Osler Mennonite Church



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

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

February 21, 2021

First Sunday of Lent Deep in the Sea: Called to Deep Relationship

Prelude and Slideshow Welcome, Announcements

Focus: The voice of God pierces the deep, calling us to deep relationship. With the floodwaters behind us and the waters of baptism holdings, our relationship with God establishes our identity with other people and the world we live in.

Call to Worship

One: God, we are here at the water's edge, casting off from shore

Many: into unknown waters.

One: With fear and trembling, we drop our oars,

Many: letting them go, trusting the sea.

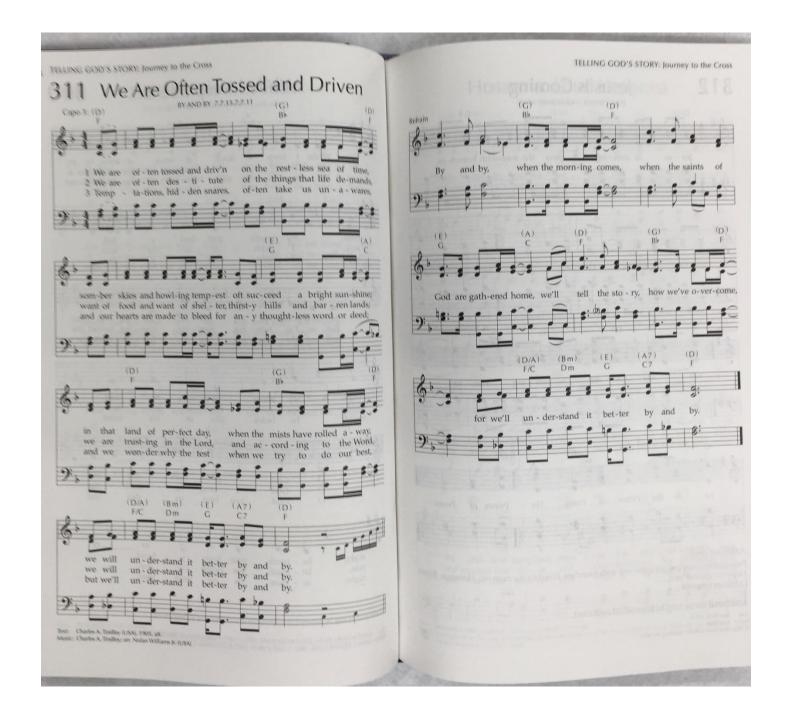
One: God, we trust the signs of your covenant: the ark through the water,

the waters of baptism,

Many: the bow in the clouds and the dove from the heavens. All: We call to you as you called us deeper into steadfast love.

Prayer of Invocation

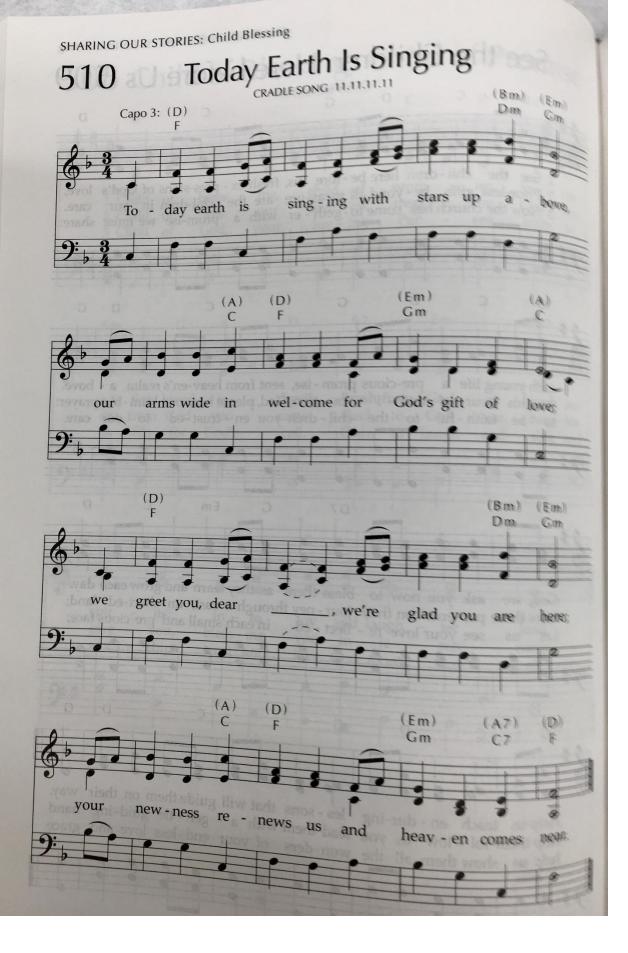
Hymn of Praise: VT #311 "We Are Often Tossed and Driven"



