



February 15th, 2026 9:30 a.m.

Anabaptist World Fellowship

Prelude

Annie Schulz

Gathering Thoughts

Darrell Winger

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship*

Leader: Welcome to you...

People: Welcome to you who are poor in spirit!

Leader: Welcome to you who mourn!

People: Welcome to you who hunger and thirst for justice!

Leader: Welcome to you who are peacemakers!

**People: Welcome to you who suffer and bear
what is unbearable in the name of Jesus Christ!**

Leader: God, in Jesus, welcomes each one of you.
It is he who wants to bear with us
the burdens of these days.

**All: *Let us open ourselves to his presence,
and may his joy grip us this morning
by the grace of his Spirit!***

Prayer

Hymn *Summoned by the God Who Made Us* VT #1, vv.1,2,4,5

Passing of the Peace

Offertory Prayer

Women's Chorus *We Have Seen the God of Glory*

Prayers of the People

Darrell Winger

Hymn *Let's Walk Together*

VT #6, vv.1,2

Scripture Reading Psalm 40:1-11 (OT p.513)

Hymn *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* VT #429

We will be participating in communion on Sunday, February 22nd. Each time we break bread and share the cup together, we have the opportunity for reflection and celebration of important truths: Christ's sacrificial love, his grace and forgiveness, and his invitation to pursue a right relationship with him and each other, enabled by his Spirit.

Lent: Jesus, who are you really...now?

As we journey through Lent this year, our question for consideration is: *Jesus, who are you really, now?* Lent calls us to a time of honest reflection and spiritual re-centring. We are invited to simplify our lives and make room for hearing and responding to Christ's call to us. It reminds us that Jesus promises to meet us *right now, where we truly are* – in our struggles, places of brokenness, and when we feel things just don't make sense. It is in the current painful realities of our world that the Spirit calls us.

This year, the season of Lent is framed by Jesus' experience of Holy Week. We will be drawing on the Narrative Lectionary readings which provide a slow, intentional journey through the second half of the Gospel of John. After the first week's reading in John 11, we will spend the rest of Lent exploring John's Holy Week narratives. We are invited to linger in the intensity of that final week of Jesus' life. We will be challenged to stay in the hard places with Jesus and linger through Lent at the edge of our understanding, so we might discover anew who Jesus really is, even now.

Using the words of Walter Brueggeman, we pray in these Lenten days: *When we are tempted to be in denial – not to notice the suffering, not to engage it, not to acknowledge it – be that way of truth among us that we should not deceive ourselves. That we shall see that loss is indeed our gain. We give thanks for that mystery from which we live. Amen.*

Coffee Time ~ February 22nd after the service

Wednesday, February 25th ~ Church Council at 1:30 pm

Annual Reports ~ Please submit annual reports for the Grace Annual Report Book, via email, to the church office (Ester Funk) by **Wednesday February 25th**. Contact the office for assistance if necessary, or if you wish to hand in a hard copy.

Women's Chorus ~ Thursday February 26th 9:30 am

Annual Meeting ~ After the Worship Service on **Sunday, March 29th** in the Church Hall.

ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD



Please pray for the MCEC community of congregations. This week we pray for **Chin Christian Church** in Kitchener, and for Jehu Lian and Joseph Raltong, who provide pastoral leadership to this community. Many in this congregation have family and friends in Myanmar who are suffering amid ongoing violence and instability. On February 10, a Myanmar military bomber struck a village in Chin State. In the aftermath of the attack, the entire population fled into the surrounding forests for safety. Lord, hear our prayer.

World Day of Prayer – Friday, March 6th at 1:00 pm

"I Will Give You Rest: Come" - Matthew 11:28-30

Ecumenical Worship Service at St. Mark's Anglican Church,
41 Byron Street, Niagara on the Lake

Service written and prepared by WDP Nigeria, prepared and adapted for use in Canada by the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada

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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Mennonite World Conference

A Community of Anabaptist
related Churches

About MWC

Mennonite World Conference (MWC) represents the majority of the global family of Christian churches rooted in the 16th century Radical Reformation in Europe, particularly in the Anabaptist movement.

MWC membership as of November 2025 includes one international association and 110 Mennonite and Brethren in Christ national churches from 61 countries, with around 1.44 million baptized believers in close to 10,400 congregations. About 84% of baptized believers in MWC member churches are African, Asian or Latin American, and 16% are located in Europe and North America.

Vision

Mennonite World Conference is called to be a communion (Koinonia) of Anabaptist-related churches linked to one another in a worldwide community of faith for fellowship, worship, service, and witness.

Mission

MWC exists to (1) be a global community of faith in the Anabaptist tradition, (2) facilitate relationships between Anabaptist-related churches worldwide, and (3) relate to other Christian world communions and organizations.

Shared Convictions

By the grace of God, we seek to live and proclaim the good news of reconciliation in Jesus Christ. As part of the one body of Christ at all times and places, we hold these shared convictions to be central to our belief and practice.

Please see the *Map of Anabaptists around the World* and a picture of Grace's 2025 Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday celebration display, on our new "Mennonite Partners" bulletin board in the Grace foyer.

From Mennonite World Conference:

Some Prayers Of Gratitude And Intercession

- Pray for Mennonite churches in Japan as they seek ways to address leadership succession, with most pastors being past retirement age. Pray that God will raise up younger leaders for the churches, and for the churches to continue to see opportunities to grow as they adapt to new realities.
- We ask everyone to pray for the new government of Bolivia to govern with foresight, wisdom and compassion. The petrol shortage has subsided since the new government removed the fuel subsidy, but many problems still exist, and the opposition continues to stage protests in the city of LaPaz over fuel subsidy cut.
- Heavy rains caused severe flooding in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe in January 2026. Pray for MWC member churches as they respond to needs within their own families and in their regions: heavy rains and rushing floodwaters destroyed homes, crops and swept away livestock.
- In Zimbabwe, some Brethren in Christ Church mission stations were cut off from towns and electrical outages affected schools and hospitals. Pray for the family of one schoolboy who was swept away in the floods.
- In Mozambique, the most affected regions were Maputo, Gaza, Inhambane, Sofala and Tete provinces. The bishop of Igreja Irmãos em Cristo em Moçambique has not received complete updates from remote regions but reports that 11 BIC churches were destroyed in Sofala Province.
- We pray for Mennonite churches in North America to stay united. Amid the stress from a heated political situation as well as growing diversity among the church body, may churches draw closer to each other in solidarity, as Jesus prayed “that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us.” (John 17:21)