



Osler Mennonite Church

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

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

March 9, 2025

First Sunday of Lent

Prelude

Welcome/Land Appreciation/Announcements

Call to Worship:

One: Christ collides with our bias. Who will follow Christ?

Many: We will follow for sure,

but we will tell you where to bring down your fire.

One: Jesus say, "Follow me."

Many: We will follow when our calculations are finished.

One: Christ collides with our leanings.

Many: For your reign, O God,

help us put a hand on your plow and not look back.

All: Guide us as we worship you.

Confession and Words of Assurance

All: Loving and merciful God,

We confess that we have sinned against you.

One: We have not loved you with all our thoughts, words, and actions.

Many: We have sinned through what we have chosen to do

and what we have chosen to neglect.

One: We have not fully accepted your love for us.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Many: We cling to our assumptions

and insist that our point of view is the correct one.

All: We repent before each other and before you, our loving God.

Please help us open our hearts to your love. Help us shake free from our biases and assumptions so we may better share your peace in your world, rejoicing in your name. Amen.

Leader: Now hear these words of assurance: God tells us that we are created in God's image. God created us for relationship with God and each other. In this, we know that God will never break our relationship. God's steadfast love endures forever.

Hymns of Praise: VT #30 Jesus Calls Us
VT #162 The Love of God

First Reading: Luke 10:25-37

An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbour as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Children's Gathering Song: Today Earth is Singing
Story for All Ages: Jake

Offering Prayer/Music for Meditation

Sharing Joys and Concerns/Prayer of the Church

Prayers –

Thanksgiving – for the work of MC Sask, it's staff & all congregations

Candle Prayers for peace and our hearts' desires...

Hymn: VT #9 Come Away from Rush and Hurry

Gospel Reading: John 12: 1-8

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus's feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

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 #527 Bless the Arms That Comfort

Sermon: The Heart of True Worship

Hymn: VT #568 Christ Has No Body Here but Ours

Benediction On our faith journey, Jesus collides with our biases to transform our thoughts and actions. Expand the reign of God! Go, growing peace!

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

*Our Services are all Streamed and Archived on-line.

TODAY **March 9** *First Sunday of Lent*

Speaker: Sharon Murugiah Worship Leader: Luke Bushman

Song Leaders: Kathryn, Ben, Loretta Accompanist: Melanie

Story: Jake Sound: Doug Ushers: Anne/Bill

Offering Counter Team: Susan Braun, Matthew Braun

Sunday School – Stephanie, Nora

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

Friday Coffee time at church – 10:00 am *all are welcome*

Luke's Week: Vacation from March 11 to March 22

For Pastoral care please call Dave 306-270-5031 or Julie 306-250-2995

Birthdays: 10 – Micah Guenther; 13 – Casadi Schroeder

Gathering Room Coffee Schedule: Mar 9 – Wilf & Ruth
Mar 16 – Louise

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FYI – \$158.25 was raised on Loose Change Sunday which will go to the *Good Neighbours Food Bank* in Rosthern.

Gospel of Luke CMU Zoom Bible Study Wednesdays, until April 2, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Osler Mennonite Church Coffee Room

The quest stories in Luke belong to a cycle of seven stories in which someone approaches Jesus in quest of something vital for human well-being. Some of these quests are for physical healing, other kinds of healing, for release from alienation, social ostracism or other common human plights. Three of them take place early in Jesus's Galilean ministry, three take place as he nears Jerusalem on his journey toward the cross. The last one, and the most poignant, takes place on the cross.

The motif of the quest, with its patterns of sifting priorities and overcoming obstacles along the way, can be a powerful prompt for our own spiritual reflection and growth as we move through the seasons of Lent and Easter. Join us as we study these Bible stories confessionally—or as though our lives depended on it.

Bethany Family / Friends are you willing and able to serve the Bethany Community? Get involved by becoming a Volunteer Dining Room Server! This is your opportunity to get some light exercise while serving your community. Plus, you receive a meal free each time you serve! We especially need volunteers on Sundays, even one Sunday a month can help! Check the bulletin board for more details....

What Do I Do with My Anger?

Friday, March 14, 2025, 10 – 11:30am PT (11 - 12:30 MT)

Featuring Richard Rohr and Brian McLaren

Presented by the Center for Action and Contemplation

If you wish to participate in this live event or in a later recorded event, please contact Dave 306-270-5031 or feick.dave@gmail.com

MCC Connects: MCC is looking for volunteers to help this year's Relief Sale Festival run smoothly on June 14 at Forest Grove Community Church. Volunteer duties may include: organizing food booths, coordinating volunteers, or joining the Relief Sale Committee. If interested, please email Karla at karlakoehn@mccsk.ca. Learn more about other ways to get involved, like contributing the bake sale, plant sale, online auction, or artisan booths at www.mccskreliefsale.com

MC Sask News:

Anabaptism at 500

Saturday, July 26 3:00 pm at the Mennonite Youth Farm, Rosthern
Join fellow heirs of the Anabaptist Reformation in celebrating with music and stories the 500th anniversary of the beginning of our Anabaptist faith family, and our 130 years in Saskatchewan. Supper will be available for purchase on the grounds. Bring your own seating. (new)

Through the winter, Len Rempel and Council members have been holding Town Hall meetings in our congregations across the province. It has been a wonderful time of connecting and hearing from many of you. We have set up a web-form so that those who couldn't attend can now respond as well. Please go to <https://mcsask.ca/townhallmeeting> we'd love to hear from you! The link will be available until March 10. (new)

Praying for each other: Fiske Mennonite Church is looking forward to celebrating its 100th anniversary on June 15. We welcome your prayers as we celebrate our past and live into our present and future. We ask for your prayers that we can name and participate in God's activity at work in our church, our community and beyond. (new)

Shekinah is hosting a "Whodunit Extravaganza" March 14-15.

