



Osler Mennonite Church

A Welcoming Community for Peace

Following Jesus on the Path of Reconciliation

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

February 28, 2021

*Second Sunday of Lent
Deep in the Woods: Called to Deep Commitment*

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Focus: We are transformed by God as we follow God's voice along the path of life, a voice calling us to deep commitment. Even when our path leads deep into unfamiliar woods, as we lose ourselves, we are found.

Call to Worship

One: God, you ask us to set our minds on you, to walk before you and be blameless.

You teach us what matters, and you do not hide your face from us.

Many: With each step along the path, we are transformed into who you made and called us to be.

One: God, you teach us that when we lose our life, we save it.

Many: With each step along the path, we hope against hope in your promises.

One: God, you say you will make us exceedingly fruitful, that you will bless us.

Many: With each step along the path, we take up our cross and follow you.

All: We believe your everlasting covenant is to be God to us, and that we will live forever. We call out to you, as you call us deeper into this covenant.

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn of Praise: VT #371 "Come, Gracious Spirit"

371

Come, Gracious Spirit

BACA LM extended

E C#m B

1 Come, gra-cious Spir - it, heav'n-ly Dove, with light and
 2 Lead us to Christ, the liv - ing Way, nor let us
 3 Lead us to heav'n, that we may share full-ness of

B7 E/B E A/E

com - fort from a - bove. Come, be our guard - ian and our
 from his pas-tures stray. Lead us to hol - i - ness, the
 joy for ev - er there. Lead us to our e - ter - nal

E A/E B

guide; o'er ev - 'ry thought and step pre - side,
 road that we must take to dwell with God,
 rest, to be with God for - ev - er bless'd,

A E/B B E

o'er ev - 'ry thought and step pre - side.
 that we must take to dwell with God.
 to be with God for - ev - er bless'd.

Text: Simon Browne (England), *Hymns and Spiritual Songs*, 1720, alt.
 Music: William B. Bradbury (USA), *The Jubilee*, 1858

Children's Gathering Song: VT #510 "Today Earth is Singing"
 Children's Time: Kathy Braun

Offering Prayer and Offertory
Sharing Joys and Concerns/Prayer of the Church

- Deeper relationship with God and others during Lent
- Susan Bueckert is home from Hospital
- Zac Stefaniuk's MDIV program at Conrad Grebel University
- Stephanie's new nephew

Prayer of Confession

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

One: We confess when we have stayed on the edges. Not listening to each other. Not taking the path you show. We confess when we have strayed from the way. Silencing suffering. Forfeiting life. (Silence. Or name the forces that keep us from deep commitment.) Deep calls to deep. You call to us from the depth of your love.

Many: Calling us to deep commitment. We come to you, God.

Hymn: VT #287 "Jesus Christ Is Waiting"

287 Jesus Christ Is Waiting
 NOËL NOUVELET 11.11.10.11

1 Je - sus Christ is wait - ing, wait - ing in the streets;
 2 Je - sus Christ is rag - ing, rag - ing in the streets;
 3 Je - sus Christ is heal - ing, heal - ing in the streets;
 4 Je - sus Christ is danc - ing, danc - ing in the streets;
 5 Je - sus Christ is call - ing, call - ing in the streets,

no one is his neigh - bor, all a - lone he eats,
 where in - jus - tice spi - rals and real hope re - treats.
 cur - ing those who suf - fer, touch - ing those he greets.
 where each sign of ha - tred he, with love, de - feats.
 "Who will join my jour - ney? I will guide their feet."

Lis - ten, Lord Je - sus, I am lone - ly too.
 Lis - ten, Lord Je - sus, I am an - gry too.
 Lis - ten, Lord Je - sus, I have pit - y too.
 Lis - ten, Lord Je - sus, I should tri - umph too.
 Lis - ten, Lord Je - sus, let my fears be few.

288 Love the Lord Your God
 THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT Irregular

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul and
 mind, and love your neigh - bor as your - self.

Let us be known, let us be known by the way we love.
 Love, love, love, the great - est com - mand - ment is

May be sung as a canon, or by assigning groups to repeat each section.
 *Fermatas indicate the eventual ending.

Tone based on Matthew 22:37-39; Mark 12:30-31; Luke 10:27; John 13:35; Deuteronomy 6:4-5; adapt. Paul Zach (USA)
 Music: Paul Zach

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16. The call of Sarah and Abraham

1 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, YHWH appeared to Abram and said, “I am the God Almighty: walk before me, and be blameless. 2 And I will make my covenant between you and me, and make you exceedingly numerous.” 3 Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, 4 “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. 5 No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. 6 I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. 7 I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.”

