



January 28th, 2024 9:30 a.m.

Jesus, Hope in Bewilderment

Prelude		Ester Funk
Gathering Thoughts		Jan Steven
Lighting the Christ Candle		
Call to Worship* & Prayer		
Leader: God's praise endures forever,		
People: and eternity meets us in fleeting moments.		
Leader: God's praise endures forever,		
People: and glory bursts into ordinary activities.		
Leader: God's praise endures forever,		
People: and faith is steadfast in the midst of change and challenge.		
All: Let us worship the Eternal God who calls us to this time and place.		
Hymn	<i>From all that dwell below the skies</i>	HWB #49
Passing of the Peace		
Offertory Prayer		
Musical Reflection		
Prayers of the People		Jan Steven
Hymn	<i>Christ is the world's true light</i>	HWB #334
Scripture Reading	Psalm 111 (OT p.562)	
Women's Chorus	<i>Shine, Jesus, Shine</i>	
	Refrain: <i>Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory. Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire. Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy. Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!</i>	
Scripture Reading	Mark 1:21-28 (NT p.35)	
Meditation	"The Liberating Power of Love"	Darrell Winger
Hymn of Response	<i>Healer of our every ill</i>	HWB #377
Benediction		Darrell Winger

Sending Hymn

God Calls Us

*God calls us to be followers of Christ,
and by the pow'r of the Spirit
to grow as communities of grace, joy, and peace,
so God's healing and hope flow through us to the world,
so God's healing and hope flow through us to the world.*

Postlude

*Presbyterian Church of Canada

***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 meets today after the service
in the Fellowship Room***

GRACE NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday January 21st ~ Attendance – 51

Sunday, February 4th ~ Speaker: Mac Plunkett

Scripture Texts (Focus texts highlighted): Isaiah 40:21-31;
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c; **1 Corinthians 9:16-23**; Mark 1:29-39;
Acts 15:22-29

Church Council meets January 31st, at 1:30 p.m.

We will be participating in communion on February 4th.

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, enable by his Spirit.

♪ **Women's Chorus** ~ February 8th and 22nd at 9:30 a.m.



Coffee Times ~ February 11th and 25th after the service.

Ash Wednesday Service

We will be holding a brief Ash Wednesday service at Grace on Wednesday, February 14th at 11:00 a.m. This will be a simple but meaningful way to prepare for and enter into the season of Lent.

Annual Meeting ~ After the Worship Service on **Sunday, February 25th** in the Church Hall

Pastoral Care / Friendly Visits

Know that you can easily reach Pastor Darrell or Jan if you would like pastoral care or a friendly visit. If you are aware that someone is having a health challenge or other situation, they are only a phone call away from the offer of excellent soup. Our contact information is at the end of the bulletin.

ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD



*Please pray for the **MCEC community of congregations.**

This week we pray for **Erb St. Mennonite Church.** Scott Brubaker-Zehr provides pastoral leadership for the congregation. Pray for them as they grow together in faith, and encourage and support one another along life's journey.

*The **MCEC Executive Council** had their first meeting of January 2024 just this week. Pray for these committed leaders from across MCEC as they make decisions and care for our collective ministry within our community of faith. Pray for Ben Cassels (Steinmann Mennonite), James Barber (Hagerman Mennonite), Bruce Burgetz (Toronto United Mennonite), Steph Chandler Burns (Pastors in Exile), Felipe Gonzalia (First Mennonite), Kaye Rempel (Stirling Ave. Mennonite), Rich Steinmann (Steinmann Mennonite) and Hveiuna Jessie Yum (Danforth Mennonite).

***Continue to hold our world in prayer** as war and rumours of war resound. Pray for those who experience grief and pain; live in fear and danger because of armed conflict and call out to God from such harsh realities. **Pray for Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, Russia, Myanmar and more.** Lord, hear our prayers.



A Moment for MCC: "Amid a new nakba, MCC is responding with humanitarian assistance to displaced Gazans, as it did 75 years ago. Yet walking on that path of peace...calls for Anabaptists to act, including urging elected officials to champion a permanent ceasefire along with steps towards lasting peace for both Palestinians and Israelis."

Read the full story at <https://mcc.org/our-stories/gaza-catastrophe-and-75-years-mennonite-witness-palestine-and-Israel>.

MCC – Relief, development, and peace in the name of Christ

Update from St. Catharine's Soup Kitchen

The Ozanam Centre is St. Catharines' Soup Kitchen and is located at 235 Church Street, St. Catharines. <https://ozanamstc.ca/>

"The quality of our weekly lunches remains very good due to significant support from many sources. We are grateful for monetary support which purchases basic supplies to make hot casseroles and soups and teas during the bitter weather. It is often hard to get fresh fruit or vegetables to be used in salads. In 2023 Ozanam served 29,767 bagged hot and cold lunches. Inflation might deplete but it won't defeat us!" – Edith Bacon.

You can donate to "The Oz" by cheque made out to Ozanam Centre or by e-transfer to ozanamstc@gmail.com

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

www.gracemennonitechurch.com

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