Osler Mennonite Church



10:00 a.m. Worship Service

January 31, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Epiphany, ''Healing in Pandemics''

Prelude Welcome, Announcements

Call to Worship: Psalm 111

L: Alleluia! I will thank you, O God, with all my heart in the meeting of the just and their assembly.

C: Great are your works, to be pondered by all who love them.

L: Majestic and glorious are your works, and your justice stands firm forever. You make us remember your wonders - you are compassion and love.

C: You give food to those who revere you, keeping your Covenant ever in mind. The works of your hands are truth and justice, and all your precepts are sure, standing firm forever and ever, and carried out uprightly and faithfully.

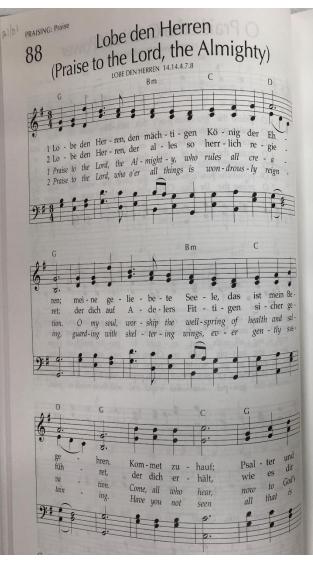
L: You have sent deliverance to your people and established your Covenant forever. Your Name is holy and awe-inspiring!

All: Reverence for Our God is the beginning of wisdom - and those who have it prove themselves wise. Your praise endures forever!

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn of Praise: VT #88 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" (based on Psalm 111)







- Lobe den Herren, der deinen Stand sichtbar gesegnet, der aus dem Himmel mit Strömen der Liebe geregnet. Denke daran, was der Allmächtige kann, der dir mit Liebe begegnet.
- 4 Lobe den Herren; was in mir ist, lobe den Namen. Alles, was Odem hat, lobe mit Abrahams Samen. Er is dein Licht, Seele, vergiss es ja nicht. Lob ihn in Ewigkeit, Amen.
- 3 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper our work and defend us.
 Surely God's goodness and mercy shall daily attend us.
 Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
 who with great love still befriends us.
- 4 Praise to the Lord, for in wonder my spirit is soaring!
 All that has life and breath, come now with praises outpouring!
 Let the "amen" sound from God's people again,
 gladly forever adoring!

Children's Gathering Song: "Jesus Loves Me"

Children's Time: Marlene Campbell

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

- upcoming AGM Sat. Feb. 6
- Susan Bueckert in hospital
- from MCC: Ten young people from across the Americas will be starting two-year Seed service terms in Guatemala-El Salvador and Colombia in February. Pray for their health, safety and energy as they start this new journey of service and learning together.

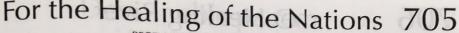
Old Testament Reading: Numbers 21: 4-9

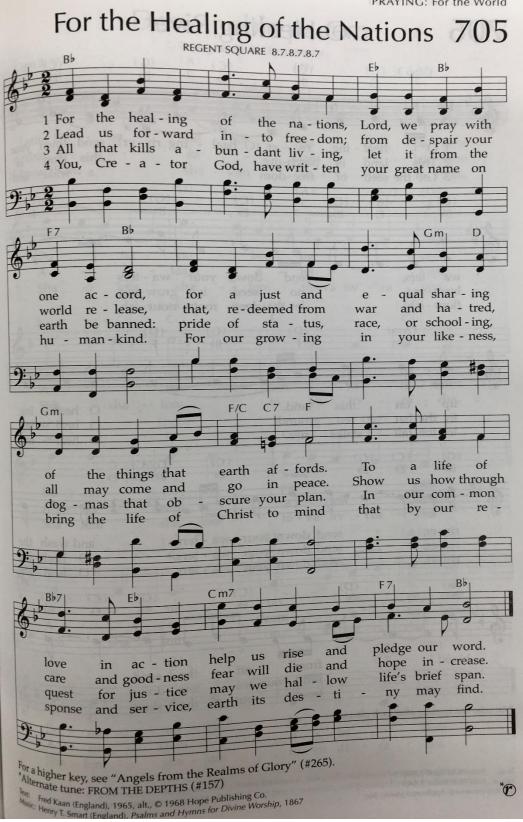
4 The Israelites traveled from Mount Hor along the road to the Sea of Reeds in order to avoid Edom. But the people grew impatient along the way, 5 and they addressed their concerns to God and Moses: "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the desert? We have no bread! We have no water! And we are disgusted with this terrible food!" 6 Then Yhwh sent venomous snakes among the people. They fatally bit many of the people. 7 So the people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we spoke against Yhwh and against you. Intercede for us, and ask that God remove the snakes from us." So Moses prayed for the people. 8 And Yhwh said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it on the end of a pole. Anyone who is bitten and looks at it will live." 9 So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then whenever the people were bitten by a snake, they looked at the bronze snake and lived.

