



Osler Mennonite Church

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

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

March 12, 2023

Third Sunday of Lent
“Called to the Light”

Prelude

Welcome/Land Acknowledgement/Announcements

Gathering Hymns: VT #584
VT #715

“Jesus, Be the Center”
“Longing for Light”

Call to Worship

Leader: The Lord is our shepherd.

People: We shall not want.

Leader: God makes us lie down in green pastures.

People: We shall not want.

Leader: God leads us beside quiet waters.

People: We shall not want.

All: Restore us through your Holy Spirit, the love of Jesus Christ and the comfort of your presence.

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Lord, we long for light, but all is darkness, and we walk in deep shadows. We have driven back justice. Truth has stumbled in the streets, and thick darkness is over the people. We confess to the Lord...

Silent prayer

Leader: As everything exploded to the light becomes visible, we walk from darkness into light.

All: Open our eyes, Jesus, that our lives may radiate your glory.

Amen.

Children’s Gathering Song: VT #282 “Come and See”

Children’s Time: Adeline

Offering / Offertory Prayer / Music for Meditation

Sharing of Joys and Concerns / Prayer of the Church

Prayers- Celebration of Life for Amber – 3pm @ Senior Centre today
-for the Applegate family as they deal with so many tragedies
-for Karen’s last cancer treatment on Wednesday

Thanks - to Torben Sjolen, Sandra MacArthur, Wilf & Ruth Buhler, Kaytee Edward Buhler, Luke Bushman and the Youth for an excellent Green Fund-raiser last Sunday.

- to MC SK Annual Delegates for representing OMC this weekend: Edna Zacharias, Jake Buhler, Margaret and Dennis Boldt, Alex Tiessen, Ben Buhler, Luke Bushman and Patty Friesen
-for Terry’s terms as MC SK Chairperson

Please raise your hand for the microphone as we would like to hear prayer concerns/joys directly from you.

Hymn: VT #551 “Beautiful Things”

Gospel Reading: John 9:1-17

As Jesus walked along, he saw someone who had been blind from birth. The disciples asked Jesus, “Rabbi, was it this individual’s sin that caused the blindness, or that of the parents?”

“Neither,” answered Jesus, “It wasn’t because of anyone’s sin—not this person’s, nor the parents’. Rather, it was to let God’s works shine forth in this person. We must do the deeds of the One who sent me while it is still day—for night is coming, when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

With that, Jesus spat on the ground, made mud with his saliva and smeared the blind one’s eyes with the mud. Then Jesus said, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam”—“Siloam” means “sent.” So the person went off to wash, and came back able to see.

Neighbors and those who had been accustomed to seeing the blind beggar began to ask, “Isn’t this the one who used to sit and beg?” Some said yes; others said no—the one who had been healed simply looked like the beggar. But the individual in question said, “No—it was me.”

The people then asked, “Then how were your eyes opened?”

The answer came, “The one they call Jesus made mud and smeared it on my eyes, and told me to go to Siloam and wash. When I went and washed, I was able to see.”

“Where is Jesus?” they asked.

The person replied, “I have no idea.”

They took the one who had been born blind to the Pharisees. It had been on a Sabbath that Jesus had made the mud paste and opened this one’s eyes. The Pharisees asked how the individual could see. They were told, “Jesus put mud on my eyes. I washed it off, and now I can see.”

This prompted some Pharisees to say, “This Jesus cannot be from God, because he doesn’t keep the Sabbath.” Others argued, “But how could a sinner perform signs like these?” They were sharply divided.

Then they addressed the blind person again: “Since it was your eyes he opened, what do you have to say about this Jesus?”

“He’s a prophet,” came the reply.

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 #738 “Open My Eyes That I May See”

Sermon: “Seeing our blind spots”

Hymn: VT #849 “We, Your People, Sing Your Praises”

Benediction: Go forth and shine, for the Light has come. And the glory of the Lord rises upon us. Surely goodness and love will follow us all the days of our lives,
and we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

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

Welcome to Reynold Friesen, Director of Church and Alumni Relations for Canadian Mennonite University, Winnipeg. Reynold is married to Tammy Sawatzky, daughter of Bev Boldt Sawatzky who grow up at Osler. Please join Reynold for the 11:00 Mosaic SS and/or for 12:00 Second Sunday Lunch Bunch at back room of the Osler Restaurant.

