



July 14th, 2024 9:30 a.m.

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude Ruth MacVicar

Gathering Thoughts Judy Willems
Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship*

Leader: Praise be to God

**People: who rescues us from the power of darkness,
who redeems us and sets us free!**

Leader: Praise be to Jesus Christ, the firstborn of all creation,

**People: through whom all things were made,
in heaven and on the earth.**

Leader: Praise be to the Spirit of God,

**People: whose presence sustains us,
and whose breath renews all creation.**

Leader: Behold! I am making all things new!

**All: Come, O God, and make your home among us.
Pour out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

Prayer

Hymn *All creatures of our God and King* HWB #48, vv.1,2,7

Passing of the Peace

Offertory Prayer

Musical Reflection

Prayers of the People Judy Willems

Hymn *This is my Father's World* HWB #154

Scripture Reading Psalm 24 (OT p.502)

Grace Singers *Open the Eyes of my Heart, Lord*

Scripture Reading Ephesians 1:15-23 (NT p.192)

Meditation "Seeing with Heart's Eyes" David Brubacher

Hymn of Response *Here I am Lord* HWB #395

Benediction David Brubacher

Sending Hymn *Open My Eyes Lord*

Open my eyes, Lord. Help me to see your face.

Open my eyes, Lord. Help me to see.

Open my ears, Lord. Help me to hear your voice.

Open my ears, Lord. Help me to hear.

Open my heart, Lord. Help me to love like you.

Open my heart, Lord. Help me to love.

Postlude

*Christine Longhurst, Together in Worship

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]

Welcome to Ruth MacVicar, our supply pianist during Annie's leave. Ruth has served as music director in several churches, currently teaches piano and is a member of Chorus Niagara.

Questions for further reflection after the meditation

1. Psalm 24 calls us to acknowledge God as Lord of all, who created order out of chaos. How do our day-to-day decisions align with God's order or contribute to on-going chaos?
2. Most of us have hopes and dreams. How does our hope in Jesus connect with these hopes and dreams?
3. In Ephesians 1:15, Paul gives thanks for the faith of the Ephesian people which enables them, to have love one toward another. What is the nature of faith that enables such love?
4. In his commentary on Ephesians, Tom Yoder-Neufeld says the church, as seen in Ephesians, is already what all things are in the process of becoming. How do we square this high view of the church with the realities of today, both inside and outside the church?

GRACE NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday July 7th ~ Attendance – 45

Sunday, July 21st ~ Speaker: Laur Steven

Scripture Texts: Psalm 89:1-8; Ephesians 2:11-22

Budget offerings for month of June was \$13,945.32

Your personal 6 month offering report is now in your mailboxes. Any questions, please call Lorraine.

Also included is the 6-month financial report of income and expenses.

Grace Arts ~ We are blessed to have many creative and artistic people in our congregation. As a way to honour God with our diverse gifts, a space has been created in the foyer for sharing various expressions of creativity, handiwork, writing, and artistic expression. You are welcome to share some of your work. If it can be easily placed on the board, please do so. If you need some assistance, let Darrell or Ester know.

The ANABAPTIST COMMUNITY BIBLE is now on sale in honour of the 500th anniversary of the Anabaptist movement! There are short commentaries on every part of the Bible by groups of Mennonites all around the world. People from Grace participated in this process. If you would like to order one or more copies, please let John Rempel know or sign up in the foyer until July 28th, and he will make a bulk order. The shipping costs are vastly reduced with a bulk order. You can pay John when the books arrive.

ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD

Church Picnic – Although our venue was not as anticipated, Niagara UM gave a warm welcome to all 260 of us at our combined Church Picnic. It was a great day for those that worshipped together and then shared a meal. Thanks to all that helped make this a great day – Worship folks, Bethany for organizing the meal, and all the churches that brought together food! A total of \$1,170 will be sent to MCEC.

Emancipation Day St. Catharines:

July 27 Salem Chapel BME Church tour in partnership with Tubman Tours Canada

July 28 A full day of celebration, live music, vendors and food trucks in Lakeside Park in Port Dalhousie!

August 1 The raising of the Pan African flag at City Hall, followed by “Soul” film screening in the PAC’s backyard.



Grow Hope Niagara! Today July Sunday 14, 4:00pm, we are inviting interested supporters to come to visit this year's wheat field that is being grown for CFGB/MCC. Meet at our farm at **2832 Campden Road**, then drive to the field for a look at the crop; soon to be harvested. We will return to the Neufeld farm for some nibbles and discussion on CFGB/MCC current challenges. Tom Neufeld, Stewardship Associate for CFGB projects, MCC Ontario.

Traditions in Peacemaking: Pathways to Reconciliation - Come hear presentations on Peacemaking from Indigenous and Mennonite perspectives, followed by a corn roast. Indigenous teachings by Tim Johnson and Sean Vanderklis, followed by Mennonite reflections. August 11th starting at 2pm at the First Nations Peace Monument, 2370 Decew Rd. Please bring lawn chairs, hats, sunscreen, and reusable water bottles. Parking is limited; carpool if possible. Donations to help with costs appreciated. More details to follow.

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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