



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

10th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Ruth MacVicar

**Gathering Thoughts
Lighting the Christ Candle**

Pam Pauls

Call to Worship*

Leader: God of cosmos and quarks, God of rainbows and fireflies,
God of electricity and enzymes -

People: you created the earth and proclaimed it good.

Leader: The galaxies and planets are known to you,
yet also the hairs on our heads.

**People: You cradle all things in the palm of your hand,
supporting us with love.**

Leader: We magnify your name for our creation
and for all the blessings of this life.

***All: Sustain in us a spirit of awe
for how you continue to be present in the world,
and help us to act with love
for all that you have created. Amen.***

Prayer

Hymn *I sing the mighty power of God*

HWB #46

Passing of the Peace

**Offertory Prayer
Musical Reflection**

Prayers of the People

Pam Pauls

Hymn *Great is the Lord*

HWB #87

Scripture Reading Psalm 96 (OT p.550)

Hymn

The Love of God

*The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell;
It goes beyond the highest star, and reaches to the lowest hell.*

The wand'ring child is reconciled by God's beloved Son.

The aching soul again made whole, and priceless pardon won.

Refrain: O love of God, how rich and pure!

How measureless and strong!

It shall forevermore endure – the saints' and angels' song.

*When ancient time shall pass away,
and human thrones and kingdoms fall;*

*when those who here refuse to pray
on rocks and hills and mountains call;*

*God's love so sure, shall still endure, all measureless and strong;
grace will resound the whole earth round-
the saints' and angels' song.*

Refrain

*Could we with ink the ocean fill,
and were the skies of parchment made;
were ev'ry stalk on earth a quill, and ev'ryone a scribe by trade;
to write the love of God above would drain the ocean dry;
nor could the scroll contain the whole,
though stretched from sky to sky.*

Refrain

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 3:14-21 (NT p.193)

Meditation

"Our Changing Prayers"

Darrell Winger

Hymn of Response

*Amazing grace! how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.*

Benediction With God's power working in us, God can do much,
much more than anything we can ask or imagine.

To him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus for all time,
forever and ever. Amen.

Sending Hymn

Christ is the world's true light

HWB #334

Postlude

*Joell Friesen

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]

Thank you to Ruth MacVicar, who has served as our supply pianist during Annie's leave.

Questions for further reflection after the meditation

1. What idea struck you from the meditation and why?

2. How have your experiences changed your prayers?

What are you praying for these days?

3. What does it mean today for the church to be a window into God's rich and varied wisdom? How can we be this window at Grace?

4. What comes to mind as you ponder what it means to be rooted and established in love? For yourself? For others? For our church?

GRACE NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday July 21st ~ Attendance – 42

Sunday, August 4th ~ Speaker: Mac Plunkett

Scripture Texts: Psalm 29, Ephesians 4:1-16, Matthew 13:24-30

Coffee Time ~ Sunday August 4th

Save the date ~ September 1st, 4:00 p.m.

Grace Church Social at Doug & Ester's Farm

Grace Newsletter ~ Would you like to help us communicate all the good things happening in and through our congregation? We are planning to develop a Grace Newsletter to send out 2 or 3 times a year. If you would be interested in doing any writing, collecting of stories, sharing of photos, editing, or providing any other creative input, please let Darrell know (email, text, conversation) in the next couple of weeks. We will then plan a meeting of those interested. Our aim is to send out our first newsletter this fall.

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.



Soap for Hope ~ MCC urgently needs soap donations for countries where soap is scarce. Both bath soap (85 g or larger, in wrapper) and laundry soap (Fels Naptha, Sunlight, or Zote) are needed. Please donate to meet this crucial need. Donations can be brought to Grace and placed in the box in the church foyer marked Soap Donations, or to the MCC Thrift Shop.

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

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ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD

The Impact of Hurricane Beryl in the Caribbean Earlier This Month ~ The news cycle has moved on, but people in Jamaica and St. Vincent are still struggling to pick up the pieces and rebuild their lives. They have lost their roofs, farms, livestock, and experienced extensive damage from winds and flooding. Three weeks after the storm, many are still without power and running water. While everyone is grateful that loss of life was limited, the grief of losing livelihoods is very real.

Area farmworkers are leading an online fundraiser, with the goal of raising \$6000 to support 40 families in Jamaica and St. Vincent. See <http://migrantworkersalliance.org/hurricane-relief>. For more information, talk to Kit after church or email at communikit86@gmail.com.

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.



*Please pray for the **MCEC community of congregations**. This week we pray for **Lao Christian Fellowship**. Pastor Bounho Phommaseng provides leadership for this congregation in St. Catharines. Pray for them as they serve Lao Christians in St. Catharines.

***Continue to pray for Myanmar, Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Palestine and throughout a world that cries for peace.** Pray for those who are displaced, those who search for family members, those who make decisions and those who attempt to provide aid. Lord, make us channels of your peace!



A Moment for MCC: Farmers grow safe vegetables to protect health and environment in Bangladesh

Farmers in Bogura District, northwestern Bangladesh, are learning to farm with natural pest control instead of synthetic pesticides. MCC support for development projects like this is based in its faith, says Gregory Vanderbilt, representative for MCC in Bangladesh.

“Grounded in the unconditional love for God and for our neighbours, our faith motivates us to support development projects that accompany justice, equity and peace towards shalom – wholeness in people and our world.” – Gregory Vanderbilt, Representative for MCC in Bangladesh.

Read the story at <https://mcc.org/our-stories/farmers-grow-safe-vegetables-protect-health-environment>.

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



Looking for household donations!

Have you been meaning to clear out household items that you no longer use, but haven't gotten around to it yet? Well, now's the time to do it! Our thrift shops are in need of household donations to keep supplies strong on the sales floor. Pack up some boxes and head over to our MCC Thrift Shop on 254 Grantham Avenue.