Children's Gathering Song: VT #510

"Today Earth is Singing"

Children's Time: Adeline Cox



Offering Prayer and Offertory

Sharing Joys and Concerns/Prayer of the Church

- Peaceful re-set for teachers and students after winter break
- Anniversaries of deaths of love ones (Art 2 years and Jeff Rempel 5 years) *

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 25:1-10

1 To you, YHWH, I lift up my soul. My God, I trust in you; don't let me be ashamed, 2 Don't let my enemies triumph over me. 3 No—none who hope in you will be ashamed, but shame will come to the wantonly treacherous. 4 Show me your ways YHWH! Teach me your paths! 5 Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation. I wait all the day long for you. 6 Remember your mercies, YHWH, your love— your ancient and unwavering love! 7 Pardon the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; remember me because of your love, because of your goodness, YHWH! 8 And how good and upright you are, YHWH! You instruct sinners in the path, 9 you guide the humble in what is right, and teach them your way. 10 All of your paths, YHWH!

Prayer of Confession and Assurance

Many: Deep calls to deep. We call to you from the depths of our hearts.

One: We confess when we have stayed too close to the surface, avoiding you, avoiding our neighbours. We confess when we have felt in over our heads. Needing you, needing our neighbours.

(Silence. Or name the forces that keep us from deep relationship.)

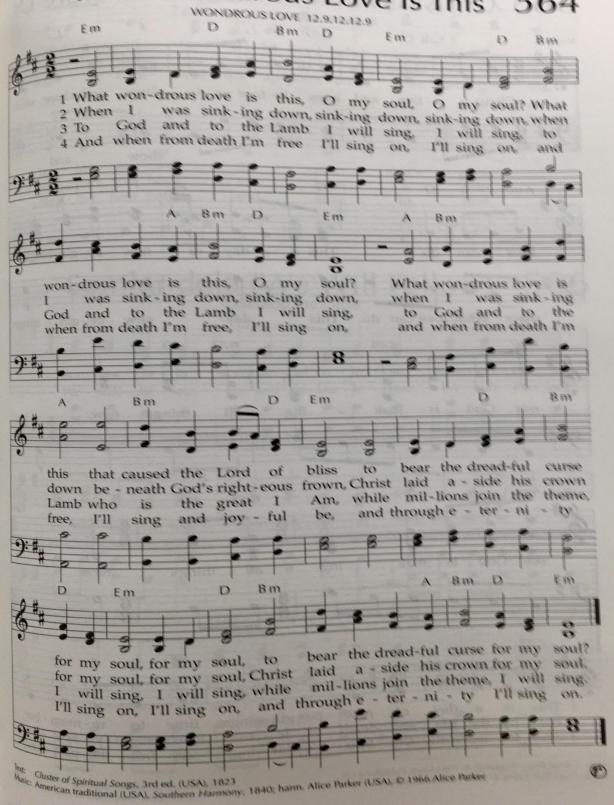
Many: Deep calls to deep. You call to us from the depth of your love. Calling us to deep relationship. We come to you, God.

