



Osler Mennonite Church

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

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

November 5, 2023

The Arsenal of Grace

Prelude

Welcome/Land Acknowledgement/Announcements

Kingdom of Kindness Call to Worship

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Leader: God of grace:

We have come for a glimpse of your kingdom of kindness:

**People: a world where love rules over all
a world where enemies embrace,**

Leader: a world where the distinctions between friend and foe
evaporate in the light of your love.

**People: Knowing you have the power to transform us,
we give our lives over to you,**

**ALL: Body, soul, mind, spirit;
all in Jesus' name.**

Prayer of Invocation

**Gathering Hymns: VT #9 Come Away from Rush and Hurry
VT #34 We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer**

Old Testament Reading: Joshua 3:7-17

And the Lord said to Joshua, "Today I will begin to exalt you in the eyes of all Israel, so they may know that I am with you as I was with Moses. Tell the priests who carry the ark of the covenant: 'When you reach the edge of the Jordan's waters, go and stand in the river.'" Joshua said to the Israelites, "Come here and listen to the words of the Lord your God. This is how you will know that the living God is among you and that he will certainly drive out before you the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites and Jebusites. See, the ark of

the covenant of the Lord of all the earth will go into the Jordan ahead of you. Now then, choose twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe. And as soon as the priests who carry the ark of the Lord—the Lord of all the earth—set foot in the Jordan, its waters flowing downstream will be cut off and stand up in a heap.”

So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them. Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water’s edge, the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (that is, the Dead Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho. The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord stopped in the middle of the Jordan and stood on dry ground, while all Israel passed by until the whole nation had completed the crossing on dry ground.

Children’s Gathering Song: VT #510 Today Earth Is Singing
Story for All Ages: Marlene

Offering / The air we breathe offering prayer (Carol Penner)
/ Music for Meditation

Sharing of Joys and Concerns / Prayer of the Church

Prayers – cease-fire in Gaza and Ukraine

-Zac Stefaniuk’s installation as pastor at Zion today

Hymn VT #570 When We Walk with the Lord

Gospel Reading: Matthew 23:1-12

Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples: “The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat. So you must be careful to do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach. They tie up heavy, cumbersome loads and put them on other people’s shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them.

“Everything they do is done for people to see: They make their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long; they love the place of honor at banquets and the most important seats in the synagogues; they love to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces and to be called ‘Rabbi’ by others.

“But you are not to be called ‘Rabbi,’ for you have one Teacher, and you are all brothers. And do not call anyone on earth ‘father,’ for you have one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one Instructor, the Messiah. The greatest among you will be your servant. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

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 #719 Jesus, Help Us Live in Peace

Sermon: The Arsenal of Grace

Hymn: VT #716 God of Grace and God of Glory

Benediction: Go forth in peace and be of good courage; and may God who fills the hungry with good things fill us all with Christlike love and with a consuming hunger for justice in our land and in our world. Amen

*Offerings can be done via e-transfer to osler.mc.treasurer@gmail.com

TODAY’S WORSHIP November 5 *The Arsenal of Grace*

Speaker: Patty Friesen Worship Leader: Adeline Cox

Song Leader: Loretta Accompanist: Lynette

Children’s Time: Luke Sound: Stephanie Ushers: Lloyd/Harold

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

Patty’s Week: Mon. Exec/council; Tues. sermon; Weds. office/CMU class/AMBS class; Fri. Office

Luke’s Week: Mon. Council Mtg; Wed. NPMC Youth; Thurs. Sermon Work/KCC; Fri. OMC Youth; Sat. Sermon Work; Sun. Preaching

Birthdays: 5 – Kaytee Edwards- Buhler; 10 – Benjamin Penner; 10 – Michelle McKinnell

Friday: coffee is on every Friday in the church office – 10:00 a.m.

Gathering Room Coffee Schedule Nov 5 - Julie

Nov 12 -

NEXT SUNDAY November 12

Peace Sunday

Speaker: Luke Bushman Worship Leader: Terry & Emmett

Song Leaders: Kathryn, Anna, Ben Accompanist: Naomi

Children's Time: Marlene Sound: Keri/James Ushers: Benjamin/Dick

CALENDAR

Nov 5 10:00 am Patty Friesen speaking *Arsenal of Grace*

11:00 am Deacon mtg

12:00 pm congregational discussion on budget

Nov 6 6:00 pm Exec mtg

7:30 pm Council mtg

Nov 8 7:30 pm C.C. mtg zoom

Nov 12 10:00 am Luke Bushman speaking *Peace Sunday*

11:00 am Forum on Dementia *Julie Bergen*

Noon Lunch Bunch at Osler Cafe

Nov 19 10:00 am Patty Friesen speaking *Holding out for Grace*

11:00 am Dick & Kathy sharing re: learning tour

Nov 26 10:00 am Patty Friesen speaking *Memorial Sunday*

TODAY

November 5: please join church council at 12 noon for a congregational discussion on the 2023 budget shortfall and the 2024 preliminary budget planning. Lunch will be provided by donation.

