



July 16th, 2023 9:30 a.m.

Prelude Ester Funk

Gathering Thoughts Jan Steven

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship & Prayer

Leader: God's Word is a lamp to our feet;

People: and a light to our path.

Leader: God's Word is made visible in Christ;

People: in him we are rooted in truth.

Leader: God's Word is revealed through The Holy Spirit;

People: and lived out in faithful service.

Leader: Come and listen for God's Word in this time of worship.

ALL: We wait to receive the Word of Life.

Hymn *I sing the mighty power of God* HWB #46

Passing of the Peace

Offertory Prayer

Hymn *Grant us, Lord, the Grace of Giving* HWB #388
(The tune is *Morning has Broken*)

Prayers of the People Jan Steven

Hymn *For the fruit of all creation* HWB #90

Scripture Reading Genesis 25:19-34 [OT p.71]

Grace Singers *As a Sigh Great with Yearning*

Scripture Reading Matthew 13:1-23 [NT p.13]

Meditation "A Parable of Parables" Mac Plunkett



Save the date ~ Sunday, July 23rd at 4:00 p.m.
Grace Social Gathering in the Church Hall
Watermelon, rollkuchen, salads and desserts.
Program: Grace Picture Show.

Donation basket for the meal will be available in the Church Hall.
Please sign up on the sheet in the foyer if you plan to attend.
Volunteers to bring a salad or dessert appreciated.

♥ Pastoral Care Team (Grace Friends)

Did you miss getting your July card and treat? After church today, come and see me – Jan Steven - in the foyer for your July treat and card. “Dear Lord, guide our feet this summer and always. Amen.”

ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD



From Mennonite Church Eastern Canada (MCEC)

*Each week we pray for a **faith community within the MCEC community of congregations**. This week we pray for Hamilton Mennonite Church, part of our Niagara Cluster of churches.

*Join us in praying with the **Kimia congregation in Kinshasa (part of the Mennonite Community of the Congo)**.

City authorities destroyed part of its sanctuary after deciding to bulldoze buildings in the area. The decision came despite the congregation holding legal documents showing its purchase of the land and permission to build. Pray that God will touch the hearts of the government authorities who are handling this situation and that they will recognize the congregation’s legal right to its land and building.

*Continue to pray for **those who are experiencing displacement and concern as wildfires burn across Canada**.

*Continue to pray for **those who are living in areas impacted by war**. We pray using the words of Psalm 13: "How long O Lord? Will you forget me forever? But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation."



A Moment for MCC ~ The Gift of School Supplies Can Change a Life

MCC's school kits offer children who don't have access to basic school supplies their educational essentials: pencils, pens, an eraser, a pencil sharpener, ruler, coloured pencils and four spiral-bound notebooks.

Last year, MCC sent out nearly 90,000 school kits to children on five continents, but one of the countries that received the most was South Sudan.

You can read more about how students like John Gai Mabor, 17 at Rumbek Comboni Primary School in Rumbek, South Sudan, have been impacted by these kits at www.mcccanada.ca.

If you would like to help kids around the world receive the gift of school supplies, join the School Kit Challenge. During the months of July and August, we're collecting 10,000 school kits to help 10,000 kids get an education.

You can be part of the School Kit Challenge through Grace Mennonite Church by designating "MCC – School Kits" on your offering envelopes. Thank you.

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

<https://mcccanada.ca/stories/ho-gift-school-supplies-can-change-life>

Tel: 905-935-6112 Email: gracemennonite@bellnet.ca

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

www.gracemennonitechurch.com

www.facebook.com/gracemennonitechurchstcatharines

Office Administrator	Ester Funk	gracemennonite@bellnet.ca
Worship Coordinator	Annie Schulz	annieschulz@yahoo.ca
Crisis Care & Funerals	Waldo Pauls 289-407-5851	waldopauls@gmail.com
Pastoral Care Chaplain	Jan Steven 289-990-4839	Pastoral Care, Friendly Visits janscats@gmail.com
Pastoral Intern	Mac Plunkett	