



# Osler Mennonite Church

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

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

April 13, 2025

## *Palm Sunday*

Christ Collides with Our Expectations

### **Prelude**

### **Welcome/Land Appreciation/Announcements**

### **Palm Branch Procession**

**Call to Worship:** *based partly on Luke 19:38*

One: As we worship this Palm Sunday,

Christ collides with our expectations.

**Many: Have we not collided enough?**

One: In deep compassion, our Lord sets out a mission of full life.

**Many: Form us fully, Jesus.**

One: "Blessings on the king who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Many: Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens."**

**All: Our Lord, it is time for you to work in and with us  
as we worship you!**

### **Invocation**

**Hymns of Praise: VT #314 Holy Lord**

**VT #111 10,000 Reasons/Bless the Lord**

### **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 expectations,  
and we do not make space for you to challenge them.

*All: We repent before each other and before you, our loving God.  
Please help us open our hearts to your love. Help us let go of our  
narrow expectations 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.

**First Reading:** Psalm 31:9-16

You hate those who pay regard to worthless idols, but I trust in the Lord.  
I will exult and rejoice in your steadfast love,

because you have seen my affliction;  
you have taken notice of my adversities  
and have not delivered me into the hand of the enemy;  
you have set my feet in a broad place.

Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress;  
my eye wastes away from grief,  
my soul and body also.

For my life is spent with sorrow and my years with sighing;  
my strength fails because of my misery,  
and my bones waste away.

I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbors,  
an object of dread to my acquaintances;  
those who see me in the street flee from me.

I have passed out of mind like one who is dead;  
I have become like a broken vessel.

For I hear the whispering of many—terror all around!  
as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life.  
But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, "You are my God."

My times are in your hand;  
deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.  
Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

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

## **Offering Prayer/Music for Meditation**

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

**Prayers -**

**Thanks –**

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

**Hymn: VT #568      Christ Has no Body Here But Ours**

### **Gospel Reading: Luke 19:29-44 *the new Anabaptist Community Bible***

As Jesus came to Bethphage and Bethany on the Mount of Olives, he gave two disciples a task. He said, "Go into the village over there. When you enter it, you will find tied up there a colt that no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks, 'Why are you untying it?' just say, 'Its master needs it.'" Those who had been sent found it exactly as he had said. As they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?"

They replied, "Its master needs it." They brought it to Jesus, threw their clothes on the colt, and lifted Jesus onto it. As Jesus rode along they spread their clothes on the road.

As Jesus approached the road leading down from the Mount of Olives, the whole throng of his disciples began rejoicing. They praised God with a loud voice because of all the mighty things they had seen. They said, "Blessings on the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens."

Some of the Pharisees from the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, scold your disciples! Tell them to stop!" He answered, "I tell you, if they were silent, the stones would shout."

As Jesus came to the city and observed it, he wept over it. He said "If only you knew on this of all days the things that lead to peace. But now they are hidden from your eyes. The time will come when you enemies will build fortifications around you, encircle you, and attack you from all sides. They will crush you completely, you and the people within you. They won't leave one stone on top of another within you, because you didn't recognize the time of your gracious visit from God."

### **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 #237      Now the Heavens Start to Whisper (v. 1)**  
**VT #218      Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (v. 3)**

**Sermon:      “What Our Stories are Made Of”**

**Hymn: VT #499      In the Morning When I Rise**

**Benediction:** As we journey, Jesus collides with our expectations. Think kingdom thoughts! Welcome our Savior! Go, growing peace!

\*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      April 13    *Palm Sunday***

Speaker: Julie Bergen      Worship Leader: Luke Bushman

Song Leaders: Kathryn, Ben, Anna      Accompanist: Lynette

Story: Kathy Braun    Sound: Keri/James      Ushers: Carl/Lanae

Offering Counter Team: Diana Buhler, Shelley Penner

Sunday School – Stephanie/Zoe

**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:** Mon. Exec mtg; Wed. office hrs.; Thurs. Maundy Thursday Service; Fri. Good Friday Service; Easter Sunday - speaking

***For Pastoral care you may also call*** Dave 306-270-5031

or Julie 306-250-2995

**Birthdays:** 13 – Keith Boldt; 15 – Julie Bergen; 18 – Garry Boldt;  
18 – James Tataryn

**Gathering Room Coffee Schedule:** Apr 13 – Louise

*Consider signing up to bring the snack*

**Note:** No need to wash up – just return dishes to the kitchen and rack cups near the dishwasher – *someone will wash them later.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***Council has set up a*** Pastoral Transition Team: this group would be an ad hoc team formed to support Luke and the Deacons with crisis care and other duties during this time of transition. They are Dave 306-270-5031 or Julie 306-250-2995

**MC Canada Gathering 2025 Registration is now open!** Three exciting "tracks" for registration: Gathering 2025; U30 Gathering 2025 and Youth Gathering 2025. Go to <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/nationwide-events/Gathering2025> to read more about our speakers, workshop choices, child care information, Leadership Day, youth information, young adult opportunities and more!

