



# Osler Mennonite Church

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

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

January 26, 2025

**Singing our Faith for 500 Years**

**Prelude**

**Welcome/Land Appreciation/Announcements**

**Introduction: Faith Born Out of the Monasteries**

**Solo: VT #418      From the Parent's Heart, the Firstborn**

**Call to Worship**

L: We are a covenant people, call to God by God,  
generation through generation.

**C: We are a covenant people, called to Jesus by Jesus,  
losing our life to gain our life.**

L: We are a covenant people, called to be church by the church,  
weaving together the strong and the weak, the stranger and the friend.

*All: We gather ourselves in the global Anabaptist community of  
believers to celebrate 500 years. We gather ourselves unto you.*

**Prayer of Invocation**

**Hymns of Praise: VT #158    Gott ist die Liebe**

**VT #575    Faith of the Martyrs**

**Readings:** Jesus' Baptism *Luke 3:21-22*

Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in a bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

*Luke 5:1-11* Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of

God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake, the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, put down into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch. Simon answered, Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets. When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they singled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man. For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken, and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, Do not be afraid, from now on you will be catching people. When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

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

**Felix Manz's Hymn: VT #444      I Sing with Exultation**

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

**Thanks** to OMC for Potluck Proud with blow-out food and to Julie and Matthew for working the kitchen with the B's

**Prayers** - those recovering from climate crisis

**Condolences** – Condolences to Kathy Boldt on the death of her sister Elizabeth (Wiebe) Picketts (age 93) of Asquith

**Candle Prayers for inner and world peace**

**Mennonites Migrate to North America**

**Gospel Song: VT #610      Precious Lord, Take My Hand**

**Mennonites Write Songs in the 1970's**

**A Song from the 70's: VT #719      Jesus Help Us Live in Peace**

## **Global Music comes to the Mennonite Hymnal**

**A Global Song: VT #90      Masithi: Amen (Sing Amen)**

### **Other musical evolutions in Mennonite music:**

Taize, Iona influences, justice songs

**Justice Song: VT #209      We Dream of a Turning**

### **Let's Keep Singing**

**Benediction:** We are people who must sing you, for the sake of our very lives. You are a God who must be sung by us, for the sake of your majesty and honour. And so we thank you, for lyrics that push us past our reasons, for melodies that break open our givens, for cadences that locate us home, beyond all our safe places, for tones and tunes that open our lives beyond control and our futures beyond despair. We thank you for the long parade of mothers and fathers who have sung you deep and true; we thank you for the good company of artists, poets, musicians, cantors and instruments that sing for us and with us, toward you. We are witnesses to your mercy and splendour; we will not keep silent...ever again. Amen.

**Praise Hymn: VT #70      Praise God**

\*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      Jan 26      *Anabaptism 500th Birthday***

Speakers: Luke Bushman      Worship Leader: George Janzen

Song Leader: Michelle      Accompanist: Melanie

Story: Wilf      Sound: Stephanie      Ushers: Dick/Benjamin

Offering Counter Team: Sandi MacArthur/Garry Boldt

Sunday School Leaders: Loretta/Olivia

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

**Coffee time at church** – 10:00 am all are welcome

**Patty's Week:** time off in lieu of Feb. hours; Fri. 500th party planning

**Luke's Week:**

**Birthdays:** none this week

**Gathering Room Coffee Schedule:** Jan 26 – Deacons  
Feb 2 - Loretta

Please consider signing up to bring snacks &/or make coffee/clean up

## CALENDAR

**Sun. Jan 26 – 10:00 am Patty Friesen** Anabaptism 500th Birthday  
Party and Hymn Sing

11:00 Birthday Cake and Dutch Blitz and Crokinole  
in the MPR (bring crokinole boards and DB cards)

**Sun. Feb 2 – 10:00 am Patty Friesen's Retirement Sermon**

11:11 am Forum on Enneagram Part 2 with Amanda Dodge

Noon – Osler restaurant lunch with Amanda

Sat. Feb 8 - 9:30 am Annual General Meeting

**Sun., Feb 9 – 10:00 am Luke Bushman speaking**

11:11 am Patty's Roast – special coffee time

**Sun. Feb 16 – 10:00 am**

**Sun. Feb 23 – 10:00 am Dave Feick speaking**

**Sun. Mar 2 – 10:00 am Luke Bushman speaking**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our community raised \$822 for the **Christmas Giving project**. Thanks to everyone who contributed!