OMC/CMU Zoom Explore Class every Wednesday @ **9:00 a.m.** until November 8 in the Coffee Room: Reconsidering Anabaptist Identity after 500 years with Karl Koop. Recorded classes available for interested individuals to watch at your leisure. Karl Koop rocks!

Faith Exploration: If you are feeling close to God after this summer and want to make a public commitment in baptism or transfer of membership – please talk to Pastor Luke or Pastor Patty or a deacon – Karl, Julie, Frieda, Wilf, George.

Creating Healthier Church Culture Webinar Weds. Nov. 29, 6:00-7:30 CT in OMC Coffee Room

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Forever in Motion - free drop-in classes every Tuesday and Friday starting at 10:00 a.m. at the Community Hall led by Lucy Friesen and Susan Braun. Join OMCers' and other Osler locals for seniors' exercise and conversation.

*The documentary, *Custodians*, won all four categories in the 2023 Saskatchewan Film Festival Awards last week. *Walking the Path* is a subcommittee of Mennonite Church Saskatchewan that produced the 65-minute documentary, directed by Brad Leitch. Contact Jake Buhler for more information.

***Saskatoon Chamber Singers Remembrance Day** concert. Saturday November 11th, 3:00pm at Knox United Church. Tickets are \$35 at the door or \$30 in advance. Tickets can be purchased online or from Michelle McKinnell.

RJC Kiekle Supper Fundraiser at Bethany Manor November 14. Join us for a fundraising concert and supper at Bethany Manor in support of RJC High School. There will be two seating's. First dinner seating at 4:30pm for Bethany Manor residents. Second dinner seating at 6:30pm for RJC families & friends. Please RSVP to office@rjc.sk.ca or call 306-232-4222.

RJC Spend-A-Day November 22 Prospective students in Grades 8-11 are invited to experience a day in the life at RJC. Please contact admissions@rjc.sk.ca or call 306-232-4222 for more information and to register.

It is *Canadian Mennonite* subscription list update time! Under the *Every Home Plan*, everyone who attends church is eligible to subscribe. Many of our church members have been subscribing for years, but we want to ensure that newcomers to the church also have access to the magazine. Subscriptions are available in print and digital formats, and are paid for collectively by *Mennonite Church Saskatchewan*. If you are not already receiving the magazine and would like to, or if you would like to make changes to your existing subscription, please contact the office as soon as possible.

MC Sask Update:

*We rejoice with Zion Mennonite Church, Swift Current, as **Zachary Stefaniuk** is installed as their pastor on Sunday, November 5. May God's blessings be on them as they journey together in Christ.

***Nov 5: Forest church at Shekinah 3pm.** We'll spend time connecting the current season, gelassenheit, and the poetry of Wendell Berry. All are welcome around the fire! **(new)**

While Shekinah is grateful that Amy Peters has agreed to accept a half time position as Executive Director **for a period of time**, we are still recruiting for a permanent full time Executive Director. For more information please contact Phyllis Goertz, board chair, p.goertz@sasktel.net or 306 242 8367.

Statement on Antisemitism and Islamophobia

The horrific attacks by Hamas on Israeli citizens on October 7, followed by the brutal siege, bombing, and invasion of Gaza by the Israeli Defense Forces since then, have led to an increase in anti-Jewish and anti-Muslim speech and hate crimes around the world, including in Canada. We call on Mennonite Church Canada congregations and members to resist this rhetoric in their spheres of influence, and to show support for their Jewish and Muslim neighbours in Jesus' way of love. We also continue to call our congregations and members to pray for a just peace in Israel and Palestine which will allow both Israelis and Palestinians to live in freedom and safety.

Doug Klassen, Executive Minister, Mennonite Church Canada

Ann Schultz, Executive Team Leader, Mennonite Church Eastern Canada

Michael Pahl, Executive Minister, Mennonite Church Manitoba

Gary Peters, Interim Executive Minister, Mennonite Church Saskatchewan

Tim Wiebe-Neufeld, Executive Minister, Mennonite Church Alberta

Shel Boese, Executive Minister, Mennonite Church British Columbia (new)

***Face2Face at CMU | This Event is Generated by Artificial Intelligence: Conversations with ChatGPT** – You are invited on November 15 at 7:00 PM (CST) at Marpeck Commons or via livestream for an opportunity to learn and gain a deeper understanding of the uses, opportunities, and ethical concerns of generative AI's role in our rapidly changing world. Visit cmu.ca/face2face for more information. **(new)**

Happy 95th Birthday, Osler Mennonite Church!!

Where did we Worship from 1928 to 2023?



The first church building was completed in September, 1928 at a cost of \$7,000. There were 51 founding members. Members worshiped here until October, 1933.



Let us treasure our past. But may we as a welcoming church look forward - committed to our anabaptist faith to embrace the teachings of Jesus Christ, and to serve others. **Jake Buhler, Nov 2023**