



# 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

January 12, 2025

## **Baptism Communion Sunday**

*The Joy of Baptism, New Members and Communion*

### **Prelude**

**Welcome/Land Appreciation/Announcements**

### **Call to Worship**

**L:** God of faithfulness, your steadfast love endures forever.

In Christ we belong to you and your people.

**C:** **Today, through the Spirit, we join together to worship, baptize and commune and to remember our commitment to you.**

**All:** *God, give us grace, in this place and for this time, to live out our devotion to you.*

**Prayer of Invocation:** Thank you Faithful One, for your grace to us through all the days of our lives. Thank you for this joyful day to receive the gift of new members and communion with each other. Fill us to serve our larger community beyond us. Amen.

**Hymns of Praise:** **VT #453 As I Went Down to the River to Pray**  
**VT #11 Mountain of God**

**First Reading:** Isaiah 43:1-7

But now thus says the Lord, who created you, do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you, and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One your Saviour. You are precious in my sight and honoured and I love you. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will

say to the north, “Give them up,” and to the south, “Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

**Children’s Gathering Song: Today Earth is Singing**

**Story for All Ages:** Patty Friesen and Noah Schroeder

**Offering Prayer/Music for Meditation**

**Sharing Joys and Concerns/Prayer of the Church**

**Prayers** – those struggling with health

- all those seeking a spiritual community

**Condolences** to Sarah & Cornie at the death of Sarah’s sister-in-law Mary Guenther. Funerals for both Peter & Mary were held on Jan 10<sup>th</sup>  
-to the family of Harry Martens at his death on Jan 9<sup>th</sup>

**Candle Prayers for inner and world peace**

**Hymn: VT #568      Christ has No Body Here but Ours**

**Sharing by New Members:**

Casadi and Brad Schroder, Nora Bergen-Braun

**Baptism** of Nora Bergen-Braun

**Congregational Welcome of New Members:** Kevin Boldt, OMC chair

*As we now receive all of you with joy into the fellowship of the church, we make this commitment to you to bear each other’s joys and burdens, to assist in times of need, and when we fail and disappoint, to forgive as Christ has forgiven, and in all things to work for the common good, thus proclaiming the presence of Christ among us.*

**Hymn: VT #458      The Water Is Ready**

**Preparation for Communion**

L: Friends, as we gather to eat the bread and drink the cup, let us respond with the pledge of love. Will you love God before all things, in the power of God’s living Word, and going yourself to God’s way?

**All: By the grace of God, we will.**

L: Will you love and serve our neighbours, and lay down your life through the power of Jesus Christ, who laid down his life for us?

**All: *By the grace of God, we will.***

L: Will you support and challenge one another, speak and hear the truth, cease what causes harm to our neighbours and planet and do good to our enemies?

**All: *By the grace of God, we will.***

L: May the Spirit of God who calls the church to Christ's Supper give us the grace, strength and patience to live this pledge of love.

**All: *Amen.***

L: At this table, we receive the bread of life, a worldwide communion with Christ and one another. (*Eat together*)

L: At this table, receive the cup of life of Jesus that binds us together. (*Drink together*).

**All: *O God, we give you thanks for filling us with joy at this table. Help us treasure this sign of reconciliation with you and with each other. Fill us to serve others. Amen.***

**Hymn: VT #563      Come, Thou Fount**

**Benediction:** Water of Life, Living Bread, as we go forth, set us free to follow where you lead. Amen.

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

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

**TODAY      Jan 12    *New Members, Baptism & Communion***

Speakers: New Members      Worship Leader: Patty Friesen

Song Leaders: Kathryn, Ben, Loretta, Benjamin    Accompanist: Lynette

Story: Patty/Noah      Sound: Doug      Ushers: Bill/Anne

Offering Counter Team: Jim Dyck, Loretta Sawatzky

Sunday School Leaders: Karl, Eli and Dylan

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

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

**Patty's Week:** Tues. worship prep; Weds. office; Fri. Office

**Luke's Week:** Wed. OMC Office Hours; Thurs. KCC; Fri. OMC Youth

Sat. Sermon Writing (From Home); Sun. Church

**Birthdays:** 14 – Scott Buhler; 18 – Kevin Boldt

**Gathering Room Coffee Schedule:** Jan 12 – Bergen Braun family  
Jan 19 – Casadi  
Jan 26 – Deacons

Please consider signing up to bring snacks &/or make coffee/clean up

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Peace by Chocolate Book Club Book due - please return to lobby table.

