



February 9<sup>th</sup>, 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]

*Adult Sunday School after the service today  
in the Fellowship Room*

**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).

**Vacation** ~ Pastor Darrell will be on vacation, February 5<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Jan, Annie or Ester in his absence if a need arises.

### **Upcoming events:**

~ Ash Wednesday Service, March 5<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup>.

**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 2<sup>nd</sup>** ~ Attendance - 43

**Sunday February 16<sup>th</sup>** ~ Speaker: Laur Steven

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

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

**Coffee Times** ~ February 16<sup>th</sup>, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>

♪ **Women's Chorus** ~ Thursdays February 13<sup>th</sup>,  
February 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.

**Annual Reports** ~ Please submit annual reports for the Grace Annual Report Book, via email, to the church office (Ester Funk) by **Wednesday February 19<sup>th</sup>**. Contact the office for assistance if necessary, or if you wish to hand in a hard copy.

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

**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.

**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. ♡

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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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**Contact Us:** Telephone: 905-935-6112 Email: [gracemennonite@bellnet.ca](mailto:gracemennonite@bellnet.ca)

**677 Niagara Street, St. Catharines**

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

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

**Senior's** - Get through February, by joining us in the Simpson Room at the NOTL Community Centre on Feb. 19 at 9:45 a.m. for coffee, a film (God's Not Dead 2) followed by a light lunch there. The cost is only \$10 per person! Please pay Bud and Ella Andres (905 468-2669), Paul and Jo Thiessen (905 468-7392) or Ted and Syl Wiens (289 868-9068) by **February 16<sup>th</sup>** to ensure your participation, and so food can be purchased/ordered.



**Please pray** for the MCEC community of congregations. This week we pray for **Rainham Mennonite Church**. Pray for this small congregation outside of Selkirk, ON as they minister to each other and to their community as they have for nearly two centuries.



**Please pray** for those in Eastern DR Congo who are suffering a major humanitarian crisis as rebel fighters violently took over the city of Goma. We also lift up our siblings in MCEC congregations who have deep family ties in the DR Congo: **Centre Béthésda Mennonite de Québec, Église Bethésda Mennonite de Saint-Hyacinthe (MDM), Église Jésus-Christ Appelle Tous, Goshen Mennonite Church of Ottawa, Mennonite Disciple Church - Joliette, Mennonite Disciples Swahili Church**. May God's peace, protection, and provision be with all those affected.



**MCEC Prayers for the Earth**. You are invited to join in an online prayer for climate justice on the second Thursday of the month, for half an hour beginning at 11:15a.m. Our next prayer time is **Thursday, February 13th**. To receive a link please contact Herb Sawatzky at [pastor@bethanymennonite.ca](mailto:pastor@bethanymennonite.ca). Written prayers are also welcome.



## **A Moment for Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) –**

Connections and caring: response to California fires – Southern California fires have destroyed thousands of homes and other structures. While MDS response is focusing on planning for a long-term recovery, MDS regional and state leaders have been contacting the Anabaptist churches and conferences to determine the extent of loss, if any, and to offer encouragement and prayers.

MDS responders have also personally visited churches and pastors, connecting them with information about filing insurance claims and funding available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Small Business Administration. For more information go to the Mennonite Disaster Services website or talk to Dave Brubacher, MDS Canada Board Chair.

*Love cannot remain by itself -  
it has no meaning.  
Love has to be put into action,  
and that action is service.  
Whatever form we are,  
whatever our abilities,  
whatever our resources,  
it is not how much we do,  
but how much love we put in the doing;  
a lifelong sharing of love with others.*

Teresa of Calcutta (India), 1983, alt.

