



August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025 9:30 a.m.  
*God in Extraordinary Times*

**Prelude** Annie Schulz

**Gathering Thoughts**  
**Lighting the Christ Candle** Doug Schulz

### **Call to Worship**

Leader: Oh God, whose presence makes our gathering today a sign of your work in the world...

**People: *reveal to our minds yet more deeply your calling upon our lives.***

Leader: Creator God, you have made us in your image to recognize how extraordinary it is to be alive on Earth!

**People: *Impress on our hearts how we might live each day with creative compassion for the earth and for all peoples.***

Leader: Redeeming God, you transform the story of humanity and renew each of our journeys day by day as we seek to follow your way in Jesus.

***All: Direct our actions today, and always, toward pure worship and effective service, through the power of your Spirit. Amen.***

### **Prayer**

**Hymn** *Mountain of God (see back of bulletin)* VT #11

### **Passing of the Peace**

### **Offertory Prayer**

### **Musical Reflection**

**Prayers of the People** Doug Schulz

**Hymn** *Open now thy gates of beauty* HWB #19

**Scripture Reading** Isaiah 5:1-7 (OT p. 634)

Hymn

*Let Justice Flow Down*

VT #791

*Refrain: Let justice flow down, down like a river,  
down to the valleys where the helpless cry.  
Let righteousness flow through us forever;  
lead us to the stream that will never run dry.*

*Flow to the mouths of the hungry; flow to the hands of the poor.  
Flow to the hearts of the orphans, healing the wounds of war.  
Refrain*

*Flow through the courts of our nation, guide us in love's decrees.  
Lead us to streams of salvation; fill our lands with peace.  
Refrain*

**Scripture Reading**

Revelation 21 excerpts (NT p.259)

**Meditation** "Gardens and God Space in God's Story" Justin Cook

**Hymn of Response** *Be thou my vision* HWB #545 v. 1&2

**Benediction** Doug Schulz

**Sending Hymn** *Be thou my vision* HWB #545 v. 4&5

**Postlude**

*It is good to be together in worship this morning!  
The ushers are pleased to help any who need assistance.  
[Offering plate is available on table at back of sanctuary]*

We welcome as our guest speaker this morning, Justin Cook, former high school English teacher colleague of Doug Schulz in Hamilton, is the Director of Learning for Edvance, an organization that supports schools to develop curriculum rooted in a vision of seeing things through Christ's reconciling power at work in community and society.

## **GRACE NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup>** ~ Attendance – 40

**Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup>** ~ Speaker: Mac Plunket  
Scripture Readings: James 2:1-4; Luke 13:10-17

**August 27, 1:30 p.m.** Church Council

**August 28, 1:30 p.m.** Preaching Team

**Congratulations and best wishes to Al & Ann Short** as they celebrate their 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**August 31<sup>st</sup>, 4:00 p.m. Grace Church Social**

at Doug & Ester's Farm (3017 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Jordan)

Watermelon and Rollkuchen, etc. Bring your own lawn chair.

**Please sign up** on the bulletin board in the foyer!

## ***ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD***



**MCC partner ministers to those affected by church bombing in Syria**

The June 22 shooting and suicide bombing that occurred inside the Greek Orthodox Saint Elias church in Damascus, Syria, have traumatized people in the Dweil'a suburb, where MCC supports an emergency food project and a children's program.

The attack killed 25 people and wounded more than 60 of the 300 people who were at the church, some of whom were MCC project participants. The community is home to Christians and Muslims, including those who have migrated there because of worsening economic situations caused by the ongoing civil war, which began in 2011.

MCC has been responding to the ongoing need of newcomers and host families through its account at Canadian Foodgrains Bank by providing monthly food parcels of food staples. FDCD has been distributing them to about 5,200 households since April 2024.

To support the work of MCC in Syria, give through the offering by designating on the offering envelope "MCC Syria", or in your e-transfer offering by writing in the message box "MCC Syria". Thank you.

**Yard Sale Fundraiser for Niagara Gaza Families!**

**August 23, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Grace MC parking lot!**

The Grace Peace Group (GPG) is partnering with the Niagara Palestine Coalition (NPC) to put on a yard sale to raise funds for local Palestinian/Gazan families who are supporting relatives currently suffering in Gaza, or caught in refugee limbo in Egypt, and who hope to join their relatives in Canada.

We're looking for housewares, linens, clothing (children's or men's or women's), books, toys, garden supplies. And home-baked goodies! Bring sale items and baking to church on August 17th and Laur Steven will store them in his van or freezer. Or you can donate directly online at <https://niagarapalestinecoalition.ca/donate/>

## **Mountain of God**

**Verse 1:** *Come, let us go to a place that is pure,  
to learn about love and wipe away tears;  
to melt swords of steel and hearts made of stone,  
set pris'ners free and give strangers a home.*

**Refrain:** *So come, come as you are, oh, come,  
from near and far, oh, come, salvation we'll taste  
as we climb the mountain of God.*

**Verse 2:** *From each corner and end of the earth,  
we'll gather together to sing of your worth,  
of blind who can see and weary who rest,  
good news for the poor, freedom for oppressed.* **Refrain**

**Verse 3:** *New life awaits for all who believe;  
all who love mercy, do justice, walk humbly.  
With Christ as our guide united we'll be;  
living the kingdom, secure in God's peace.* **Refrain**

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### **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father who art in heaven.  
Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory.  
For ever and ever. Amen.

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*Office Hours: 8:30-2:30 ~ Wednesday, Thursday*

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