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:21-28

21 They came to Capernaum, and on the Sabbath Jesus entered the synagogue and began to teach. 22 The people were spellbound by the teaching, because Jesus taught with an authority that was unlike their religious scholars. 23 Suddenly a person with an unclean spirit appeared in their synagogue. It shrieked, 24 "What do you want from us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" 25 Jesus rebuked the spirit sharply: "Be quiet! Come out of that person!" 26 At that the unclean spirit convulsed the possessed one violently, and with a loud shriek it came out. 27 All who looked on were amazed. They began to ask one another, "What is this? A new teaching, and with such authority! This person even gives orders to unclean spirits and they obey!" 28 Immediately news of Jesus spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Hymn of Healing: VT #705 "For the Healing of the Nations"





Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

1 Now, concerning food sacrificed to idols. We all possess knowledge. But knowledge puffs up, whereas love builds up. 2 You may think you know something, but you still won't know it the way you ought. 3 But anyone who loves God is known—completely—by God. 4 Well then, what about eating food sacrificed to idols? We know that idols have no real existence, that there is no God but the One. 5 Even though there are so-called gods in the heavens—and on the earth as well, where there seem to be many gods and sovereigns— 6 for us there is only One God, Abba God, from whom all things come and for whom we live; there is one Sovereign, Jesus Christ, through whom everything was made and through whom we live. 7 Some people, accustomed to idol worship until recently, are consumed with guilt every time they eat meat they buy in the market, because they know that the meat had been sacrificed to idols—and their conscience, because it is weak, gets defiled every time they eat. 8 But food cannot bring us closer to God. We lose nothing if we refuse to eat. We gain nothing if we choose to eat. 9 Be on your guard, however, that this liberty of yours does not become a pitfall for the weak. 10

Suppose someone who has this knowledge sees you eating in some idol's temple, won't this person be tempted to eat meat offered to idols? 11 Realize that your knowledge—that idols are nothing and thus it is all right to eat this meat freely—might be the ruination of a weak sister or brother, for whose sake Christ died. 12 By sinning against your sisters and brothers in this way and injuring their weak consciences, you are sinning against Christ. 13 Therefore, if meat causes my sister or brother to stumble, I will never eat it again— I don't want to be an occasion for sin to them.

Response to the Scripture:

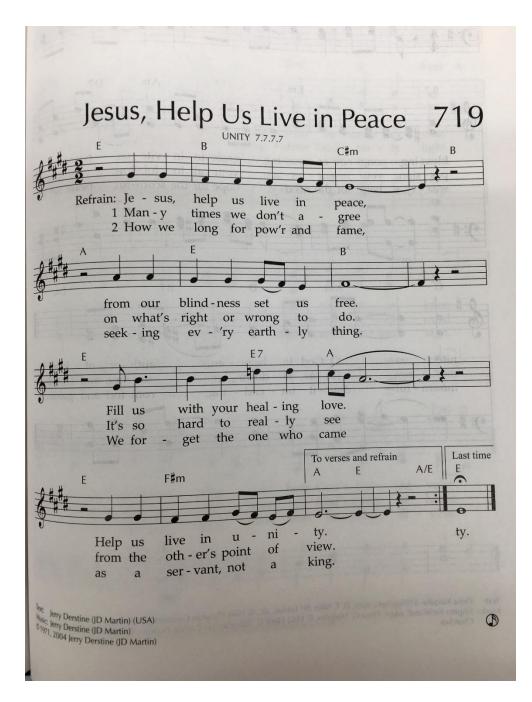
Leader: For the Word of God in Scripture,

For the Word of God among us, For the Word of God within us,

People: Thanks be to God!

Hymn: VT #719 "Jesus, Help us Live in Peace"

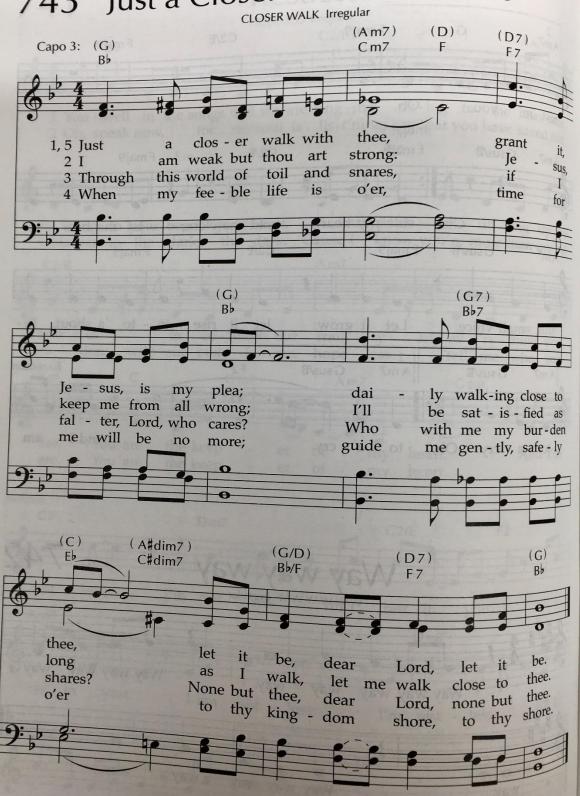
(or known as the camp song "Unity" - refrain, v1, v2, refrain)