Shekinah is hosting its first ever murder mystery night! Doors open at

6:30, buffet opens at 7:00. Guests will enjoy a gourmet buffet while solving an exciting Whodunit Friday evening. After a peaceful sleep in the Timberlodge, they will solve the second one while enjoying a brunch buffet. Registration is \$155 per person. Registration deadline is Feb 24th. Register at

<https://www.cognitofirms.com/ShekinahRetreatCentre/CSIShekinahWhodunitExtravaganza>

Puttin' on the Ribs is happening on March 15th at Shekinah Retreat Centre. Doors open at 6:00pm. Tickets are \$65/person or \$425/per table of 8. RSVP by March 9th. Tickets available at www.shekinahretreatcentre.org

We are hiring! Shekinah Retreat Centre is currently looking for a highly motivated and enthusiastic Booking Coordinator/Event Host. For details on this full time position, please go to <https://www.shekinahretreatcentre.org/> and scroll down to career opportunities.

RJC Songs & Sweets | 2:00pm Sunday, March 9 We invite supporters, alumni and friends to help us to celebrate the legacy of music and generosity with the RJC community at Songs & Sweets: A Fundraising Concert & Cake Auction. The afternoon will include coffee, tea, desserts, a live cake auction and a cupcake lottery, and feature performances by RJC Singers, Nutana Park Church Kids' Club & Choir and North Sky Chorale. Please RSVP for the event at (306) 232-4222 or office@rjc.sk.ca. We hope you join us for this lively & fun-filled fundraising event!

RJC Spend-a-day | April 9 Prospective students in Grades 8-11 are invited to experience a day in the life at RJC on Wednesday, April 9 from 9:00am – 3:30pm. Shadow a student, enjoy a meal in the dining hall, attend chapel, explore music, sports, and dorm life. Come and see what RJC is all about and what we can offer you! Register at rjc.sk.ca/spend-a-day. (new)

The Youth Farm Bible Camp invites you to our 32nd Annual Vereniki Fund Raiser on Wednesday, March 26 from 5:00-7:00pm. Admission is by Donation. More information about the event can be found at www.yfbc.ca/march

Nutana Park Mennonite Church is celebrating 60 years of congregational life the weekend of April 5 & 6. Lots of music, special features and food. Anyone that ever attended NPMC is welcome. (new)

Registration is officially open for MC Canada Gathering 2025

Register at <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/article/45328>. Three tracks to choose from: Gathering 2025 (the main Gathering), U30 Gathering 2025 (part of the main Gathering with unique elements for young adults), and Youth Gathering 2025 (a unique event designed specifically for youth - Grades 6-12). There is also a separate registration for those who are only participating in one of the Pre-Gathering events. (new) Check out this short, thought-provoking video invitation from Gathering 2025 speaker, César García (General Secretary, MWC). He gives us a glimpse into what he's preparing to share with the Nationwide Church at this year's Gathering. View video on our YouTube channel <https://youtu.be/3MMEC5H0akg> (new)

Canadian Mennonite Magazine

You've probably noticed over the last year that *Canadian Mennonite* has moved to having a featured theme to most issues.

Once we get an idea of the feature articles, we brainstorm ideas for the cover, trying to capture your attention and to encourage you to open the magazine. We try to avoid clichéd images, but we don't want to be confusing. We also think about what will work on newsprint. (We felt nervous about the all-black cover for our December issue.)

This conversation is creative and collaborative. Our January cover was especially fun—we knew we were writing about intergenerational households, and what came to mind were the Richard Scarry children's picture books. Could we commission something similar? Artist *Dona Park* did a wonderful job bringing the cover to vivid life.

This month, the conversation was more challenging.

In our March issue, we wanted to tackle a lot: how conflict and bad processes in the church hurt people, what tools and strategies help, who

has done it well. We wanted to acknowledge the deep pain that people have experienced. We also wanted to point to the articles that offer good insights.

Peace

Susan Fish, Associate Editor
ae@canadianmennonite.org
publisher@canadianmennonite.org
Toll-free: 1-800-378-2524

CALENDAR

Sun. Mar 9 – 10:00 am Sharon Murugiah *from Shekinah speaking*

1st Sunday of Lent

11:10 am Deacon mtg

Mon. Mar 10 – 6:00 pm Executive mtg

7:30 pm Council mtg

Tues. Mar 11 – 4:30 pm Worship mtg @ John's house in S'toon

Sun. Mar 16 – 10:00 am Henry Funk speaking

March 24 (the week of) proposed - MCC Blanket making

Sun. Mar 23 – 10:00 am Terry Stefaniuk speaking

Sat. Mar 29 – 9:30 am Visioning Session with Tim Nickel

Sun. Mar 30 – 10:00 am George Janzen speaking

NEXT SUNDAY March 16

Speaker: Henry Funk Worship Leader: George Janzen

Song Leaders: Ben, Kathryn, Accompanist: Lynette

Story: Kathy Sound: Matthew Ushers: Benjamin/Dick

Offering Counter Team: Susan Braun, Garry Boldt

Sunday School – Kathryn, Emmett & Noah

The Osler Mennonite Church, Box 129, Osler, Saskatchewan S0K 3A0

Vol. LXVI

March 9, 2025

No. 10

Church Office – 306-239-2133

oslermcoffice@sasktel.net

oslermcpastor2@gmail.com

website: <http://oslermennonitechurch.org>

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