Gospel Reading: Mark 1: 9-15

9 It was then that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan River by John. 10 Immediately upon coming out of the water, Jesus saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. 11 Then a voice came from the heavens: "You are my Beloved, my Own. On you my favor rests." 12 Immediately the Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness, 13 and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him. 14 After John's arrest, Jesus appeared in Galilee proclaiming the Good News of God: 15 "T his is the time of fulfillment. The reign of God is at hand! Change your hearts and minds, and believe this Good News!"

Hymn: VT #564 "What Wondrous Love Is This"

What Wondrous Love Is This 564



Epistle Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22

18 The reason Christ died for sins once for everyone—the just for the sake of the unjust—was in order to lead you to God. Jesus was put to death in the flesh but was given life in the Spirit. 19 And in the Spirit, Jesus went and preached to the imprisoned spirits. 20 They had refused obedience long ago, while God waited patiently in the days of Noah and the building of the ark, in which a few persons, eight in all, were brought to safety through the water. 21 That water prefigured the water of baptism through which you are now brought to safety. Baptism is not the washing away of physical dirt, but the appeal made to God by a good conscience: it brings salvation through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who entered heaven and is now at the right hand of God, having dominion over angelic authorities and powers.

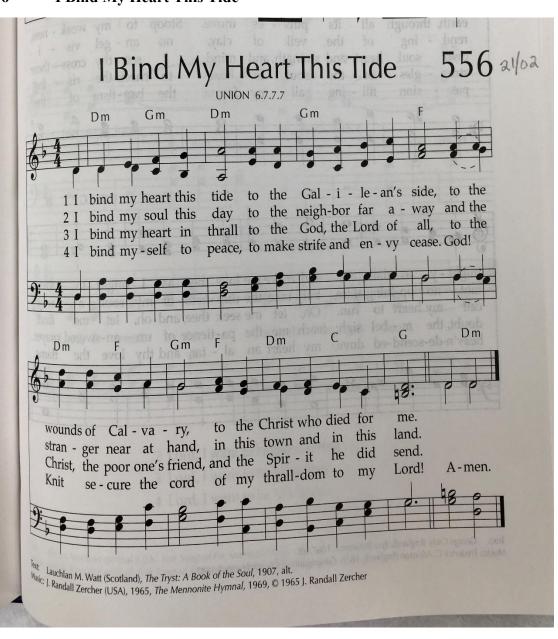
Response to the Scripture:

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 #556 "I Bind My Heart This Tide"



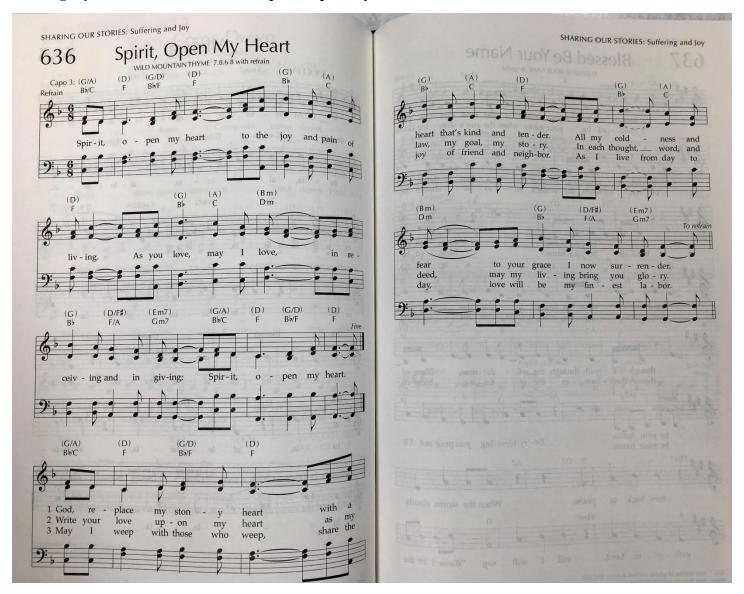
Sermon: "Baptism is Dangerous"

Prayer for Those Preparing for Baptism VT #934

Leader: God of wanderers and seekers, we pray for those who are exploring faith and those preparing for baptism. Be with them in their questioning, in their doubting, and in their wondering. Be with them in their confidence, in their desires, and in their hopes.