Sermon: "Healing in Pandemics"

Hymn of Response: VT #743 "Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

743 Just a Closer Walk with Thee



Benediction:

God of light, illumine our lives that we may see rightly, lovely deeply and act justly. Amen. Go in peace.

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Worship Leader: Alex Tiessen Children's Time: Marlene Campbell

Pianist: Melanie Boldt Sound: Matthew Stefaniuk Song Leaders: Dayna Goerzen, Kathryn Janzen, Alex Tiessen

Ushers: Bill & Anna Peters

ANNOUNCMENTS

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

*Feb 1-5. MCC blanket making in the multipurpose room. All current COVID protocols will be in place – e.g. masks on at all times. Contact Diane McKinnell or Anne Peters if interested.

RJC Early Application Incentive - New students who apply for Fall 2021 by February 1 will receive \$500 off their tuition! Apply online at rjc.sk.ca/apply. *One last chance to apply early!!!*

*Youth & Mentors Game Night: Thursday February 4, 7:00 p.m. We are inviting all our mentors to join in on our regular youth games night for time to connect as a group! All mentors and youth will receive an email that week of the event with a zoom link and any further instructions needed in order to be ready to jump in the virtual fun.

*Sat. Feb. 6, 9:30 a.m. AGM. All welcome! Please dial in if you don't have Zoom. You can click on this on the website and arrive at meeting as well. Please call office if you want AGM booklet delivered with your long johns (the edible kind!).

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8529596955 Meeting ID: 852 959 6955

One tap mobile

+16473744685,.8529596955# Canada

+16475580588,,8529596955# Canada

Dial by your location

+1 647 374 4685 Canada

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

Meeting ID: 852 959 6955

*Sun. Feb. 7, 1:00 Snowshoeing to Bruce's cabin for outdoor fire with under 10. Meet at farmyard with thermos in backpack and portable lawn chairs and snowshoes. Possible farmyard barrel fire for non-snowshoe knoodlers with lawn chairs and thermoses. Text Patty 306-260-6069.

*February 17 Ash Wednesday Zoom 7:00-7:30 p.m. Come for a short service of scripture, sharing about the songs, scriptures we want at our funerals and anointing ourselves with lotion. Zoom link coming.!).

*Save the date! The 2021 MC Sask Annual Delegate Sessions will be held virtually on Saturday, March 13.

*Note correction to group name!! New way to donate to Refugee Fund. Now that the holidays have past, it might be time to do a Sarcan run. Wouldn't it be great if you could use your Sarcan donations to support a good cause? With Sarcan's new Drop & Go system you can leave your bottles at the Sarcan drop off location and the have the money deposited into the Refugee Sponsorship Group's account for Lina Al Nouri and her family from Syria. All you need to do is bring your donations to ANY Sarcan location and go to the Drop & Go door. 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. To find the nearest Sarcan location to you check out their website at Hours and Locations (www.sarcan.ca/hours_and_location) If you have any questions, please contact Kaytee Edwards at 306-221-1729.

OMC CALENDAR

- Feb 1 Kid's weekly Bible School zoom 7:00 pm
- Feb 4 Youth & Mentors Zoom Game Night 7:00 pm
- Feb 6 AGM zoom 9:30 a.m.
- Feb 17 Ash Wednesday Zoom 7:00 pm

Upcoming in Sanctuary & Facebook Live Sunday Services:

- Feb 7 Nora Pederberg preaching
- Feb 14 Valentine's Day Communion Patty Friesen
- Feb 21 First Sunday of Lent Patty Friesen
- Feb 28 George Janzen preaching

Patty's week: Tues. lent/baptism prep, Weds. office, Fri. office & donut delivery, Sat. AGM

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

NEXT SUNDAY: February 7

Speaker: Nora Pederberg Worship Leader: George Janzen

Song Leaders: Alex Tiessen, Kathryn Janzen Accompanist: Lynette Janzen Children's Time: Lynette Janzen Ushers: Harold Loewen or Lloyd Sawatzky

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