**Reminder:** AGM on Saturday, February 8 starting at 9:30 am

**OMC Book Club:** The next book *Kabul Beauty School* will be available on Feb 5th. If you would like a book please contact Margaret Dyck at 306-229-9492. There will be a book discussion at 7:00 pm, Thursday, March 6th at the church.

**MCC Connects:** Are you a young adult, or know a young adult, who is interested in being immersed in a new culture, and growing in ways never imagined? MCC's SALT program (Serving and Learning Together) is a cross-cultural service experience that runs from August to July every year, providing a wide variety of areas to serve in such as education, agriculture, healthcare, information technology, peace, and more. All assignment-related costs are covered, student loan fees are covered, and low fundraising expectations. Deadline to apply is February 15. Learn more at: <https://mcc.org/get-involved/volunteer/salt>

## **MC Sask News:**

**MC Sask Youth Retreat, Jan. 31- Feb 2** at the Shekinah Retreat Centre. We are so excited to have a weekend of worship, community-building, and fun! We hope your youth can plan to join us! This year we managed to keep Kirsten Hamm-Epp around for a little longer as our speaker, and we also anticipate the retreat band (Zac Schellenberg and Clay Buhler) to make an appearance! Details and registration available at <https://mcsask.ca/event/11925>

**Sunday, February 2: Forest Church @ Shekinah 3pm.** Josh Wallace will be our guide through outdoor worship. Come experience the beauty of this winter season; all are welcome! (new)

**Canadian Mennonite Publishing Service** seeks its next Publisher (.8FTE, remote work, starts May 2025). Read more at [canadianmennonite.org/employment](http://canadianmennonite.org/employment) (new)

**Come to the Youth Farm Bible Camp** for their annual Cinnamon Fund Raiser on Saturday, February 8 - 10:00AM. They will also be sharing about a recent trip to Italy/Greece (following footsteps of Paul) and the upcoming Nicaragua and Mexico Impact Trips through the 3E Internship Program. (new)

## **Praying with the Anabaptists: Five Hundred Years Later**

*by Carol Penner*

Reforming Spirit,  
you blew through the lives  
of common folk in Switzerland in 1525.  
A realization gradually dawned  
that what they had been taught from childhood  
about being a Christian  
was not the only way to think.  
Reading the Bible opened a new way.  
They envisioned a church  
not automatically filled with citizens from birth,  
not led by leaders who bought their positions,  
not having a hierarchy at all.  
And so they knelt and were rebaptized as adults,  
claiming their own faith in their own time,  
ready to suffer the consequences.

Your Spirit continues to move today,  
reforming your church in new and myriad ways.  
You challenge us to draw close,  
to read and reread your sacred texts,  
and to discern where the church is  
not serving the one who washed feet,  
not honouring the Creator of all creatures,  
not tuned to your beating heart of love.  
Wake us up to claim our faith in our time,  
becoming yielded to your goodness.  
Turn us away from sins  
that vary and multiply in our very souls,  
and in our beloved communities.  
Together we read and listen,  
together we want to find the footsteps of Jesus  
and walk in them.  
Give us courage to resist what you want resisted;  
tyranny, callousness, unkindness,  
and violence on every level.  
Through your power, mold our congregations  
into true communities of devotion and simplicity,  
that bring good news of great joy to all people.

The world needs your touch,  
and we have hands.  
The world needs your voice,  
can we speak your truth?  
By your grace, we live and move  
and find new ways of being. Amen.

**Tuesdays: February 18 – March 25, 2025 10:00–11:00 AM CT**  
**Canadian Mennonite University Zoom Class @ Nutana Park**  
**Mennonite Church East Classroom.**

**2SLGBTQ+ in Church: Further Stories and Perspectives.** How can we in the church learn to accept and include queer people in more loving ways? Can we bridge the gap between heart and theology when our hearts signal compassion but theology signals rejection? This class continues on from the 2024 Xplore course with an expanded planning

team and presenters. Session topics will be more related to pastoral care questions and the practical realities of being queer, or being an ally, in a congregation that might be "all over the map" on this topic. Throughout the course there will be relevant scientific data presented to provide context to the discussions.