**MC Canada Gathering** – OMC Council is looking for members who wish to attend these sessions as a delegate. Early bird registration is in June so we seriously need to consider plans to attend. Please contact Kevin, Shelley or Loretta if you are considering attending this event

**MCC Connects: MCC invites** your prayers for Myanmar following the magnitude 7.7 earthquake that struck on March 28. MCC is responding with local partners to provide cash assistance for immediate medical needs, food, and water. The situation is made even more challenging by ongoing conflict and civil war. Donate today to provide emergency relief to people in need at [mcc.org/Myanmar](https://mcc.org/Myanmar)

**Join MCC for Transformation Tuesdays**, a free monthly opportunity to practice peacebuilding skills. This month, Our Shared Future will be facilitated on Tuesday, April 22 from 7-9 pm at the MCC Centre. All are welcome to this simulation on Earth Day showing the connections between peacebuilding and caring for creation. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. For more information and to register, please visit: <https://mcc.org/events/transformation-tuesdays>

### **MC Sask News:**

**Praying for each other:** Please pray for Nutana Park Mennonite Church. We ask for prayer for the leading of God's spirit as we work on adding a new pastor to our staff complement. A big change for our congregation but is part of church life. Pray for peace of mind and spirit for our senior members with the change that is coming their way. (new)

**Spring at CMU** – All are invited to Spring at CMU on Friday, April 25 at 7:00 PM in the Loewen Athletic Centre. Attend in person or via livestream to hear CMU choirs and graduate student reflections. Reception to follow and opportunity to contribute to a freewill offering in support of CMU. Visit [cmu.ca/springatcmu](https://cmu.ca/springatcmu) for more information and for the livestream.

**Shekinah Spring Work Day Saturday, April 26, 9:00 - 5:00:** Do you love painting/staining, cutting up and/or splitting firewood, demolishing old shanties, washing windows or pruning trees and bushes? Do you love sharing good food with good friends? If the answer to either question is yes, come out and join us for all or part of the day! Leave a message at the office (306) 945-4929 to ensure we have enough food.

**BIG DAY at CAMP ELIM on Saturday May, 10th!** CAMP CLEAN UP starting at 9:30am at Camp Elim. Come and go as you wish. Bring your own lunch. BINGO Fundraiser starting at 7:00pm in the Camp Elim Tabernacle! We've got snacks. We've got prizes. We've got a FREE night stay in a suite to give away!! and more!! Spread the word, and reserve your BINGO cards before May 1st to receive your 4th card FREE! Contact: 306-631-8463 or elimdirector@sasktel.net

**April 24 12:00 pm Engaged Citizenship - The Role of Faith Communities During an Election** The Participants' Assembly is a unique moment to enhance interfaith co-operation and advocate for religion in a pluralistic society. The Assembly is sponsored by the Canadian Interfaith Conversation which gathers representatives of over 60 faith-based communities and organizations believing that people of faith can contribute positively to the benefit of all in Canadian society. For more information and to register (free) go to <https://participantassembly2025.eventbrite.ca/>

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**Behind the Scenes at the MCC Thrift Store.** Andy Arthur, who oversees MCC thrift stores in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, helps us understand some of the global considerations around thrifting. It's no trifling matter! Read about it at <http://mcsask.ca/behindthesceneatMCCthriftstores> (new)

**Calls for Justice** Certainly, this month is all about the lead up to Red Dress Day (May 5) - consider joining a local march, walk or vigil. Considering the ongoing Calls for Justice ([https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Calls\\_for\\_Justice.pdf](https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Calls_for_Justice.pdf)), MC Canada congregations are invited to pray on May 4 for the safety and care of Indigenous women and girls. CommonWord has a variety of online worship resources available <https://www.commonword.ca/Browse/10647>.

**Celebrate Emissions Reduction Grant stories and possibilities.** Read how Langley Mennonite Fellowship (MCBC) chose a more expensive green option for their HVAC (<https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/article/45375>). Join Sandy Plett (MC Canada Climate Action Coordinator) for celebration of 2024 ERG grant recipients and prepare for the 2025 launch of further grants. Details (<https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/article/45377>).

**"The Mennonite Nursing Home** is happy to announce that we will be hosting our Annual May Day Tea and Cake Walk Fundraiser on **Thursday, May 8th, 2025 from 2:00-4:00 p.m.** in the Mennonite Nursing Home Auditorium. Admission is by donation. The proceeds from the event will go towards replacing the raised garden beds that have deteriorated from the many years of gardening. Everyone is welcome to attend."

If any church members are interested, donations of cakes for the cakewalk would be greatly appreciated. Cakes can be dropped off at the Nursing Home on the day of the Tea before 2:00 p.m.

### **Mennonite Heritage Archives**

Tales from the Mennonite Heritage Archives podcasts Tales from the Mennonite Heritage Archives is a story-telling podcast that lifts up unique voices from the past. Join host Dan Dyck as we feature people, places, and events from Mennonite history. New episodes are released weekly at [www.mharchives.ca/tales-from-the-archives/](http://www.mharchives.ca/tales-from-the-archives/) and on Spotify and Apple platforms.

## **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.

## **CALENDAR**

Sat. Apr 12 – 6-8 pm Mega Menno @ OMC

**Sun. Apr 13 – 10:00 am Julie Bergen speaking** – Palm Sunday

Mon. Apr 14 – 6:30 pm Exec mtg

Thurs. Apr 17- 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday Light supper & Communion  
(*Soup and bread will be provided*)

Fri. Apr 18 – 7:00 pm Tenebrae Service

**Sun. Apr 20 – 10:00 am Luke Bushman speaking** – Easter Sunday  
11:10 am Easter breads/eggs Potluck Brunch *Group C-M*  
Followed by an Egg Hunt

Wed. Apr 23 – 7:00 pm Emission Reduction Celebration *via Zoom*

**Sun. Apr 27 – 10:00 am Katherine Bretecher speaking**

Tues. Apr 29 – 4:30 pm Worship mtg @ John's house

**NEXT SUNDAY**     April 20 *Easter Sunday*

Speaker: Luke Bushman     Worship Leader: Henry Funk

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

Story: Wilf     Sound: Stephanie     Ushers: Harold/Lloyd

Offering Counter Team: Lloyd Sawatzky, Dave Feick

Sunday School – none this week

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No. 15

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