Sat. Jan. 18-Tues. Jan. 21 **Anabaptist Read-a-thon** running 72 hours on Patty's computer in her open office. Drop in anytime and watch 500 Anabaptists read through the Bible culminating in the international joint reading of Revelation 21 live from Goshen, IN 6:00 p.m. Tues. Jan. 21. Link will be sent for folks to watch at home as well.

### **Gospel of Luke CMU Zoom Bible Study Wednesdays, February 26-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.

Mary Schertz is Professor Emerita of New Testament at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, happily living and worshipping in Elkhart, Indiana. Mary recently completed the Believers Church Bible Commentary on Luke which is available from Herald Press at MennoMedia or in Winnipeg at CommonWord.

**MCC Connects:** Join MCC for Transformation Tuesdays, a free monthly opportunity to practice peacebuilding skills. This month, Forced to Flee will be facilitated on Tuesday, January 21 from 7-9 pm at the MCC Centre. All are welcome to experience a simulation that transforms thinking and inspires action around conflict, migration, and

refugees. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. To register, please visit:

<https://www.cognitofirms.com/MennoniteCentralCommittee2/TransformationTuesdayForcedToFlee>

### **MC Sask News:**

**Pray** for the pastors and leaders in Mennonite Church Saskatchewan. As the new year begins, pray for guidance, wisdom and peace as they lead us in these times of uncertainty and turmoil.

It is with much joy and anticipation that we finalize plans for the **2025 MC Sask Youth Retreat, Jan. 31- Feb 2** at the Shekinah Retreat Centre. We are so excited to have a weekend of worship, community-building, and fun! We hope your youth can plan to join us! This year we managed to keep Kirsten Hamm-Epp around for a little longer as our speaker, and we also anticipate the retreat band (Zac Schellenberg and Clay Buhler) to make an appearance! Details and registration available at <https://mcsask.ca/event/11925> (updated)

**John and Margaret Friesen Lecture Series** – A two-part lecture series titled, “Anabaptist Peace Witness – Historical Significance and Today’s Mission,” with Dr. Astrid von Schlachta, Head of the Mennonite Research Center and lecturer at the University of Regensburg, takes place on Thursday, January 23 at 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM CST at CMU. Visit [cmu.ca/friesenlectures](https://cmu.ca/friesenlectures) for more information and livestream feeds. (new)

**RJC Open House | 5:30pm January 17, 2025** Prospective families & students in Grades 5-11 are invited to RJC’s Open House! The event will include dinner, a school and dormitory tour and a student variety show, "Friday Night Live". Each stop of the tour will provide an opportunity to learn more about RJC’s academics, athletics, arts, faith and community programming; including information specific to our Grade 9 GROW program and other grade-based initiatives. Interested students and families are invited to pre-register at [rjc.sk.ca/openhouse](https://rjc.sk.ca/openhouse).

**RJC Tournament of Memories: Basketball & Curling | January 31 & February 1, 2025** Join the fun at RJC's Alumni & Friends basketball and curling tournament. Come and play or watch the face-paced action in the RJC Gymnasium or at the Rosthern Curling Club (Jubilee Sports Centre). Cost to play is \$25/person, and lunch will be available for

purchase in the RJC Dining Hall on Saturday (\$15/person, 10 & under free). To pre-register please visit [rjc.sk.ca/tom](http://rjc.sk.ca/tom). We hope to see you there!