People: Be with us in our common life and guide our counsel. Open us to faith as it grows in ways both familiar and new so that we may journey together as your beloved children. We ask this in the name of Jesus who prayed that weight be one by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Sending Hymn: VT #636 "Spirit, Open My Heart"



Benediction

The divine calls for us to move beyond the shallows of our lives into deep relationship. God requires our trust and vulnerability as we reach out to a neighbour, bursting the surface bubbles of our lives and striving for deeper understanding. Go into the week before you, reaching out for a story far beyond your own, in love. *Amen.*

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Speaker: Patty Friesen Worship Leader: Adeline Cox Song Leaders: Michelle McKinnell, Dayna Stefaniuk, Lynette Janzen Accompanist: Melanie Boldt Children's Time: Adeline Cox Sound: Matthew Stefaniuk Ushers: Bill or Anna Peters

ANNOUNCMENTS

Church Attendance: We need more bodies in Church!!! We are still way below COVID guideline numbers for attendance on a regular Sunday morning so please consider attending in person.

For recent Mennonite conversations on open-table communion for children and unbaptized youth and adults, please check out https://canadianmennonite.org/stories/belief-belonging

*Mosaic Sunday School class: Every Sunday at 11:00am via Zoom. The password is: Mosaic. This the link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87212174301 Meeting ID: 872 1217 4301

*Active Bystanders Training - On Sunday, February 28th at 1:00 pm, we have contracted Heather and Amanda from MCC SK to provide the Training Active Bystanders course for our congregation. This training "empowers bystanders and gives them the competencies they need if they decide to take action when they witness something they feel is unfair, or wrong, or troubling." You can read more about this training at trainingactivebystanders.org.

2021 Directory – new printing is being worked on so we needed your updates! Please check your2020 directory to make sure that your latest info is correct.

UPDATES FROM THE AGM

- Media upgrade for the sanctuary a generous donor is willing to match donations for slide projector/computer project. Please consider a designated donation.
- The Voice Together Hymnal ended up costly \$6 a book more than budgeted for if you purchased a book for your own use or as a donation to the church, please consider an extra donation to cover this shortfall.
- Your 2020 donation receipts have all been either sent via email or regular mail. If you have not received yours, please contact the church office.

Virtual OMC council meeting March 3, 7:00 pm All committees please have your committee chair persons in place by then, as well as your council representatives so information can be emailed to them before the March 3rd meeting.

If you would like to be a delegate for the 2021 MC Sask Annual Delegate Sessions, which will be held virtually on March 13/21, please let Patty, Doug or Ben know so we can get you the registration process. We are allowed 6 delegates.

Please check out this YouTube sampler from **Voices Together**. There is a rich worship leader resource coming to the library. If you see a new hymn you'd like us to try - we'll try to fit it in where appropriate. Please contact worship committee: John Reddekopp, Lynette Janzen, Vanessa Stefaniuk, Melanie Boldt, Michelle McKinnell. https://youtu.be/uZRVGWn3Qh8

*Refugee Fund — consider donating your bottles &/or cans by using the Sarcan Drop & Go system. Register using the group name "LRS" and use the group phrase "Refugee" and you are all set! The bag tags and receipt will be printed, and any money will go straight to Lina's support.

^{*}Thought for the day as written by Frieda Rempel days after Jeff's passing 5 years ago:

[&]quot;Life is like a fog that surrounds us – sometime sunlight cannot penetrate yet our faith is a way that gets us above and to the top of the mountain!

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The session will last for 2-3 hours and will be held online via video chat. It is open to the first 15-20 youth and adults who sign up. To reserve your space, or for more information, please email Christy at martensfunk@gmail.com or call 306-381-9487.

