



**May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 9:30 a.m.**

**Turn to Jesus, go with the Spirit**

**Prelude** Annie Schulz

**Gathering Thoughts** Pam Pauls

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

**Call to Worship, Prayer**

Leader: We bless you, O God.

Let the sound of your praise be heard,

**People: for you have kept us and adopted us as your own.**

Leader: We have been tested:

**People: caught in the net, faced with fire and water.**

Leader: Yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

**All: We bless you, O God,**

**for you have kept us and adopted us as your own.**

**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** Pam Pauls

**Hymn** *Lord, whose love in humble service* HWB #369

**Scripture Reading** Proverbs 31 [OT p.613]

**Women's Chorus** *Take My Life, That I May Be*

**Scripture Reading** Romans 16 [NT p.164]

**Meditation** "Wise and Wonderful Women" Jan Steven

**Hymn of Response** *Like a mother who has borne us*  
Grace Singers

**Benediction** (Congregation please stand) Jan Steven

**Sending Hymn** *Spirit of the living God* HWB #349

**Postlude**

***It is good to be together in worship this morning!***  
***The ushers are pleased to help any who need assistance.***  
**[Offering plate available on table at back of sanctuary]**

*Coffee Time after the service today*

## **GRACE NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023** ~ Attendance – 44

**Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>** – Ascension Service [9:30 a.m.]

Speaker: Laur Steven **Scripture Texts** (Focus texts highlighted):

**Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47** or Psalm 93; Ephesians 1:15-23;

Luke 24:44-53

**Sunday May 28<sup>th</sup>** – Pentecost Service with Communion

### **♥ Pastoral Care Team (Grace Friends)**

**Happy Mother's Day!** Did you miss out on getting your Smile Cookie and Card last week? No worries! See Jan in the foyer after the service. Proceeds from purchasing these cookies is going to Hospice Niagara! ☺ Do you or someone you know want a friendly or pastoral-care visit? Let Jan Steven know at church or at 289-990-4839 or [janscats@gmail.com](mailto:janscats@gmail.com)

### **Prayer Concerns**

Please hold Hertha Janzen, Theo & Francine Illunga and Deborah & Harry Nickerson in your prayers.

**Preaching Team** ~ Monday May 15<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m.

**Worship Committee** ~ Thursday May 18<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m.

♪ **Women's Chorus** ~ Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 a.m.

**Grace Telephone Directory** ~ A new directory will be coming out shortly. Please notify the office by May 25<sup>th</sup> of any changes to your information.

## **ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD**

### **St. Catharines United Mennonite Church German Worship Ministry Celebration and Conclusion of 78 years**

is Sunday, June 4, at 9:15 am. Come and enjoy a video depicting the very beginning of the German Worship services as far back as 1947, poems, and a choir program. All are welcome!

**United Mennonite Home** is excited to welcome back its Annual Spring Bazaar! Join us on Saturday June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10am-12:30pm at 4024 Twenty-Third St. Vineland. Festivities consist of a Bake Sale, Penny Sale, Raffle, Silent Auction, BBQ, and Entertainment. Raffle prizes include a Handmade Quilt, Webber Travel BBQ, and a \$150 Shaw Festival Gift Certificate. Advanced ticket sales are available weekday afternoons at the UMH volunteer reception desk. For more information, please contact Jodi Thompson – Programs Manager at (905) 562-7385 ext. 5004 or [jthompson@umh.ca](mailto:jthompson@umh.ca).



### **From Mennonite Church Eastern Canada (MCEC)**

\*Each week we pray for a faith community within the MCEC of congregations. This week we pray for **Agape Fellowship**. Please pray for this faith community who meet at Valleyview Mennonite Church in London, ON.

\*Continue to **pray for places throughout our world where the people cry out for peace**. Lord, hear our prayers.



### **A Moment for MCC – Relief in Cuba**

Cuban woman Maria Dolores Perez Paez is grateful for everything received in an MCC relief kit. She has been using them sparingly, since she says she doesn't know when she'll get soap or towels again.

Maria and her husband Gregorio are a retired couple, living in a rural area in the province of Pinar del Rio, Cuba. They both suffer from health problems and are trying to make a living as best they can with Gregorio's pension. When Hurricane Ian hit, their house was destroyed – the roof, the walls, everything. Only the kitchen and bathroom, and the front wall, are still standing. During the hurricane, says Gregorio, the wind was coming from all directions at once: "it was a whirlwind." The hurricane's destruction has made an already difficult economic situation even worse.

Thanks to your support, humanitarian assistance is distributed to vulnerable families through Brethren in Christ Church of Cuba and the Christian Center for Reflection and Dialogue, MCC partners in Cuba.

## **You Are Good**

*The universe yet incomplete  
on the sixth day God created her*

*Woman*

*and God said to her  
I shall give you*

*A heart full of compassion  
a spirit free to fly with the birds  
a vessel to carry life into the world*

*Wisdom to know great truths  
courage to rise out of oppression*

*Strength to move mountains  
gentleness to kiss the earth*

*Passion to set the world on fire  
vision to respect the earth that bore you*

*A playful nature to dance with the children  
laughter to fill the valleys  
tears to wash the pain away*

*Hands for laboring and loving  
intuition to know the unknown  
desire to be that which you were created to be*

*and God said to her*

*Woman*

*I have created you in my image and likeness and*

*You are good*

~ posted by Rev. Dr. Laura on RevGalBlogPals's **A Place for Prayer.**  
<http://revgalprayerpals.blogspot.ca/>

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

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**[www.facebook.com/gracemennonitechurchstcatharines](http://www.facebook.com/gracemennonitechurchstcatharines)**

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