Planning Team: Janessa Nayler-Giesbrecht, Pastor at Jubilee MC; David Wiebe, retired MB Conference Executive and Educator; John Unger, retired Pastor and Past President of Concord College; Mal Fast, retired Neurologist; Gerald Loewen, Retired Clinical Psychologist. Please call Patty Friesen 306-260-6069 with questions.

**Mennonite Church Canada Gathering 2025:** "Each Person Has a Gift" What would it look like if we, as a church, truly recognized the unique gifts God has given each of us? How might our communities change if we boldly celebrated those gifts and the people who hold them? At Mennonite Church Canada Gathering 2025, we'll explore these questions and more, as we come together to discover how God is calling us to use our gifts for the good of the church and the world. See what to expect on individual days:

<https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/nationwide-events/Gathering2025>  
(new)

**Apply Now and Save \$500 at RJC!** | Are you, or is somebody you know planning to attend RJC High School in September 2025? Apply by February 1 and save \$500 (open to new students only). Head to our website at [rjc.sk.ca/apply](http://rjc.sk.ca/apply) to complete your application today!

**RJC Tournament of Memories:** Basketball & Curling | January 31 & February 1, 2025 Join the fun at RJC's Alumni & Friends basketball and curling tournament. Come and play or watch the face-paced action in the RJC Gymnasium or at the Rosthern Curling Club (Jubilee Sports Centre). Cost to play is \$25/person, and lunch will be available for purchase in the RJC Dining Hall on Saturday (\$15/person, 10 & under free). To pre-register please visit [rjc.sk.ca/tom](http://rjc.sk.ca/tom). We hope to see you there!

**RJC High School Employment Opportunity** | Teacher RJC High School is inviting applications for a full-time teaching position beginning in the 2025/2026 school year. The ideal candidate will teach from a whole student perspective and be actively engaged in school and

community programming. To apply, please submit a cover letter and resume to the president, Ryan Wood, at [ryan@rjc.sk.ca](mailto:ryan@rjc.sk.ca) no later than Friday, February 28, 2025. For more information, please review the full job description on our website. (new)

**RJC announces the addition of Grade 9!** In response to parental and student requests, and in an effort to expand and enhance our school program and mission, RJC High School is pleased to announce the addition of grade 9 for the 2025/2026 school year. Grade 9 is the natural intake for most high schools in the province, and an increasing number of students and families have requested this program. We are excited to now provide this opportunity for our students. For details go to <https://www.rjc.sk.ca/2024/12/04/rjc-announces-addition-of-grade-9/>

**Save the date!** The MC Sask Gathering 2025 (annual delegate sessions) will be held at RJC High School on March 7 & 8, 2025. The theme is "Differences for the Common Good". All are welcome to attend. More details available soon

**Friday, February 14** – Please join us for our Hearts for Refugees fundraising dinner at Eigenheim Mennonite Church (8 kms west of Rosthern on Hwy 312). Two settings: 5:00 pm or 6:30 pm. RSVP by phone or text: (306) 232-7447. Admission by donation.

**Shekinah Winter Family Fun Day:** Monday, February 17. 11 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Tobogganing, snowshoeing, skating and broomball. Bring a lunch and join us in the chalet for hot chocolate!

**NEXT SUNDAY      Feb 2**

Speakers: Patty Friesen      Worship Leader: Terry Stefaniuk  
Song Leaders: Loretta, Kathryn      Accompanist: Naomi  
Story: Kathy      Sound: Benjamin      Ushers: Harold/Lloyd  
Offering Counter Team: Susan Braun/John Reddekopp  
Sunday School Leaders: Lynette/Youth Retreat

The Osler Mennonite Church, Box 129, Osler, Saskatchewan S0K 3A0

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Church Office – 306-239-2133

[oslermcoffice@sasktel.net](mailto:oslermcoffice@sasktel.net)

[oslermcpastor@sasktel.net](mailto:oslermcpastor@sasktel.net)

[oslermcpastor2@gmail.com](mailto:oslermcpastor2@gmail.com)

website: <http://oslermennonitechurch.org>

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