

Osler Mennonite Church

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

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

March 23, 2025

Third Sunday of Lent

Prelude

Welcome/Land Appreciation/Announcements

Call to Worship: One: As we worship, Christ collides with our priorities. Many: We gather and pause from the important busyness of our lives. One: Jesus reveals the depth of God's purposes. Many: Help us come to our senses by your Spirit. All: For your reign, O God, help us celebrate being found as we worship you.

Invocation

Hymns of Praise: VT #62God is Here among UsVT #42Could It Be That God Is Singing

First Reading: Psalm 63:1-8

O God, you are my God; I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.
Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.
So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.
My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips
when I think of you on my bed and meditate on you in the watches of the night, for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy. My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.

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

Offering Prayer/Music for Meditation Sharing Joys and Concerns/Prayer of the Church

Prayers – Brandee and her sister Shanna who has been in hospital -Kaytee, Chris & Alexander as they wait for and welcome a new baby to their family

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

Hymn: VT #300 Far, Far Away/I Will Arise

Second Reading: Isaiah 55:1-9

Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread and your earnings for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. Now you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways

and my thoughts than your thoughts.

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 prioritize the wrong things and the wrong people. All: We repent before each other and before you, our loving God. Please help us open our hearts to your love. Help us bring our priorities in line with yours 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.

Hymn: VT #544 Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

Gospel Reading: Luke 15: 1-10

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

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 #653 Nothing Is Lost on the Breath of God

Sermon: Where is the Water?

Hymn: VT #568 Christ Has No Body Here but Ours

Benediction: As we journey, Jesus collides with our priorities to live in the ways of God from the heart of God. Celebrate and expand the reign of God! Go, growing peace!

*Offerings can be done via e-transfer to <u>osler.mc.treasurer@gmail.com</u> *Our Services are all Streamed and Archived on-line.

TODAYMarch 23Christ Collides with Our PrioritiesSpeaker: Terry StefaniukWorship Leader: Dave FeickSong Leaders: Ben,Accompanist: NaomiStory: CasadiSound: DougUshers: Benjamin/DickOffering Counter Team: Jim Dyck, John ReddekoppSunday School – Karl, Bree

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: Vacation from March 11 to March 22 *For Pastoral care* please call Dave 306-270-5031 or Julie 306-250-2995 Birthdays: 23 – Sandra MacArthur; 26 – Liam Boldt; 27 – Keeley Buhler; 28 – Clint Neufeld

Gathering Room Coffee Schedule: Mar 23 – George & Lynette Mar 30 - ??

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Education Committee - Please join us in the sanctuary on April 6 from 11:15-12:00 for a time of sharing from Karla Koehn, currently serving as the Donor Engagement Coordinator at MCC Saskatchewan. In addition to managing donation processing and donor engagement, she also coordinates the Material Resource Program and its volunteers. Join her to hear inspiring stories of your generosity and the impact of MCC's

work both locally and globally. You'll also get an inside look at how the Material Resource Program is supporting those affected by conflict and disaster around the world.

Mennonite Church Canada's Emissions Reduction program There will be a celebration event for the 2024 Emissions Reduction Grant during Earth Week - on April 23 at 7pm CT (on zoom). *We received a grant from this program to replace our Water Heater so*... A member will share our congregation's story with the nationwide church. Also, Osler's story is now live on the MC Canada news feed!

<u>Osler Mennonite Church Charts Path to Reduced Carbon Emissions -</u> <u>Mennonite Church Canada</u>

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

Registration is officially open for MC Canada Gathering 2025

Register at https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/article/45328. Three tracks to choose from: Gathering 2025 (the main Gathering), U30 Gathering 2025 (part of the main Gathering with unique elements for young adults), and Youth Gathering 2025 (a unique event designed specifically for youth - Grades 6-12). There is also a separate registration for those who are only participating in one of the Pre-Gathering events. (new) Check out this short, thought-provoking video invitation from Gathering 2025 speaker, César García (General Secretary, MWC). He gives us a glimpse into what he's preparing to share with the Nationwide Church at this year's Gathering. View video on our YouTube channel https://youtu.be/3MMEC5H0akg (new)

March 26 at 6:30pm at OMC - Faspa & Conversations with Jake Buhler. Jake will be sharing about some work the Walking the Paths committee has been doing in the area of Indigenous/Settler Reconciliation. Join us and bring a light snack to share. Planned by Community Connections. Talk to Alex if you have any questions. **Change – Due to time change it now begins at 8:30 am** Gospel of Luke CMU Zoom Bible Study Wednesdays, until April 2, 8:30 -10:30 a.m. Osler Mennonite Church Coffee Room.

