



# Osler Mennonite Church

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

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

October 27, 2024

*Demons in the Gospel of Mark*

**Prelude**

**Welcome/Land Appreciation/Announcements**

**Call to Worship:** Psalm 34: 1-6

L: I will bless the LORD at all times;

his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

**C: O magnify the LORD with me,  
and let us exalt his name together.**

L: I sought the LORD, and he answered me  
and delivered me from all my fears.

Look to him, and be radiant, so your faces shall never be ashamed.

**All: This poor soul cried and was heard by the LORD  
and was saved from every trouble.**

**Prayer of Invocation**

**Hymns of Praise: VT #182 I Sing the Mighty Power of God  
VT #78 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues**

**First Reading: Mark 3: 22-30**

And the teachers of the law who came down from Jerusalem said, “He is possessed by Beelzebul! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons.”

So Jesus called them over to him and began to speak to them in parables: “How can Satan drive out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. And if Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand; his end has come. In fact, no one can enter a strong man’s house without first tying him up. Then he can plunder the strong man’s house.

Truly I tell you, people can be forgiven all their sins and every slander they utter, but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; they are guilty of an eternal sin.”

He said this because they were saying, “He has an impure spirit.”

## **Children’s Gathering Song: Today Earth is Singing**

**Story for All Ages:** Luke/Becca

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

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

**Prayers** – health concerns

**Thanksgiving** – beautiful fall weather

## **Candle Prayers for our inner desires and peace of the world**

**Hymn: VT #563      Come, Thou Fount**

## **Gospel Reading: Mark 5: 1-20**

They came to the other side of the sea, to the region of the Gerasenes. And when he had stepped out of the boat, immediately a man from the tombs with an unclean spirit met him. He lived among the tombs, and no one could restrain him any more, even with a chain, for he had often been restrained with shackles and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the shackles he broke in pieces, and no one had the strength to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always howling and bruising himself with stones. When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and bowed down before him, and he shouted at the top of his voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me.” For he had said to him, “Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!” Then Jesus asked him, “What is your name?” He replied, “My name is Legion, for we are many.” He begged him earnestly not to send them out of the region. Now there on the hillside a great herd of swine was feeding, and the unclean spirits begged him, “Send us into the swine; let us enter them.” So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the swine, and the herd, numbering about two thousand, stampeded down the steep bank into the sea and were drowned in the sea.

The swineherds ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came to see what it was that had happened. They came to Jesus and saw the man possessed by demons sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the legion, and they became frightened. Those who had seen what had happened to the man possessed by demons and to the swine reported it. Then they began to beg Jesus to leave their neighborhood. As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him. But Jesus refused and said to him, “Go home to your own people, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you and what mercy he has shown you.” And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone was amazed.

**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 #703      Rain Down**

**Sermon:                      Demons in the Gospel of Mark**

**Hymn: VT #613      God, Be with Us**

**Benediction:**

\*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      Oct 27                      *Demons in the Gospel of Mark***

Speaker: Luke Bushman      Worship Leader: Becca Bushman

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

Story: Luke/Becca      Sound: Benjamin      Ushers: Bill/Anne

Offering Counter Team: Jim Dyck, John Reddekopp

Sunday School: Naomi; Olivia/Emmett

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

**Coffee** at the office on Friday @ 9:30 am

**Patty's Week:** Today off: Mon. Worship mtg; Tues. sermon, Book club; Weds. Bible, office; Fri. Office

**Luke's Week:** Wed. OMC Office; Thur. KCC; Fri. Mega Menno; Sat. MCC Peace Conference; Sun. OMC Service

**Birthdays 27** – Bree Schellenberg; 29 – Mikwanis Bird; 31 – Zenon Borne; November 2 – Marlene Campbell

**Gathering Room Coffee Schedule:** Oct 27 – Diana/Ben  
Nov 3 – Olivia/Carl

## CALENDAR

**October Bible Study: Sermon on the Mount**, Wednesdays 10:30 a.m., with Michael Pahl, MC Manitoba on Zoom Coffee Room.

**Sun. Oct 27 – 10:00 am Luke preaching** *Demons in Mark's Gospel*

Mon. Oct 28 4:30 pm Worship mtg @ John Reddekopp's house

Tues. Oct 29 – 7:00 pm OMC Book Club in the Coffee Room

A Psalm for the Wild-Built by *Becky Chambers*. Everyone responsible to find their own book. Men & Youth welcome