Call for RJC alumni & friends to join virtual choirs: We invite anyone interested to join one or both of the virtual alumni & friends choirs that Richard Janzen is putting together for RJC's upcoming Virtual Choirs & Cakes fundraiser event on March 14. There will be a mass choir (alumni, friends, greater community, & RJC students) and an alumni & friends choir. All are welcome. If you are interested in singing, email richard@rjc.sk.ca.

The 2021 MC Sask Annual Delegate Sessions will be held virtually on Saturday, March 13. Registration and report book available soon.

Save the Date – MC Sask Virtual Youth Retreat – March 27. We are PUMPED to be planning a one-day, online gathering for youth! With games, cool hang-out spaces, a speaker, coffeehouse, and a one-of-a-kind virtual layout of Shekinah, we are excited to be bringing youth together again. Mark your calendars, and watch for more information coming soon!

LAST CHANCE! The Bolivia blend is disappearing soon! Get this rich, well-balanced coffee, citrus and floral blossom into caramel and finish delicately with lingering hints of milk chocolate while you still can! Available in 5lb box only, beans or ground for \$75. Order at https://mcsask.ca/coffee

Mennonite Historical Society of Saskatchewan will host a virtual book launch on Wednesday, March 3, 2021. Aldred Neufedt will introduce his recently published memoir; "Horse Lake Chronicles". He will read excerpts from the book featuring his childhood/adolescence in Northern Saskatchewan. If you are interested in this event please email John Reddekopp jdredde@gmail.com for the ZOOM meeting details.

MCC Connects: Our shipment of hygiene kits is scheduled to leave the warehouse this week. Help meet the urgent needs of families by donating a hygiene kit today. Drop off supplies at the MCC Saskatchewan Centre, or donate funds by contacting us by phone: (306) 655-2555 or email: saskoffice@mccsk.ca. For information on what makes up a hygiene kit, visit https://mcccanada.ca/get-involved/kits/hygiene

"Love your neighbour!" How do we do this when there are points of tension? Saskatchewan is still wrestling with the aftermath of Colten Boushie's tragic death in 2016. MCC Saskatchewan invites you to an online discussion with **Tasha Hubbard** (film maker), **Doug Cuthand** (author and journalist), and MCC's own Amanda Dodge, about Hubbard's 2019 documentary nîpawistamâsowin: We Will Stand Up. Free and open to all, this event will take place February 25th at 7:00pm. To register, visit

https://www.cognitoforms.com/MennoniteCentralCommittee2/WeWillStandUp. The following week, Saskatchewan participants will have the opportunity for a follow-up debrief (Mar 4, 7pm), hosted by the "Walking The Path" group of MC Sask.

FYI – Please beware of hackers trying to bomb Zoom meetings and engage us on Facebook.

OMC CALENDAR

	ONC CALENDA
Feb 22	Kid's weekly Bible School Zoom 7:00 pm
Feb 23	Community Connection mtg Zoom 7:00 pm
Feb 25	Youth weekly Group/Bible School Zoom 7:00 pm
Feb 28	Training Active Bystanders 1:00 pm via video link
Mar 1	Kid's weekly Bible School Zoom 7:00 pm
Mar 4	Youth weekly Group/Bible School Zoom 7:00 pm
Mar 7	Deacons' Zoom with Faith Exploration Class 1:00 pm

Upcoming in Sanctuary & Facebook Live Sunday Services:

Feb 28 George Janzen preaching

Mar 7 Patty Friesen preaching – Righteous Rage and wisdom

Mar 14 Dave Feick preaching Mar 21 Patty Friesen preaching

Patty's week: Tues Lent prep, Community Connections mtg; Weds. MC SK workshop; Fri.-Weds. Skiing

PANP– available via cell

Nora's Week: Holidays Feb 13 – 27

NEXT SUNDAY'S WORSHIP TEAM: February 28

Speaker: George Janzen Worship Leader Alex Tiessen

Song Leaders: Ben Buhler, Kathryn Janzen, Alex Tiessen Accompanist: Naomi Schellenberg Children's Time: Kathy Braun Sound: Doug McKinnell Ushers: Bill or Anna Peters

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

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website: http://oslermennonitechurch.org

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