca)) by October 10. Soccer games will only take place on October 14. Soccer players do not need to pre-register, and a light and dark shirt to play in. Lunch will be available for purchase in the RJC dining hall. More info at [rjc.sk.ca](http://rjc.sk.ca).

**RJC's Annual Fundraising Dinner - 2023 German-English Academy Awards|** October 28, 2023, doors open at 5:00pm, dinner & program begin at 6:00pm. Celebrating the legacy of musical theatre and the arts at RJC. Featuring performances of musical theatre songs & scenes from RJC musicals past by RJC alumni, friends, and students. Donations will go to support RJC's bursary program. Tickets \$25/table or \$200/table. Available October 2, 2023. Call (306) 232-4222 or visit [rjc.sk.ca](http://rjc.sk.ca) to reserve your spot. Space is limited.

**Called to Be a Worship Leader workshop, October 19 & 20** When you are asked to worship lead, what are you called to do? How do we decide who plans worship, and how do we do that? What are the joys of this role, and why is it so essential to Christian formation? This interactive seminar will explore these questions and leave you with practical tips and resources. Details and registration at <https://mcsask.ca/event/11422>

**Camp Study Update:** Following the completion of our camp study in spring, a sub-committee of Council (Brent Guenther, Christine Epp and Alison Jantz) met with the three camps to discuss next steps and a path forward. These conversations took place with each camp individually, as each camp is uniquely interacting with their own opportunities, challenges, and vision for the future. This work is ongoing, and Council is deeply committed to the work ahead as we work in partnership with the camps. The camp study report can be found at [www.mcsask.ca/campstudy](http://www.mcsask.ca/campstudy)

**Celebrate International Witness Sunday** October 15. This will help your congregation connect with our global Anabaptist brothers and sisters. Resources include videos, prayers, and songs.  
<https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/IW-Sunday>

**Theatre of the Beat Presents:** I Love You and It Hurts 3 Saskatchewan performances! Admission by Donation October 15th at 2:00PM at Osler Mennonite Church. October 18 7:30 pm at Sunset United Church 177 Sunset Dr, Regina (Peace Mennonite/CoSA SS) \* October 29 7:00 pm at Wildwood Mennonite Church 1502 Acadia Drive, Saskatoon.

\*November 3, 7:00pm The Board of Shekinah invites you to the **'TREEmendous Times with Trifle'** fundraising event at Bethany Manor (110 La Ronge Rd) on Friday, November 3, at 7:00pm. The event will take place in the Fellowship Centre and musical entertainment will be provided by The Golden Hour. Admission, by donation, will be gratefully accepted.

**The Shekinah** board is happy to announce that Amy Peters will begin as half time Executive Director starting Oct. 1. Amy has committed to staying to the end of December. The board continues to recruit for a permanent full time Executive Director.

**J.J. Thiessen Lecture** – You are invited to hear Dr. Willie James Jennings of Yale Divinity School present his talk entitled, Gathering the pieces that remain: Weaving life together from the fragments of faith, race, and land. October 27 at 7:00 PM in Marpeck Commons or via livestream. Visit [cmu.ca/jjt](http://cmu.ca/jjt) for details and livestream.

**A Time of Reckoning: Telling the CMU Story** – Join a two-day symposium on October 27 and 28. Featuring short reflections and dialogue with CMU faculty, alumni, and church voices, participants will investigate what CMU is today and where it's going in light of its mission. More details and free registration at [cmu.ca/timeofreckoning](https://cmu.ca/timeofreckoning).

**Help build a future of peace in Mindanao:** Malipayon Peace Hub Through Peacebuilders Community (PBCI) and its subsidiary, Coffee for Peace (CFP), Dann and Joji Pantoja serve the socially and economically vulnerable people in the conflicted Mindanao region of the Philippines. They are now preparing for the next phase of PBCI and CFP: a three-year plan to transition the work to a younger, Indigenous generation. Help grow communities of hope and peace for another generation. Join PBCI and CFP in making this dream a reality by supporting the Malipayon Peace Hub to become a centre of peace training and coffee production for the people of Mindanao. Go to <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/philippines-transition> for information and to see the progress thus far.

**\*First Mennonite Church** has received notice that our administrative secretary is retiring effective September 28, 2023. This is a part-time position, with the possibility of flexible hours. If you are interested, please contact Ethel Classen by e-mail at: [classen@sasktel.net](mailto:classen@sasktel.net) or 306-292-7886 for more information.

**\*New seasonal blend coffee from Level Ground!** Bundle up is a dark roast that will make you feel invincible and ready to face anything - even icy winter temperatures. With notes of chocolate, toffee, and spiced rum, this exclusive roast will leave you feeling warm and cozy. Available in bean only in 300g size. For a limited time only! Get yours at <https://mcsask.ca/coffee>