

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"

311 We Are Often Tossed and Driven

Capo 5: (D)

BY AND BY 7.7.15.7.7.11

(G)

(D)

1 We are of-ten tossed and driv'n on the rest-less sea of time,
2 We are of-ten des-ti-tute of the things that life de-mands,
3 Temp-ta-tions, hid-den snares, of-ten take us un-a-ware,

som-ber skies and howl-ing temp-est oft suc-ceed a bright sun-shine;
want of food and want of shel-ter, thirst-y hills and bar-ren lands;
and our hearts are made to bleed for an-y thought-less word or deed;

in that land of per-fect day, when the mists have rolled a-way,
we are trust-ing in the Lord, and ac-cord-ing to the Word,
and we won-der why the test when we try to do our best.

we will un-der-stand it bet-ter by and by,
we will un-der-stand it bet-ter by and by,
but we'll un-der-stand it bet-ter by and by.

Text: Charles A. Timbley (USA), 1905, alt.
Music: Charles A. Timbley; arr. Nolan Williams Jr. (USA)

Refrain
By and by, when the morn-ing comes, when the saints of

God are gath-ered home, we'll tell the sto-ry, how we've o-ver-come,

for we'll un-der-stand it bet-ter by and by.

510 Today Earth Is Singing

CRADLE SONG 11.11.11

Capo 3: (D)
F

(Bm) (Em)
Dm Gm

To - day earth is sing - ing with stars up a - bove,

(A) (D) (Em) (A)
C F Gm C

our arms wide in wel - come for God's gift of love;

(D) (Bm) (Em)
F Dm Gm

we greet you, dear _____, we're glad you are here;

(A) (D) (Em) (A7) (D)
C F Gm C7 F

your new - ness re - news us and heav - en comes near.

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

WONDROUS LOVE 12.9,12.12.9

Em D Bm D Em D Bm

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul? What
 2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to
 4 And when from death I'm free I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

A Bm D Em A Bm

won-drous love is this, O my soul? What won-drous love is
 I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink-ing
 God and to the Lamb I will sing, to God and to the
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, and when from death I'm

A Bm D Em D Bm

this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse
 down be - neath God's right-eous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown
 Lamb who is the great I Am, while mil-lions join the theme,
 free, I'll sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty

D Em D Bm A Bm D Em

for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
 for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
 I will sing, I will sing, while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.
 I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

The musical score is written for guitar and voice. It features a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The guitar part is shown in both treble and bass clefs. The vocal part is in the treble clef. The score includes four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment line. Chords are indicated above the notes. The lyrics are arranged in four systems, corresponding to the four verses. The first system includes the title and the first four verses. The second system continues the lyrics for the first two verses. The third system continues the lyrics for the first two verses. The fourth system continues the lyrics for the first two verses. The score ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

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”

I Bind My Heart This Tide 556 21/02

UNION 6.7.7.7

Dm Gm Dm Gm F

1 I bind my heart this tide to the Gal-i-le-an's side, to the
2 I bind my soul this day to the neigh-bor far a-way and the
3 I bind my heart in thrall to the God, the Lord of all, to the
4 I bind my-self to peace, to make strife and en-vy cease. God!

Dm F Gm F Dm C G Dm

wounds of Cal-va-ry, to the Christ who died for me.
stran-ger near at hand, in this town and in this land.
Christ, the poor one's friend, and the Spir-it he did send.
Knit se-secure the cord of my thrall-dom to my Lord! A-men.

Text: Lauchlan M. Watt (Scotland), *The Tryst: A Book of the Soul*, 1907, alt.
Music: J. Randall Zercher (USA), 1965, *The Mennonite Hymnal*, 1969, © 1965 J. Randall Zercher

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"

SHARING OUR STORIES: Suffering and Joy

636 Spirit, Open My Heart

WILD MOUNTAIN THYME 7.8.6.8 with refrain

Capo 3: (G/A) (D) (G/D) (D) (G) (A)
Refrain Bb/C F Bb/F F Bb C

Spir - it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of

liv - ing. As you love, may I love, in re -

ceiv - ing and in giv - ing; Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my
3 May I weep with those who weep, share the

SHARING OUR STORIES: Suffering and Joy

Blessed Be Your Name

heart that's kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
law, my goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
joy of friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

To refrain

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 your 2020 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.

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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 jredde@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.cognitofirms.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

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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Church Office – 306-239-2133

oslermcoffice@sasktel.net

oslermcpastor@sasktel.net

website: <http://oslermennonitechurch.org>

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