TODAY'S WORSHIP March 12

Speaker: Reynold Friesen *CMU* Worship Leader: Adeline Cox
Song Leader: Loretta Accompanist: Naomi
Children's Time: Adeline Sound: Keri/James Ushers: Lloyd/Harold
Kid's S.S. – Loretta Sawatzky, Youth S.S. – Luke Bushman

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

Patty's Week: Mon. MC SK/CC Zoom; Tues. sermon prep; Weds. office, pickle ball; Thurs. grief group; Fri. Office

Luke's Week: Mon. Council Mtg; Wed. Sermon Writing from Home; Thurs. OMC and NPMC; Fri. OMC Office; Sat. NPMC & OMC Youth

Birthday: none this week

Snack/Coffee Schedule: March 12 – Julie

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

11:00 Mosaic in the sanctuary with Reynold Friesen. Facebook will continue. All welcome.

12:00 Second Sunday Lunch Bunch at Osler restaurant backroom. All welcome – under 40's paid for.

NEW: SARCAN Drop and Go Donations

You can now donate your SARCAN recycling to benefit the OMC Green Fund initiated by the Youth and Community Connections. Simply visit your local SARCAN depot and log in with our group phrase: omcgreen For more information, please visit:

https://www.sarcana.ca/pages/drop_and_donate.html

Monday, March 13: Executive meeting 6:00 pm, Council mtg 7:30 pm
*Committees-please have your organizational meeting to determine your chairperson before the March 13th Council meeting.

Weds. Mar. 15, 5:30 p.m. *Ides of March Faspa*, featuring conversation with Theresa. "Sometimes the greatest adventure is simply a conversation." - Amadeus Wolfe. Please bring bread, cheese, chips, fruit, etc.

***Sunday, March 19, 7:00 pm** – Come and enjoy a performance by the Westgate Concert Band/Concert Choir/Senior Jazz Band/Vocal Jazz Class in the OMC sanctuary.

Grieving Well - Thursdays 11:00 – 12:00 noon CST (February 23 – March 30) Grieving Well with Wilma Derksen *on Zoom only*. Meet in Patty's office. Recorded sessions available upon request.

Season of Lent

Lenten Pottery – Shaped and Called by God by Naomi Schellenberg

I started taking pottery classes about 17 years ago, loved it and bought a wheel a few years later. Then work, children and moving set it aside for several years. The pandemic gave me incentive and time, and so I bought a kiln and started again. These are all pieces from the last year or two and while there are things I like about them, it's hard not to point out all of the flaws I see as well.

However, I keep going back to pottery because I love it- the smell of clay, the calm that sinks in when the clay is (finally) centered, shaping it, reusing clay that didn't work out, and opening the kiln.

Lenten Stations of the Cross in Sunday school wing rooms. Lenten Sunday Theme: Created by God, Shaped by Jesus. Devotional materials on the back table.

Upcoming Easter services: Maundy Thursday Communion, April 6, 7:00 p.m. coffee room; Good Friday, April 7, 7:00 p.m. 2 Readers needed for Good Friday service – please talk to Patty. Easter brunch, 11:00 Sun. April 9, 9:00 M-Z set-up and clean-up.

April 2, Palm Sunday – come at 9 am for an Impromptu Choir Practice

April 9 Easter Sunday - come at 9 am for an Impromptu Choir Practice

Also coming in April - Anabaptism 500 Community Bible Study led by Pastor Luke. Check out www.Anabaptismat500.com.

