



# 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*

*March 19, 2023*

## **Fourth Sunday of Lent “Shaped through Thirst”**

### **Prelude**

### **Welcome/Land Acknowledgement/Announcements**

### **Gathering Hymns: VT #49 “All Who Are Thirsty”**

**VT #555 “Lord, I Am Fondly, Earnestly Longing”**

### **Call to Worship**

Leader: God of grace, creator of waters,  
your spirit hovered over the deep.

Left: We remember that you separated the land from the waters  
and provided rain to freshen the ground.

Right: We remember that you flooded the earth  
and held creatures and people above the waters.

Left: We remember that you parted the waters  
as your people fled from bondage in Egypt.

Right: We remember Jesus your son,  
who, like all of us arrived in the waters of childbirth.

Left: We remember John baptizing in the waters of the Jordan  
and the Spirit descending like a dove.

Right: We remember that Jesus shared our thirst  
and a Samaritan woman shared water from a well.

***All: Living Water, pour your Spirit upon us.***

***Wash us and free us from sin, make us fruitful in every way  
and renew your world with showers of blessing.***

### **Prayer of Confession**

Leader: Lord, we long for living water. We thirst for life.  
And yet we have drunk deeply of resentment:

We have savored self-centeredness. We confess to the Lord...

*(silent prayer)*

Leader: Today, O God, let us hear your voice.

**All: Give us this living water so we may never thirst again. 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-* for Harry Martens in the Hospital

-for those in palliative care and their caregivers

*Thanks* - for the \$2030.00 raised at Youth Green fundraiser

*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 4:1-26 *Inclusive Bible Translation*

He stopped at Sychar, a town in Samaria, near the tract of land Jacob had given to his son Joseph, and Jacob's Well was there. Jesus, weary from the journey, came and sat by the well. It was around noon. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." The disciples had gone off to the town to buy provisions. The Samaritan woman replied, "You're a Jew. How can you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?"—since Jews had nothing to do with Samaritans. Jesus answered, "If only you recognized God's gift, and who it is that is asking you for a drink, you would have asked him for a drink instead, and he would have given you living water."

"If you please," she challenged Jesus, "you don't have a bucket and this well is deep. Where do you expect to get this 'living water'? Surely you don't pretend to be greater than our ancestors Leah and Rachel and Jacob, who gave us this well and drank from it with their descendants and flocks?"

Jesus replied, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again. But those who drink the water I give them will never be thirsty; no, the water I give will become fountains within them, springing up to provide eternal life."

The woman said to Jesus, “Give me this water, so that I won’t grow thirsty and have to keep coming all the way here to draw water.”

Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband and then come back here.”

“I don’t have a husband,” replied the woman.

“You’re right—you don’t have a husband!” Jesus exclaimed. “The fact is, you’ve had five, and the man you’re living with now is not your husband. So what you’ve said is quite true.”

“I can see you’re a prophet,” answered the woman. “Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you people claim that Jerusalem is the place where God ought to be worshiped.”

Jesus told her, “Believe me, the hour is coming when you’ll worship Abba God neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You people worship what you don’t understand; we worship what we do understand—after all, salvation is from the Jewish people. Yet the hour is coming—and is already here—when real worshipers will worship Abba God in Spirit and truth. Indeed, it is just such worshipers whom Abba God seeks. God is Spirit, and those who worship God must worship in spirit and truth.”

The woman said to Jesus, “I know that the Messiah—the Anointed One—is coming and will tell us everything.”

Jesus replied, “I who speak to you am the Messiah.”

### **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!**

### **Lenten Prayer for Creation**

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

**Sermon:** “A Well, A Woman, A Witness”

**Hymn: VT #536** “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

**Benediction:** Like water poured out on a thirsty land, may the Lord pour out the Holy Spirit on us. May we blossom with new life. May we bring refreshment and joy to others. Amen.

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

## **TODAY'S WORSHIP      March 19**

Speaker: Luke Bushman

Worship Leader: Dave Feick

Song Leaders: Loretta, Dayna

Accompanist: Melanie

Children's Time: Kathy

Sound: Benjamin    Ushers: Susan/Harold

*Kid's S.S. – Christy Martens-Funk, Youth S.S. – Karl Martens*

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

**Patty's Week:** Mon. CC zoom; Tues. sermon; Weds. office, pickle ball;

Thurs. grief group; Fri. Office

**Luke's Week:** Wed. Easter Sermon Prep from Home; Thurs. OMC &

NPMC; Fri. Office Hours/Nutana Youth; Sat. Off; Sun @ Nutana

**Every Friday 10:00 Drop-In** coffee with staff available – we're *coffeing* anyhow!

**Birthday:** 23 – Sandra MacArthur

**Snack/Coffee Schedule:** March 19 – Louise

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **TODAY**

Some help is needed after the service, to clear the stage area in preparation for the Westgate Choir event tonight.

