



March 3rd, 2024 9:30 a.m.

Lent 3

World of Tension, Christ Among Us

Prelude

Annie Schulz

Gathering Thoughts

Doug Schulz

Lighting the Christ Candle

Lenten Hymn *Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and light unto my path (2x)*

Call to Worship & Prayer

Leader: We often miss the beauty in your work, God.

People: Forgive our distracted hearts.

Leader: When we put our trust in other things,

People: remind us of your love and care.

All: Bring joy to us once again.

Leader: May the meditations of our hearts

People: be pleasing in your sight,

All: our Rock and our Redeemer.

Hymn *I will sing of my Redeemer* HWB #344, vv.1,2,4

Passing of the Peace

Offertory Prayer

Musical Reflection

Prayers of the People

Doug Schulz

Women's Chorus

A New Commandment

Scripture Reading 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 (NT p.166)

Hymn *I bind my heart this tide* HWB #411

Scripture Reading John 2:13-22 (NT p.93)

Meditation "The Value of Taking a Second Look" Darrell Winger

Hymn of Response *Faith Begins by Letting Go* Back of Bulletin

Benediction

Darrell Winger

Sending Hymn *Faith Begins by Letting Go* Back of Bulletin

Postlude

***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]

GRACE NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday February 25th ~ Attendance – 47

Sunday, March 10th ~ Speaker: Laur Steven

Scripture Texts (Focus texts highlighted): Numbers 21:4-9;
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; **Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21**

♪ **Women's Chorus** ~ March 7th, 21st, 28th at 9:30 a.m.

Good Friday Service ~ March 29th, 9:30 a.m. with Communion

Coffee Times ~ March 17th, March 29th (Good Friday),
March 31st (Easter Sunday)

A Lenten Guided Prayer Resource *Hungering for Hope*, for use at home, is available in the church foyer. This resource is produced by the Mennonite Spiritual Directors of Eastern Canada.

Grace Peace Group ~ We're meeting March 3rd after church in the Fellowship Room to review current actions and plan new ones. Everyone is invited.

Looking for fabric! And for yarn! 😊

Do you have fabric you don't know what to do with? A friend of a friend collects donated fabric and makes small blankets with it for Bears and Blankets and large comforters for overseas Missions.

Do you have yarn you don't know what to do with? A friend of a friend collects donated yarn and makes large blankets for area Charities and small blankets for Bears and Blankets.

You can bring it to Grace Mennonite Church on Sunday or drop off at Grace MC during the week on Wednesday or Thursday morning. Call ahead. Or you can contact Jan Steven for pick up possibilities.

ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD



Crosses are coming to Grace for Easter:

The Shepherds' Trail (www.theshepherdstrail.com) is a group of Palestinian-Christian artisans working in partnership with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bethlehem to support programs for youth, women, and marginalized communities. Amidst the turmoil in Israel/Palestine Grace can support the compassionate way of Jesus in this gesture of peace.

From the Shepherds' Field through Bethlehem to the World

We offer wholesale olive wood handmade hand crosses (Size: 9.5x4.5x1.2 cm.) individually packed including a bookmark with information about our initiative and ready for resell made by Palestinian artisans in Bethlehem.

Grace has made an initial order for 25 crosses. They will be \$10.00CDN, first come first served. No money now, just sign up in the foyer after the service. If we have more than 25 requests, we can reorder. There will be no receipts for tax purposes. And this purchase is over and above your regular givings. We will have a blessing of the crosses and a prayer time for Gaza during a service near Easter.



*Please pray for the **MCEC community of congregations**. This week we pray for **First Mennonite Church** in Kitchener, ON. Rene Baergen, Sandra Baez and Liz Weber provide pastoral care for this congregation. Pray for this conventional church with an unconventional story. They are a diverse and intercultural community of Jesus followers doing their best to connect deeply with God, intentionally with each other and compassionately with the world around us.



A Moment for MCC: South Sudan – A forgotten people... Since 2013, violence has displaced nearly 4 million people. Many live on the edge of famine; ongoing internal conflict and severe floods make them even more vulnerable. MCC partners provide food, livelihood and vocational training, trauma and health support, education and peacebuilding. You can support MCC by your offering. If by cash or cheque, designate the envelope/memo line "MCC Sudan". By e-transfer, enter "MCC Sudan" in the message box.

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

Faith Begins by Letting Go

*Faith begins by letting go, giving up what had seemed sure,
taking risks and pressing on, though the way feels less secure:
pilgrimage both right and odd, trusting all our life to God.*

*Faith endures by holding on, keeping mem'ry's roots alive
so that hope may bear its fruit; promise-fed, our souls will thrive,
not through merit we possess but by God's great faithfulness.*

*Faith matures by reaching out, stretching minds, enlarging hearts,
sharing struggles, living prayer, binding up the broken parts;
till we find the commonplace ripe with witness to God's grace.*

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

www.gracemennonitechurch.com

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