**Sun. Nov 3 – 10:00 am Jeanette Hanson & Pastor Yin Hongtao**

*MC Canada International Witness*

Do you feel lost trying to navigate changes in your life? **Falling Upward: Life as a Spiritual Journey**, is an online course from the Center for Action and Contemplation, based on Richard Rohr's content on the concept of Falling Upward. It offers wisdom for transformation and self-discovery. Join us on Wednesday evenings at the church beginning October 23rd, at 7:30 pm, for this 15-week course and discover what it feels like when the soul finds its fullness. *Talk to Dave, Harold, or John G for further details.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Nov 3: Forest Church @ Shekinah 3pm.** Ric Driediger walks us through a reflection on "The First Word" in outdoor worship. All are welcome!

**Sunday, January 12, 2025**, Baptism and new members There will be 4 joining OMC - others welcome too. Please talk to Luke or Patty.

**45 Years of S' Mores | A Buffet of Camp Shekinah Desserts.**

Saturday, Nov 2 at 7pm at Bethany Manor Increase your sugar intake and help support Shekinah's camp program. Go to

[https://www.cognitofirms.com/shekinahretreatcentre/\\_45yearsofsmores](https://www.cognitofirms.com/shekinahretreatcentre/_45yearsofsmores) or call Shekinah Retreat Centre office (306-945-4929) to pre-register.

(updated)

Planning is beginning for the December 1 celebration, A Very Shekinah Christmas. 38 dozen cookies and squares are needed to feed the festivities! Please consider signing up to bring a few dozen goodies. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. Arrangements can be made to deliver baking to Shekinah. Contact Julie with questions.

**Employment opportunities: Canadian Mennonite** is hiring a publisher and social media curator. Applications due Nov. 15. See [canadianmennonite.org/employment](http://canadianmennonite.org/employment).

**You are invited to join us at Osler Mennonite Church** as we follow a 6-week CMU Xplore Bible study on the Sermon on the Mount with Michael Pahl. This is a zoom class on Wednesdays from 10:30 - 11:30 am on October 30 and November 6. We will have lunch following for those interested. No need to register ahead.

**RJC Spend-a-day** | Students in Grades 8-11 who would like to experience a day in the life of an RJC student are invited to join us on October 30, 2024. Email Alex at [admissions@rjc.sk.ca](mailto:admissions@rjc.sk.ca) or call (306) 232-4222 for more information or to register.

**RJC Employment Opportunity: Teacher** | RJC High School is inviting applications for a temporary, full-time teaching position for an anticipated maternity leave. All applications will be considered, but teaching experience in senior mathematics would be an asset. To apply, or for more information, contact the president, Ryan Wood, at [ryan@rjc.sk.ca](mailto:ryan@rjc.sk.ca).

### **MC Sask News:**

**Mennonite Church Saskatchewan** is pleased to announce the hiring of Evan Bueckert as Interim Youth Ministry Minister. Evan will work together with the congregational leadership to promote and support ministry for youth in MC Sask congregations and communities and will cover the 2024-25 school year and travel to the MC Canada Gathering in July, 2025. For details go to <https://mcsask.ca/news/11843> (updated)

**The Mennonite Historical Society** is hosting a 6-week CMU Xplore course via Zoom: "The Great Soviet Experiment: A Postmortem." The one-hour class will be held in the MHSS Archives at Bethany Manor every Thursday morning at 8:30 a.m., beginning October 10 and ending

November 14. Instructor is Leonard G. Friesen. We invite you to join the class; no pre-registration is needed.

**InCERT from MC Sask's CERT:** Climate change good news shared by ClimateHero (<https://www.climatehero.org/en>): In Germany, some apartment dwellers are installing solar panels on their balconies. Eliminating red tape has boosted the practice. Read more here: <https://theprogressplaybook.com/2024/07/22/germanys-balcony-solar-boom-accelerates-as-re> (new)

**CMU Discover Day:** Full- or half-day options available on October 25. Tour the CMU campus, attend a sample lecture, meet professors and current students, ask questions and have lunch and treats on us! Visit [cmu.ca/experience](http://cmu.ca/experience) for more information and to register.

