



Osler Mennonite Church

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

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

February 18, 2024

Hungering for Hope: Embodying Trust

Prelude

Welcome/Land Acknowledgement/Announcements

Call to Worship: based on Psalm 25

L: Teach us your pathways,

O God - our eyes and our souls are trained on you.

C: For you are the greatest guide, and your map is always good.

L: Other paths have left us lost; other ways have left us confused.

C: You guide us along the trail of your mercy,

drawing saint and sinner down this well-worn way.

All: All your paths are love, made smooth by your faithful walking.

We are led into your truth by following the tread of your feet.

Prayer of Invocation

Gathering Hymns: VT #828 **There's a Wild Hope in the Wind**

VT #631 **So nimm den meine Hände**

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 9:8-17

Then God said to Noah and to his children, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I

bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh, and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

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

Lenten Prayer of Confession

L: Covenanting God, we remember our humanity, our limits, our need for repentance. Today, we come to you on this Lenten journey.

C: Be with us in this wilderness.

L: We so often focus on the difficulty of our walk with Christ.

C: Forgive our self-focused minds.

L: Forgive us, Lord, when on our journey, we forget your extensive, covenantal love for the world.

C: May we partner with you and our church to remember.

All: (looking at one another) You are beloved.

Offering Prayer/Music for Meditation

Sharing Joys and Concerns/Prayer of the Church

Prayers- for Clint and Jake’s upcoming surgeries

Condolences - to Sarah Guenther at the death of her sister Susie Froese
-to Margaret Boldt at the death of cousin Anne Neufeld

Thanks - for winter break for teachers and students
- for the AGM and the hard work of executive

Hymn: VT #556 I Bind My Heart This Tide

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:9-15.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days,

tested by Satan, and he was with the wild beasts, and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

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 #670 In the Bulb There Is a Flower

Sermon:

Hymn: VT #549 Be Thou My Vision

Benediction: We do not enter the wilderness alone. May God be with us and may God draw us closer as we walk in community with one another through this time.

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

****Loose Change Sundays** coming back March 10 and April 14 for MCC Gaza project. Please start your stockpile!

TODAY'S WORSHIP February 18

Speaker: Chris Buhler Worship Leader: Henry Funk
Song Leader: Kevin Accompanist: Melanie
Story: Jake Sound: James Ushers: Benjamin/Dick

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

Pickle ball: Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.

Patty's Week: Sun. preaching Bethany Manor; Weds. Lent prayer group/Bible study; Fri. Office

Luke's Week:

Birthdays: 19 – Junko Friesen (87)

Gathering Room Coffee Schedule: Feb 18 – Louise
Feb 25 - Wilf

NEXT SUNDAY February 25

Speaker: Luke Bushman Worship Leader: Patty Friesen
Song Leaders: Ben, Kathryn Accompanist: Naomi
Story: Lynette Sound: Keri/James Ushers: Lanae/Carl

ANNOUNCEMENTS

It's time to update the Directory. There is a draft copy of the foray table – please check your contact information for corrections or additions i.e. cell numbers?

Forever in Motion - free drop-in classes every Tuesday and Friday 10:00 am at the Community Hall

A working copy of the report book is now available and Registration is open! Everyone is invited to the MC Sask Annual Delegate Sessions on March 8 & 9 at North Star Mennonite Church in Drake, SK. We will be exploring the theme of Rekindling Relationship. Go to <https://mcsask.ca/event/11596> for details and to register! (updated)

March 4 - Executive meeting 6:00 pm; Council meeting 7:30 pm
**We ask all Committees to meet before March 4 to determine their chairperson

Bulletin Board – letter from Friendship Inn thanking us for our donation.

PASTORAL NEEDS SURVEY

The Executive Committee is asking for the congregation's input as we prepare for Pastor Patty's retirement next year. Please give some thought to the following questions and sign up for a short 15-minute interview to relay your thoughts. Below are listed the hours we will be available. A detailed interview schedule will be posted on the bulletin board this Sunday so you can reserve a time. If none of these times work for you, you can contact any member of the Executive Committee to make other arrangements or you can email your responses to us.

We look forward to hearing from you.

With thanks, Kevin Boldt, Shelley Penner, Christy Martens-Funk, Loretta Sawatzky

QUESTIONS:

In your opinion, what are the pastoral needs of our congregation going forward?

Thinking of a pastor's job, what percentage of time should the pastor spend on each of their tasks?

Historically we have had different pastoral arrangements equaling between 1 - 1.5 Full Time Equivalent positions. In your opinion, what would a good arrangement be going forward?

INTERVIEW HOURS AVAILABLE:

(Please sign up for a 15-minute slot)

Sunday - Feb 18: noon-2 pm Christy, Kevin
Monday - Feb 19: 9 am - noon Shelley, Loretta
6-8 pm Christy, Loretta
Friday - Feb 23: 9 am - noon Shelley, Kevin
Sunday - Feb 25: noon-2 pm Kevin, Loretta
2-4 pm Kevin, Shelley
Tuesday – Feb 27: 5-8 pm Kevin, Christy
Thursday - Feb 29: 2-5 pm Kevin, Loretta
5-9 pm Shelley, Christy
Friday - Mar 1: 9 am - noon Loretta, Kevin
6-9 pm Loretta, Christy
Sunday - Mar 3: noon-3 pm Shelley, Christy

MC Sask Update:

