



July 25th, 2021

Growing in God - Abiding

Prelude

Ester Funk

Welcome, Call to Worship & Prayer

David Brubacher

Leader: If you are delighted to be here,
and if you are tired or troubled,

People: you are welcome.

Leader: If your faith is strong,
and if your faith is battered or frail,

People: you are welcome.

Leader: If you are eager to praise God,
and if you need to be quiet,

People: you are welcome.

**All: *God welcomes us all to worship today
and promises to meet us here.*** [fr. Voices Together #853]

Hymn

Open now thy gates of beauty

HWB 19

Scripture Reading

Psalm 14 [OT p.495]

Passing of the Peace & Prayers of the People

Hymn

The Love of God

See insert

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 3:14-21 [NT p.103]

Reflection

"On Foolishness & Fullness"

Doug Schulz

Hymn of Response

God, Be the Love

See insert

Benediction

Sending Hymn

Love divine, all loves excelling

HWB 592 vs1&4

Postlude

[Offering box available on table at back of sanctuary]

It is good to be together in worship this morning!

The ushers are pleased to help any who need assistance.

GRACE NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Budget Income for July 18th \$1,125.00.

August 1st Devotional ~ Kevin McCabe

Scripture Texts for August 1st: (Focus texts highlighted)

II Samuel 11:26-12:13a

Ephesians 4:1-16

Psalms 51:1-12

John 6:24-35

Amos 3:13-15; 5:10-12; and 6:4-7

Audio-Recordings: For all services, go to our church's website www.gracemennonitechurch.com. Click on **Services 2021** and the list of services pops up with the most recent first.

On "Live" service Sundays the recording will be posted on the website by Monday; however, there will not be a script to follow. Click on **Bulletins 2021** to see the bulletin.

On Thursday recording weeks the recording will be posted on the website by Friday, along with the worship service notes.

ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD

Bridge of Hope Update: The BOH community is very pleased and grateful for funds given from local churches and mosques to sponsor the South Sudanese refugee woman Betty M. and her family. Over \$52,000 has been contributed (original goal was \$45,000). Ongoing donations allow BOH to consider another sponsorship; hence, this appeal to you for further generous giving to help a widow and her family of orphans and other dependents [6 persons, who would be sponsored as two small family units]. More details about this family in the upcoming Grace Weekly News memo on Thursday.



A Moment for MCC –

Families fleeing violence in Tigray, Ethiopia

* You can provide emergency food to children and families who are starving. In seven months of fighting, around two million people have been displaced from their homes in Tigray and more than 60,000 have fled to neighbouring Sudan. They are truly afraid, hungry and homeless. A donation of \$125 provides 4 people with one month of emergency food.

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

<https://donation.mcccanada.ca/>



MCC News - Make Coins Count

MCC has recently advised that current plans include the New Hamburg Relief Sale in May 2022. This means that our blue plastic coin jug on the small table in the lobby is back in business. All of those loose coins that you have been saving can now be dropped into the jug to make some noise in support of MCC.

Grow Hope Niagara - Grace continues to contribute towards sponsorship of 10 acres of this MCC/FoodGrains Project in the Vineland area to feed the hungry. We will continue until Labour Day. After harvest, there are costs to plant a cover crop. MCC is planning an open house at the property in late September to promote its agricultural development work abroad. Exact dates to be announced later. Thanks to all for your support of MCC.

Ted Stephen

OUTREACH & INSIGHT

People Care Network and Prayer Notes: Continue to uphold in prayerful thoughts Grace folks and any others facing challenging situations in health and relationships. As we read or watch the news (local to global), rather than dwell on anxious feelings let's turn those into visualizations of good outcomes, positive changes, and the possibility of health, peace and justice to become real for people. Also, remember to ask, in prayer: "How can I make a difference in a practical way that extends my prayer into meaningful action?"

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR

... **in the summer months MCEC** encourages us to pray for the churches in our geographical cluster. (Bethany Mennonite, Hamilton Mennonite, Lao Christian Fellowship, Niagara U.M., St. Catharines U.M., The First Mennonite Church, Vineland U.M. Westview Christian Fellowship). Pray that God would grant us courage as we look to where God is calling us in our communities, in our regional church community and in our nationwide community of faith. Pray that God would inspire our imaginations as we follow God’s leading and respond to God’s call.

... **MCEC** as they search for a new Operations Director.

... **encouragement** for the first gathering of the **China Mennonite Network** (July 23-25) as they meet to learn from each other and to listen and discern God’s leading.

... **the country and the people of Myanmar**. People are suffering and dying because of the civil war and Covid. Pray also for the five Mennonite Church Canada congregations with people from Myanmar as they pray for and are concerned for friends and family living in Myanmar.

.... **MCC in Canada** as they seek reconciling responses to the even deeper historic harms emerging from Indian Residential Schools in Canada as more and more unmarked graves are found.

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