Check the Bulletin Board for the poster made by Lanae for the MC Sask AGM to represent our church.

Bethany Family / Friends are you willing and able to serve the Bethany Community? Get involved by becoming a Volunteer Dining Room Server! This is your opportunity to get some light exercise while serving your community. Plus, you receive a meal free each time you serve! We especially need volunteers on Sundays, even one Sunday a month can help! Check the bulletin board for more details....

MCC Connects: For this year's Relief Sale Festival, we are currently accepting items to be donated for the online auction, which runs from June 7-14. These can include art, food, services, hardware, recreation equipment, and gardening equipment. To donate, please contact Peter Guenther at peter.guenther@sasktel.net

MC Sask News:

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.

Praying for each other: We ask for prayers for our small country church, Pleasant Point Mennonite, as we enter a time of transition and visioning. Please pray for the young people that are new to our group but have stepped up and offered to serve us. *(new)* (*On a side note, Dick Braun and Leonard Doell are speaking there today.)*

We are hiring! Shekinah Retreat Centre is currently looking for a highly motivated and enthusiastic Booking Coordinator/Event Host. For details on this full time position, please go to https://www.shekinahretreatcentre.org/ and scroll down to career opportunities.

The Youth Farm Bible Camp invites you to our 32nd Annual Vereniki Fund Raiser on Wednesday, March 26 from 5:00-7:00pm. Admission is by Donation. More information about the event can be found at www.yfbc.ca/march

Mennonite Historical Society of Saskatchewan AGM March 29 at Bethany Manor Fellowship Centre 110 LaRonge Rd., Saskatoon 9:30 a.m. Annual General Meeting Session; 11:00 Speaker: Bill Wiebe: Cemetery Research; Noon Lunch (\$20/ticket available at door); 1 p.m. Film: "Where the Cottonwoods Grow" An epic journey of survival, enduring unimaginable trials and the profound complexities of colonization; Tour of the archives. Everyone is invited to attend.

RJC Spend-a-day | **April 9** Prospective students in Grades 8-11 are invited to experience a day in the life at RJC on Wednesday, April 9 from 9:00am – 3:30pm. Shadow a student, enjoy a meal in the dining hall, attend chapel, explore music, sports, and dorm life. Come and see what RJC is all about and what we can offer you! Register at rjc.sk.ca/spend-a-day.

The Bethany Manor Music Committee would like to welcome you to enjoy our Easter concert. On April 5th at 2pm, and on April 6th at 7pm, we are delighted to welcome you to the Bethany Fellowship Centre. Admission is by offering at the door. (new)

Consider the Church Garage Sale...Our church had a Garage Sale April 26th& 27 in 2024. The idea was introduced as part of a creation care initiative. We decided the GOAL of the garage sale was to pay down the church roof mortgage, to form relationships with our community and to recycle items that were not being used. These goals complement our Christian faith, and we feel we accomplished all of them. A garage sale gives permission to those who would never enter a church building to walk in. Read more at https://mcsask.ca/garagesale (new)

Nutana Park Mennonite Church is celebrating 60 years of congregational life the weekend of April 5 & 6. Lots of music, special features and food. Anyone that ever attended NPMC is welcome.

Did you know? 10 of our congregations share their services via livestream, video or PDF copies of their sermons? Check it out at https://mcsask.ca/congregationalservices (new)

CALENDAR

Sun. Mar 23 – 10:00 am Terry Stefaniuk speaking

- March 24 (the week of) MCC Blanket making Wed. Mar 26 – 6:30 pm Faspa & Conversation with Jake Buhler re:
 - Walking the Paths Indigenous/Settler Reconciliation
- Sun. Mar 30 10:00 am Alex Tiessen speaking 11:15 am Visioning Session with Tim Nickel Noon – Pizza Lunch followed by a final session
- Sun. Apr 6 10:00 am George Janzen speaking loose change Sunday 11:10 am Karla Koehn MCC Sask
- Sun. Apr 13 10:00 am Julie Bergen speaking Palm Sunday
- Thurs. Apr 17- 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday Supper/Service
- Sun. Apr 20 10:00 am Luke Bushman speaking Easter Sunday 11:00 am Potluck Brunch
- Sun. Apr 27 10:00 am Katherine Bretecher speaking

NEXT SUNDAYMarch 30Christ Collides with Our SelfishnessSpeaker: Alex TiessenWorship Leader: Luke BushmanSong Leader: MichelleAccompanist: MelanieStory: LukeSound: BenjaminUshers: Harold/LloydOffering Counter Team: Jim Dyck, Stephanie SiemensSunday School – Naomi, Zoe

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