Monday, February 19 - Mega Menno Winter Fun Day! Join us at Shekinah Retreat Centre for a day of fun in the snow. Come and go throughout the day, youth will meet around the picnic tables at lunch for a couple of special youth activities. Contact Kirsten, youthminister@mcsask.ca, for more details. (new)

Shekinah Winter Family Fun Day, Monday, February 19, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00: p.m. (See <https://www.shekinahretreatcentre.org/events-archive/winter-family-fun-day> for details) (new)

RJC Songs & Sweets | 7:00pm, Sunday, March 10, 2024 Join us in celebrating the legacy of music and the arts at Songs & Sweets: A fundraising concert and cake auction at RJC High School. Featuring performances by RJC Singers & Bass Choir, RJC Alumni & Friends Choir, with special guests Elixir Ensemble: chamber music for piano & strings. The evening will include coffee, tea, desserts, a live cake auction and a cupcake lottery. YOU are invited to sing in the alumni & friends choir. One rehearsal will take place at RJC the afternoon before the event on March 10. Email Alex at development@rjc.sk.ca if you would

like to participate in the choir. Rush table seating, no tickets required. More information available at rjc.sk.ca/sweets.

CommonWord - Virtual launch of the Together in Hope resource collection for facing the climate crisis. On Thursday, February 29, 7:30 PM (CST) join the members of the MCCanada Climate Action group as they launch a new collection of resources designed to help us walk together to face the climate crisis in hope. Register for the Zoom event at commonword.ca/go/3801.

Our own Matthew Braun is part of the Panel.

Forum on Climate Change with MCC Erika Thogerson: Sunday, March 3, 11:00 am.

Xplore – CMU’s Xplore extended ed program that investigates dimensions of the Christian faith, our world, and life in it—all without assignments or exams! Join one or more in-person or online courses beginning February 20. Register as an individual or host a church watch party. For more information and to register visit cmu.ca/xplore. (New)

CMU Open House – Prospective students of all ages and their families are invited to drop in and take a campus tour, browse our information booths, and chat with our admissions team on Thursday, February 22, 6:00 – 8:00 PM. Visit cmu.ca/discover-days for more information. (new)

The Youth Farm Bible Camps 3E Internship Program has recently returned from Spain and will be leaving soon to serve in Nicaragua. The 3Es of the program stand for Equip, Empower and Extend. Equip is all about spiritual formation and the trip to Spain was a journey for the soul. Learn about it from the blogs at <https://www.3einternship.com/blog>

Empower is about leadership training through working at the Corn Maze, Retreats, Summer Camp, experiencing impact/learning trips and reading 10 books (When Helping Hurts and The Patient Ferment of the Early Church). Receiving mentorship from our leadership staff is another key component.

Extend is about going beyond our neighbours and serving the global church. When in Nicaragua there is the chance to learn deeply about a different culture and serve a youth group that is already established. We use what is learnt in the two books mentioned to guide and develop our trip.

It is so important to be open to others in today's world. Reading books and travelling to other cultures are two of the best ways to learn openness to others. We are enjoying walking with our six interns as they experience life in Rosthern and across the world. Find out more about this program at www.3einternship.com

We are also taking applications for our next program year, it starts September 1, 2024.

Midwinter Together: An Evening of Food, Music, and Books for CMU-era alumni (2000-present) on Friday, March 1 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. Support student bursaries and reconnect with friends old and new. CMU faculty are hosting a banquet down the first floor of the castle building, followed by visiting in the Blaurock Café with music from CMU alumni Jesse Krause, Thomas Krause, and friends. Space is limited. For information and tickets visit cmu.ca/midwinter-together. (new)

You are the Way Jesus,
you are the way in our wanderings
You are the truth in our wonderings
You are the life that is always at work among us.
Be our way in times that trouble and confuse us.
Be our truth in the face of words that harm and condemn.
Be the life uniting us as one body.
Even broken, we are made in your image.
Gathered as one body now,
we ready ourselves to go with you
on your way to the cross.
Shine your light so we can follow you. Amen

Alissa Bender 2022.

CALENDAR

Sun. Feb 18 10:00 am Chris Buhler speaking

Wed. Feb. 21 10:30-11:00 Lent Prayer Group in Coffee Room
11:30-12:30 Lent Bible Study Zoom with Dan Epp-
Thiessen Coffee Room (Zoom link/recording available for homes)

Sun. Feb. 25 10:00 Luke Bushman preaching Second Lent

11:00 Worship Meeting Patty's office

Wed. Feb. 27 10:30-11:00 Lent Prayer Group in Coffee Room
11:30-12:30 Lent Bible Study Zoom with Dan Epp-
Thiessen Coffee Room (Zoom link/recording available for homes)

Sun. Mar. 3 10:00 Luke Bushman preaching Third Lent

11:00 Forum: MCC Climate Change film with Erika

Weds. Mar. 6 10:30-11:00 Lent Prayer Group in Coffee Room
11:30-12:30 Lent Bible Study Zoom with Dan Epp-
Thiessen Coffee Room (Zoom link/recording available for homes)

Sun. Mar. 10 10:00 Patty Friesen preaching Fourth Lent

11:00 Deacons Meeting

12:00 Second Sunday Lunch Bunch

The Osler Mennonite Church, Box 129, Osler, Saskatchewan S0K 3A0
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Church Office – 306-239-2133

oslermcoffice@sasktel.net

oslermcpastor@sasktel.net

oslermcpastor2@gmail.com

website: <http://oslermennonitechurch.org>

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