**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.

**RJC & Westgate Concert "We will call this place our home"** 7:00pm March 21, 2023. Following a two day visit and workshop with Westgate Mennonite Collegiate (from Winnipeg) and RJC High School, the choirs and bands will round off with a combined concert. The concert will be held at Aden Bowman's Castle Theatre at 1904 Clarence Ave S, in Saskatoon. Admission is by donation.

**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](https://www.sarcana.ca/pages/drop_and_donate.html)

**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](http://www.Anabaptismat500.com).

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

A Community Connection event of making Paska on Saturday and icing it at 9:00 am on Sunday morning. The Paska will be for sale after the service, with proceeds going to the 'Green-Fund'. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

**Forever in Motion** will continue to end of April on Tuesday and Friday at 10:00 A.M.

**\*MCC Connect:** *Bridging Us: A Learning Party* is being co-hosted by MCCS and New Leaf Network on Saturday, April 1 from 9 am - 3 pm. Join us as we explore how we move toward more “us” in our life in a world where there is always a “them”. We'll hear from several speakers, including Randy Klassen from MCCS and Lloyd Letkeman from MB Multiply, about how they are working to build connections in communities and churches. In person \$35 (lunch included) and online

\$20. Please visit this link to register:  
<https://www.newleafnetwork.ca/events/bridgingus>

### **MC SK Updates:**

In the midst of the worship, reporting, and discussion at this year's Annual Delegate Sessions, it was with great joy that outgoing Moderator Terry Stefaniuk officially announced the hiring of MC SK's new Interim Executive Minister, Gary Peters, effective March 15, 2023. Semi-retired from congregational ministry, Peters has served MC Sask in a variety of capacities, and takes over the interim position from Josh Wallace, who has resumed his role as MC Sask Church Engagement Minister. While Peters and his wife Margaret are familiar faces to many within the MC Sask family, we asked him to share a few introductory thoughts with us as he prepares to take on this role. Read more at <https://mcsask.ca/press-release/11325>

*Welcome to our new Interim Executive Minister Gary Ewen-Peters. Katherine Penner joins Ministries Commission working on Indigenous relations and Climate change. Julie Bergen joins Shekinah Retreat Board. Alex Tiessen serves on Nominations Committee and Patty Friesen on Pastoral Leadership Commission.*

**Youth Farm Bible Camp is having their Vereniki Fund Raiser on March 21** from 5:00-7:00pm. Homemade Vereniki, cream sauce, berries, and sausage. PLUS ICE CREAM. Admission by Donation

**Spring is almost here! Shekinah Retreat Centre is looking for seasonal workers:** spring school group programmers, spring/summer maintenance workers, and summer camp counsellors. Please visit [shekinah.ca/jobs](http://shekinah.ca/jobs) for more information

**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](http://cmu.ca/experience) to register

**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](mailto:cflores@mds.org) or 1-866-261-1274.

**Online Short Course: Transforming Congregational Conflict and Communication: April 12 – May 23.** Join Betty Pries, PhD, CMed, to explore the possibilities and pitfalls of courageously engaging differences within congregational life in this six-week online AMBS short course. No grades, no papers! CEUs available. Register by March 22 to save \$50. [ambs.edu/online-short-courses](http://ambs.edu/online-short-courses)

**Indigenous Relations** Pray for MC Sask and MCC Sask who are partnering with the New Leaf Network to present ‘Bridging Us’ on April 1 in Saskatoon. Pray that attendees will be inspired by how local residents are working to achieve greater connection in their communities and churches on their reconciliation journey.  
<https://www.newleafnetwork.ca/events/bridgingus>

### **YOUTH CALENDAR**

**April 1<sup>st</sup> 7:00 pm** @ OMC, Homemade Escape Room

**April 15<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm** @ OMC, Talent Show

This weekend – the Bergen-Braun family traveled to Regina where Nora playing French Horn as is a part of the Honour Band. Also playing a French Horn as part of this event is a granddaughter of George & Lynette Janzen.

The Schellenbergs were in Regina for a Volleyball tournament. Congratulations...

## CALENDAR

- Mar 19 10:00 am Luke Bushman Samaritan Woman**  
7:00 pm Westgate Collegiate Institute Band & Choir @OMC
- Mar 22 1:00 pm Pickleball
- Mar 23 11:00 am Grieving Well CMU Zoom class
- Mar 25 10:00 am Paska making
- Mar 26 9:00 am Paska icing
- Mar 26 10:00 am Patty Friesen Grieving Well**  
11:00 am Worship mtg in Patty's office
- Apr 2 10:00 am Patty Friesen *Palm Sunday*
- Apr 6 7:00 pm Maunday Thursday Communion *Gathering Room*
- Apr 7 7:00 pm Good Friday Service *Sanctuary*
- Apr 9 10:00 am Luke Bushman Easter Sunday**

**NEXT SUNDAY March 26** *The Many Faces of Grief*  
Speaker: Patty Friesen                      Worship Leader: George Janzen  
Song Leaders: Kathryn, Ben                      Accompanist: Lynette  
Children's Time: Edna                      Sound: Doug    Ushers: Benjamin/Dick  
*Kid's S.S. – Matthew Braun, Youth S.S. – Karl Martens*

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