March 15 9:00 am – 4:00 pm Prairie Rivers Reconciliation

Committee 5th Annual Educational Gathering to be held at the Ramada Inn, Saskatoon. Lunch and refreshments provided. To register or for more info, contact: prcommittee@gamil.com

Poster on the bulletin board

Saturday, March 25 – 10:00-12:00 am Paska Party

A Community Connection event of making Paska that will be for sale on the Sunday. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

***MCC Connect:** This Easter season, consider helping woman and children in Afghanistan. Along with the current collapse of the country's economy, women and girls are banned from attending school. In

addition to finding ways to provide limited food assistance and health programs for families, one of MCC's partners is working bravely to provide literacy classes despite the risk in doing so. To help aid women and girls to read and write, please visit donation.mcccanada.ca/literacy

MC Sask Updates:

RJC Choirs & Cakes 7:00pm March 12, 2023. Join us in celebrating the legacy of music and the arts at RJC at Choirs & Cakes: A fundraising concert and cake auction. Featuring performances by RJC Alumni & Friends Choir, Prince Albert Children's Choir, RJC Singers, Bass & Treble Choirs. YOU are invited to participate in the RJC Alumni & Friends choir, directed by Duff Warkentin. Rehearsals will take place in the afternoon prior to the event at RJC. If you would like to sing in the Alumni & Friends choir, please email Alex at development@rjc.sk.ca or call 306-232-4222.

Shekinah Retreat Centre is looking to fill a number of positions, including a permanent Maintenance Manager (up to full time hours) to take care of our physical facility. In addition, we are looking for seasonal workers: spring school group programmers, maintenance workers, summer camp counsellors, and a summer camp kitchen coordinator. Please go to shekinah.ca/jobs for more information.

Save the Date. Shekinah is planning a rib night fundraiser "Putting of the Ribs: St Patrick's Day Edition" for March 17th at Shekinah. This is a fundraiser for Shekinah's much-needed water project. More information will be available at <https://shekinah.ca/events/2023/putting-on-the-ribs-saint-patrick-s-day-edition>

Mc Sask Camps Review released: After a thorough, nine-month review process, the Final Report and Executive Summary for the MC Sask Camps Review has been released, and has revealed a deep love for each of MC Sask's three camps (Camp Elim, Shekinah Retreat Centre, and Youth Farm Bible Camp), and a strong desire and commitment to help them grow.

As the study began to take shape, the central question that arose was: "what governance, organizational, and ownership structure makes most sense to drive and support the Mission and Vision of MC Sask associated camps?"

The Camp Study summary is below, and the full report and summary are available for download at <https://mcsask.ca/news/11311>

CMU Open House: At our place or from your place. In person open house takes place on Tuesday, March 28, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM; virtual open house takes place on Wednesday, March 29, 6:00–7:00 PM CDT. Receive a campus tour, ask questions of our Admissions team, and hear from faculty and current students. Visit cmu.ca/experience to register

MHC Gallery presents two new exhibitions: “Ukraine: Close to Home” and “Leaving Canada: The Mennonite Migration to Mexico”. Exhibitions run until April 29, visit cmu.ca/gallery for more information

MDS Canada needs volunteers in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, from March to October for Hurricane Fiona repair work. Last year MDS volunteers did clean-up work and tarped roofs; now it needs people to help fix hurricane-related water and wind damage. Travel subsidies are available. For more information, contact Clara Flores at cflores@mds.org or 1-866-261-1274.

Prayer Request and Invitation: on Climate Action

Pray for Jesus followers around the world who a commit to learn and walk together in faithful response to the climate crisis. Pray for open ears and hearts, and for willingness to move as the hands and feet of Christ. Newcomers to the climate conversation who wish to explore with others are invited to check out this conversation guide from “For the Love of Creation:”

<https://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/82/26193>

YOUTH CALENDAR

March 11th 6:30 pm Mega Menno Movie Night

March 18th 7:00 pm @ OMC, Talent Show

April 1st 7:00 pm @ OMC, Homemade Escape Room

Youth Announcements:

***Saturday, March 11, 6:30pm – Mega Menno Movie Night.** Youth will join with other members of the MC Sask family to watch ‘Custodians: A Story of Ancient Echoes’ at Wildwood Mennonite Church. Come enjoy some popcorn, and learn more about how we can help protect Indigenous artifacts and stories. Youth will have a separate discussion and debrief following the film. Free event for all youth gr. 6-12; contact Kirsten Hamm-Epp, youthminister@mcsask.ca, or visit www.mcsask.ca to learn more.