15 God said to Abraham, “As for Sarah your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. 16 I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

Gospel Reading: Mark 8:31-38. The call of Jesus

8 Then Jesus began to teach them that the Promised One had to suffer much, be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and religious scholars, be put to death, and rise again three days later. 32 Jesus said these things quite openly. Peter then took him aside and began to take issue with him. 33 At this, Jesus turned around and, eyeing the disciples, reprimanded Peter: “Get out of my sight, you Satan! You are judging by human standards rather than by God’s!” 34 Jesus summoned the crowd and the disciples and said, “If you wish to come after me, you must deny your very self, take up your cross and follow in my footsteps. 35 If you would save your life, you’ll lose it, but if you lose your life for my sake, you’ll save it. 36 What would you gain if you were to win the whole world but lose your self in the process? 37 What can you offer in exchange for your soul? 38 Whoever in this faithless and corrupt generation is ashamed of me and my words will find, in turn, that the Promised One and the holy angels will be ashamed of that person, when all stand before our God in glory.”

Epistle Reading: Romans 4:13-25. Our call

13 The promise made to Sarah and Abraham and their descendants—that they would inherit the world—did not depend on the Law; it was made in view of the righteousness that comes from faith. 14 For if those who live by the Law are heirs, then faith is pointless and the promise is worthless. 15 The Law forever holds the potential for punishment. Only when there is no Law can there be no violation. 16 Hence everything depends on faith; everything is grace. Thus, the promise holds true for all of Sarah’s and Abraham’s descendants, not only for those who have the Law, but for all who have their faith. They are the mother and the father of us all, 17 which is why scripture says, “I will make you the parents of many nations”—all of which is done in the sight of the God in whom they believed, the God who restores the dead to life and calls into being things that don’t exist. 18 Hoping against hope, Sarah and Abraham believed, and so became the mother and father of many nations, just as it was once promised them: “Numerous as this will your descendants be.” 19 Sarah and Abraham, without growing weak in faith, thought about their bodies, which were very old—he was about one hundred, and she was well beyond childbearing age. 20 Still they never questioned or doubted God’s promise; rather, they grew strong in faith and gave glory to God, 21 fully persuaded that God could do whatever was promised. 22 Thus, Sarah’s and Abraham’s faith “was credited to them as righteousness.” 23 The words, “was credited to them,” were not written with Sarah and Abraham alone in mind; 24 they were intended for us, too. For our faith will be credited to us if we believe in the One who raised Jesus our Savior from the dead, 25 the Jesus who was handed over to death for our sins and raised up for our justification.

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!

Sermon:

Sending Hymn: VT #306 "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me 306
SOJOURNER 8.8.8.9

Dm A7 Dm A7 Dm Gm Dm F C7

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me. I want Je - sus
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me. In my tri - als,
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me. When I'm in trou - ble,

F Dm A Dm A7 Dm Edim C7

to walk with me. All a - long my pil - grim
Lord, walk with me. When my heart is al - most
Lord, walk with me. When my head is bowed in

Dm Bb Dm A7 Dm Gm Dm

jour - ney, Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
break - ing, Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
sor - row, Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual (USA)
Music: African American spiritual

Benediction

Go deep into the woods of your week, knowing that you are called to the kind of commitment that will not leave you comfortable. Our God is not to be fully known or neatly packaged. Be ever ready for the transformation that accompanies deep commitment. Go, expecting surprise. Amen.

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***Church Attendance:** There is room for you!!! We are still way below COVID guideline numbers for attendance on a regular Sunday morning so please consider attending in person.

***Steph is excited** to be an auntie again! Bentley Matthew Siemens was born February 13th (6lb 12oz), to Derek and Camille Siemens. Mom and baby are home and well, and big sister Hannah (almost 2yrs) is adjusting well also. If you find yourself at the Warman Thrift Shop anytime soon, feel free to give a congrats to Judy (Steph's mom, and latest addition to the staff there) on being a grandma again.

***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

***Virtual OMC council meeting March 10, 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 meeting.

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

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.

RJC Virtual Choirs & Cakes fundraiser: Join us online on **March 14 at 7:00pm (SK CST)** for our annual fundraising concert and dessert auction. Enjoy an evening of good music and entertainment by the students, staff, alumni, and friends of RJC. Watch the event and participate in the auction at rjc.sk.ca/cakes.

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: Podcast alert! If you haven't had a chance to listen to MCC Canada's "Relief Development And Podcast" – tune in today! The most recent episode features MCC Canada's Executive Director Rick Cober Bauman discussing the challenges and successes of 2020 and what he's looking forward to in 2021. The podcast is available on your podcast platform of choice.

OMC CALENDAR

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
Mar 8 Kid's weekly Bible School Zoom 7:00 pm
Mar 10 Council Meeting Zoom 7:00 pm

Mar 11 Youth weekly Group/Bible School Zoom 7:00 pm

Upcoming in Sanctuary & Facebook Live Sunday Services:

Mar 7 Patty Friesen preaching – Righteous Rage and wisdom

Mar 14 Dave Feick preaching

Mar 21 Patty Friesen preaching

Mar 28 Nora Pederberg preaching

Patty's week: Mon-Weds: skiing PANP; Fri. Office catch-up

Nora's Week: Working Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sun.

NEXT SUNDAY'S WORSHIP TEAM: March 7

Speaker: Patty Friesen Worship Leader: Terry Stefaniuk

Song Leaders: Loretta Sawatzky, Dayna Stefaniuk Accompanist: Melanie Boldt

Children's Time: Vanessa Stefaniuk Sound: Matthew Stefaniuk Ushers: Harold or Lloyd

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