



February 23rd, 2025 9:30 a.m.

*Epiphany
Together in the Light*

Prelude

Ester Funk

**Gathering Thoughts
Lighting the Christ Candle**

Judy Willems

Call to Worship

Leader: Come, let us praise God together in the company
of His gathered people.

People: For the works of our God are unparalleled.

Leader: Everything God does reveals His glory and majesty.

**People: Our God is full of grace and mercy,
and His righteousness never fails.**

Leader: So come and worship, all you who revere the Lord-

**People: For reverence and awe are the foundation
of true wisdom.**

All: We praise the abundant love and mercy of God.

Epiphany Prayer Holy God, creator of light,
in your Son's incarnation you showed us yourself, face to face.
Surprise us with signs and wonders of your presence,
as you did long ago.
Send your Spirit to show us the path that leads to you,
so that we might see you more clearly,
love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly
through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hymn *We Sing to You, O God* Voices Together (VT) #80
(words on next page)

Passing of the Peace

Offertory Prayer

Musical Reflection *Gravity of Love* Women's Chorus

Prayers of the People Judy Willems

Hymn *Holy, holy, holy* HWB #400

Scripture Reading Isaiah 6:1-8 (OT p.635)

Hymn *How firm a foundation* HWB #567, vv.1,2,3

Scripture Reading Luke 5:1-11 (NT p.62)

Meditation "Called into Abundance" David Brubacher

Hymn of Response *Dear Lord and Father of mankind*
HWB #523, vv.1,2,5

Benediction David Brubacher

Sending Hymn *We, Your People, Sing Your Praises* VT #849

*We, your people, sing your praises as together we are sent
to reveal your new creation in the shadows of lament.
Give us courage for the journey, shepherd Jesus, be our guide;
help us lead with hope and passion till all things are reconciled.*

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]

Coffee Time after the service today

We Sing to You, O God

*We sing to you, O God, the Rock who gave us birth.
Let our rejoicing sing your name in all the earth.
To you, O God, let songs be raised, in joyful hymns,
our feast of praise.*

*We wandered far from home out in a desert land.
You shielded with your love our fearful pilgrim band.
You kept us safe within your arms,
and sheltered us against the storm.*

*You bear us through the world, an eagle to her young,
who rises on her wings and bears us toward the sun.
We ride the vaults of light and air, and trust in your unfailing care.*

*O God, eternal God, we hide within your wings,
the everlasting arms to whom our praises ring.
Your word is true, your way is just,
you are the God in whom we trust.*

GRACE NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING RECEIPTS: Your 2024 offering receipts are in your church mailboxes to be picked up. If any questions, please contact Lorraine (Treasurer).

Upcoming events:

~ Ash Wednesday Service, March 5th at 11 a.m. at Grace Mennonite Church and at 6:30 p.m. at Linwell Church. We are partnering with Linwell Church for this meaningful way to begin the season of Lent.

~ Rev. Stephen Roy, MCC Ontario, Church and Community Relations Associate, is our guest speaker, March 16th.

Grace Arts ~ Do you have a craft or artwork that can be shared in our "Grace Arts" space in the lobby? We have many gifted people who work with wood, quilt, paint, draw, photograph, write poetry, etc! Would you be willing to display some of your work as a way of celebrating our church family and encouraging others? We are glad to help you display it appropriately in our Grace Arts space. Let Darrell or Ester know.

Sunday, February 2nd ~ Attendance - 43

Sunday March 2nd ~ Speaker: Laur Steven

Scripture Texts: **Jeremiah 17:5-10**; Psalm 1;

1 Corinthians 15:12-20; **Luke 6:17-26**

Worship Committee ~ February 26th at 10:30

Coffee Times ~ March 2nd, 16th, 30th

♪ **Women's Chorus** ~ Thursday February 27th at 9:30 a.m.

Annual Meeting ~ After the Worship Service on **Sunday, March 23rd** in the Church Hall

Are you concerned about a member of our church family? Maybe they haven't been here for a while. Why not give them a phone call? You can also let Pastor Darrell or Chaplain Jan know. ♡

Bears and Blankets Update – By the end of February, Bears and Blankets – an offering from Grace Mennonite Church – will have placed 904 Care Kits in 41 homes. The care kits consist of a teddy bear with a personalized scarf, a homey shawl or small blanket, a beary cute card, and bear-paw cookie. I'm very grateful for our helpers – at Grace MC and in our community. For more information talk to Jan Steven.

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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ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD

A note from THE FARMWORKER HUB in Niagara on the Lake.

The HUB is reopening on March 16th and is in need of HOODIES, WINTER JACKETS, WINTER HATS and GLOVES. We would appreciate you sharing this list with your family, friends, neighbours and within social circles.

For more information or to donate, contact the HUB at (905)483-9717 or farmworkerhub@ccchurch.ca



MCC Thrift, St. Catharines has a position open for a Volunteer Manager. In this role, the manager leads MCC Ontario's volunteer strategy at the thrift shop interacting directly with over 150 volunteers. Visit <https://mcc.org/careers> for more information.



A Moment for MCC Thrift! Boosting income and voices in Nepal! When you shop at MCC Thrift, you help break down income barriers for marginalized communities in places like Nepal. After learning about fish farming through an MCC partner, Shova Beshra, Kalpana Kumari Marandi and Chanmuni Tudu Satar waded into the aquaculture world and leased a pond together. Now, they sell fish from this pond at the local market, generating income for their families.



Please pray for the **MCEC community of congregations**. This week we pray for **Rehoboth Inner Healing Church**. Led by Paulos Berhe, this congregation joined MCEC last year. Pray for growth and life in their ministry.

Please keep the **Mennonite churches, and the entire population, in the city of Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo** in your prayers. The security situation remains precarious, many people are not able to access supplies, and prices have risen dramatically for goods such as food and other daily necessities. Pray for the **congregations in MCEC** who have family ties in the DR Congo. Lord, hear our prayers.

The Peace of Wild Things

When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

Wendell Berry

*Living Christ, in these times,
when we fear we are losing hope
or feel that our efforts are futile,
let us see in our hearts and minds
the image of your resurrection,
and let that be our source of courage and strength.
With that, and in your company,
help us face challenges and struggles
against all that is born of injustice.*

Amen.

From Voices Together #1033