**"Preaching Exilic Hope in the Climate Crisis"** (Zoom webinar) with Dr. Jerusha Neal, Oct 25, 2024, 11am – 1pm CDT. The climate crisis raises questions of breadth and depth that touch our deepest theological convictions. This workshop will model what it means to preach honest, grounded hope in the face of ecological loss - underscoring the vital role that preaching has to play in this season of crisis. More information and sign up here: <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/climate-action/fall2024>

**Join us at this year's MCC Saskatchewan Peace Conference,** "Climate Action for Peace", on November 2, 2024 at Mount Royal Mennonite Church in Saskatoon, where we will explore the connections between peacebuilding and a changing climate. We'll hear from author Leah Reesor-Keller, former MCC staff James and Joan Alty, and local churches and MCC partners. Lunch will be a nature-inspired feast, curated by Métis Chef Jenni Lessard! To learn more and register, visit Peace Conference SK 2024 | Climate Action For Peace | Mennonite Central Committee ([mcc.org](http://mcc.org)).

**This fall, Mennonite World Conference** shared a word of encouragement from the MWC Faith & Life Commission and the Creation Care Task Force. Check out these two articles that “remind us that we already share a basis for us to respond as a family of faith to the environmental crisis.”

\* God so loved the cosmos... [<https://mwc-cmm.org/en/stories/god-so-loved-cosmos>]

\* Faithfulness in action [<https://mwc-cmm.org/en/stories/faithfulness-action>]

## Sermon Outline

- Introduction
- Mark 3:22-30
  - Jesus Responds to Allegations
    - A House Divided
    - Binding the Strong Man
    - The Unforgivable Sin
  - Demons Used to Discuss Wider Topics
- Mark 5:1-20
  - The Story as Healing Narrative
    - Modern Parallels
      - Annelise Michel
      - Riverview Hospital
    - Jesus' Example of Freeing Others from Suffering
  - The Story as a Political Critique
    - The Setting
    - Military Language
- Conclusion/Application

**"OMC Youth Fundraising:** Our OMC group trying to get to the MC Canada Nationwide Youth Gathering scheduled for July 2-5, 2025 at Conrad Grebel University College in Waterloo, ON. There will be two opportunities to help raise funds at the end of November.

1) The Osler Christmas Market. We have purchased a table at the Osler Christmas Market, taking place November 30th, from 10-2:30. If you have crafts, baking, or other goods we can sell at our booth we would appreciate contributions.

2) Gingerbread Auction. On December 1st, during our church potluck the youth group will be auctioning off hand crafted, artisanal gingerbread houses."

## Youth News

### October

**Saturday 26th** Last of the Fall Air, Hot Drinks (5-7pm)

**Sunday 27th** Youth Sunday School, Planning for Peace Conference (after church)

### November

**Friday 1st Mega Menno 7-9** (at MRMC or MCC Building)

**Saturday 2nd Peace Conference 9-1** (at MRMC)

**Friday 8th** Cozy Movie Night 7-9

**Friday 15th** Youth's Choice 7-9

**Saturday 23rd** Gingerbread Houses Pt. 2

**Saturday 30th** Christmas Market (10-2:30) and Handing Out Hot Chocolate (7-9:30)

### December

**Sunday 1st** Potluck and Gingerbread House Auction 12:00-1:00

**Saturday 7th** Mega Menno Christmas at OMC 7-9

**Tuesday/Wednesday 10th or 11th** Bethany Manor Serving

**Saturday 14th** OMC Youth Christmas Party 7-9

### NEXT SUNDAY Nov 3

Speaker: Jeanette Hanson    Worship Leader: Patty Friesen  
Song Leaders: Loretta, Lynette, Benjamin    Accompanist: Naomi  
Story: Jake    Sound: Matthew    Ushers: Lloyd/Harold  
Offering Counter Team: Carl Martens-Funk, Stephanie Siemens  
Sunday School: Kathryn; Bree

The Osler Mennonite Church, Box 129, Osler, Saskatchewan S0K 3A0  
Vol. LXV                      October 27, 2024                      No. 43

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