



July 7th, 2024 9:30 a.m.

7th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Ester Funk

**Gathering Thoughts
Lighting the Christ Candle**

Darrell Winger

Call to Worship

Leader: We are a covenant people, called to God by God,
generation through generation.

**People: We are a covenant people, called to Jesus by Jesus,
losing our life to gain our life.**

Leader: We are a covenant people, called to church by the church,
weaving together the strong and the weak,
the stranger and the friend.

People: Renamed.

Leader: Reborn.

All: Renewed.

***We gather ourselves in the community of believers.
We gather ourselves unto you.***

Prayer

Hymn *Joyful, joyful, we adore thee*

HWB #71, vv.1,2,3

Passing of the Peace

Offertory Prayer

Musical Reflection

Prayers of the People

Darrell Winger

Grace Singers

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

Scripture Reading (Psalm 133 and 134)

Left: How very good and pleasant it is
when kindred live together in unity!

Right: It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron,
running down over the collar of his robes.

GRACE NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday June 30th ~ Attendance – 45

Sunday, July 14th ~ Speaker: David Brubacher
Scripture Texts: Psalm 24; Ephesians 1:15-23

Vacation ~ Darrell will be away from July 10th to July 17th on vacation. If a need arises, please contact Ester Funk, Office Administrator, 905-932-0479.

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.

MCC Coin Jug Ministry: Council has decided to end the Coin Jug Ministry due to changes in the Grace congregation, and to the greatly reduced use of coins in society. Please feel free to add coins to the offering plates at the back of the church. Thank you to all who donated to the Coin Jug Ministry in May. We forwarded \$160.13 to MCC.

Constitution Update: The revised Grace constitution has been signed and submitted to the Government. We will wait until the fall to give the government an opportunity to respond, though we don't expect that. After that time we will circulate copies to members. If you wish a copy sooner, please contact Council Chair, Laur Steven.

ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD



Grow Hope Niagara! July Sunday 14, 4:00pm, we are inviting interested supporters to come to **2832 Campden Road** to visit this year's wheat field that is being grown for CFGB/MCC. Meet at our farm 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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www.gracemennonitechurch.com
www.facebook.com/gracemennonitechurchstcatharines

Pastor	Darrell Winger 905-483-2335	Darrell.winger@gmail.com
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Questions for further reflection as we study Ephesians, from Dr. Tom Yoder Neufeld:

1. It takes 20 minutes to read Ephesians aloud, the typical length of a sermon. It would indeed have been read aloud, without chapter or verse breaks. What impressions does it make on you as hearer? Are you inspired? Turned off? Bored? Motivated?
2. What vision of the church emerges in your reading/hearing of Ephesians? What is its meaning, character, mission?
3. How are God's acts of blessing (choosing, saving, raising, empowering, etc.) related to our life of faith?
4. Follow motifs like truth, power, unity, wisdom, and conflict through the letter. What do you discover?

For further interest in Ephesians:

- Believers Church Bible Commentary on Ephesians by Thomas R. Yoder Neufeld. A copy is in our church library.

- Summary commentary on Ephesians: <http://www.anabaptistwiki.org/mediawiki/index.php/Ephesians>.

- Andrew Dyck "telling" Ephesians from beginning to end: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pGkiu0tCEys&t=477s>.

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