**RJC announces the addition of Grade 9!** In response to parental and student requests, and in an effort to expand and enhance our school program and mission, RJC High School is pleased to announce the addition of grade 9 for the 2025/2026 school year. Grade 9 is the natural intake for most high schools in the province, and an increasing number of students and families have requested this program. We are excited to now provide this opportunity for our students. For details go to <https://www.rjc.sk.ca/2024/12/04/rjc-announces-addition-of-grade-9/>  
**Save the date!** The MC Sask Gathering 2025 (annual delegate sessions) will be held at RJC High School on March 7 & 8, 2025. The theme is "Differences for the Common Good". All are welcome to attend. More details available soon

**Beginning on January 18, 2025** the Anabaptism at 500 Read-a-thon will be available to stream online and will conclude on January 21, 2025, with a live-streamed worship/celebration in Goshen, Indiana (USA) as we read together the final passage from Revelations and celebrate the launch of the Anabaptist Community Bible. Available at [info@MennoMedia.org](mailto:info@MennoMedia.org). (new)

**Mennonite Church Saskatchewan is celebrating  
Anabaptism at 500 with a series of events:**

**Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.** Celebration Kickoff: The Radicals will be shown at Wildwood Mennonite Church.

**Are you attending the Anabaptism at 500 celebrations in Zurich?** Please let us know so we can connect you with others attending and pray for you. Email the office at [mcsask@mcsask.ca](mailto:mcsask@mcsask.ca) or call us at 306-249-4944. (new)

**Pentecost Service:** A service featuring choirs, communion, and supper is tentatively planned for Saturday, June 7, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. at the Youth Farm

**Donations:** Donations to support the Anabaptism at 500 initiatives can be made at [www.mcsask.ca/giving](http://www.mcsask.ca/giving) designated "Anabaptism at 500"

**On behalf of the Bethany Manor Music Committee**, we welcome choristers to join us in song beginning Wednesday, January 15th. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays, from 1:30p.m.-3p.m.at 110 La Ronge Rd. We will be pleased to present concerts on April 5th and 6th under the direction of Andrea Johnson. Please come and join us as we celebrate the gift of song! For further inquiries, please call 306-229-3288. (new)

## CALENDAR

**Sun. Jan 12 – 10:00 am Baptism, New members & Communion**

11:00 am Worship mtg Patty's office

11:00 am Deacons mtg Room #3

11:00 am Community Connections mtg Room #2

Sat. Jan. 18-Tues. Jan. 21 **Anabaptist Read-a-thon**

**Sun. Jan 19 – 10:00 am RJC High School Choir**

11:30 am Potluck – *bring lots* - Group A-B help

**Sun. Jan 26 – 10:00 am Patty Friesen**

*Anabaptism 500th Birthday Party and Hymn Sing*

11:00 Birthday Cake and Dutch Blitz and Crokinole

in the MPR (bring crokinole boards and DB cards)

**Sun. Feb 2 – 10:00 am Patty Friesen Retirement Sermon**

11:11 SS Forum Enneagram Part 2 with Amanda Dodge

12:00 Lunch with Amanda at Osler Restaurant

Sun. Feb. 9 - 9:00 Pop-Up Choir for Retirement Party

- Lois and Lynette leading

**Sun. Feb 9 – 10:00 am Luke Bushman speaking**

11:11 am Patty's Roast – in the MPR

Roast the Rev/special coffee

**NEXT SUNDAY Jan 19 RJC High School Choir Program**

Speakers: Alex Tiessen      Worship Leader: Patty Friesen

Song Leaders: Adele Sawatzky      Accompanist: Audrey J

Story: RJC      Sound: Doug      Ushers: Bill/Anne

Offering Counter Team: Jim Dyck, Matthew Braun

Sunday School Leaders: Stephanie, Bree

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

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Church Office – 306-239-2133

[oslermcoffice@sasktel.net](mailto:oslermcoffice@sasktel.net)

[oslermcpastor@sasktel.net](mailto:oslermcpastor@sasktel.net)

[oslermcpastor2@gmail.com](mailto:oslermcpastor2@gmail.com)

website: <http://oslermennonitechurch.org>

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