



May 19th, 2024 9:30 a.m.

Pentecost Sunday

Prelude Annie Schulz

Grace Singers *Kindle in Us Your Love*

Gathering Thoughts Mac Plunkett
Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship from Psalm 104

Leader: O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you
have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

**People: Yonder is the sea, great and wide,
creeping things innumerable are there,
living things both small and great.**

Leader: When you send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the ground.

**People: May the glory of the Lord endure forever;
may the Lord rejoice in his works--**

Leader: who looks on the earth and it trembles,
who touches the mountains and they smoke.

**People: I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.**

Leader: May my meditation be pleasing to him,
for I rejoice in the Lord.

All: Bless the Lord, O my soul. Praise the Lord!

Prayer

Hymn *Holy Spirit, come with power* HWB #26

Passing of the Peace

Offertory Prayer

Musical Reflection As the Wind Song Through the Trees
Women's Chorus

Prayers of the People Mac Plunkett

Hymn *God sends us the Spirit* HWB #293

Scripture Reading Joel 2:28-32 (OT p.848)

Bears and Blankets Update! Sadly – for me- the requests for Bears and Blankets care kits have slowed down for now. Residents LOVE these and I LOVE putting them together and delivering them. I'll let you know when things pick up again.

Speaking of deliveries ... Charlotte Teresa (Steven) Duhamel arrived on Mother's Day – May 12. A first baby for Elaine and Alex and first grandchild for Rebecca Duhamel. – Jan Steven

REJOICE Devotional Booklet: Are you interested in having a devotional book, **Rejoice**, published by MennoMedia, using it to start or end each day? A number of Grace people already use this devotional booklet daily in their lives. September is the yearly start date for renewal for this devotional. MennoMedia has a discounted rate if 5 or more individuals subscribe. This means that each subscriber at Grace would be responsible for the discounted cost of \$55.21 for a year. At our February AGM, it was announced that the church would no longer pay for these subscriptions. MennoMedia states that many churches have their members pay for their own copies of this booklet which is mailed out to the churches quarterly.

If you are interested in being added to the list to receive and read the **Rejoice**, please let Ester know by Wednesday, May 29th. Lorraine will send in the renewal request and total cost of the subscriptions in early June in order for us to receive our copies in time for September. In early June, Ester and Lorraine will be sending an email or calling you with the details of submitting to the church \$55.21 either by cheque or e-transfer. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Ester or Lorraine.

Church Membership

If you are interested in becoming a member of Grace Mennonite Church, please talk with or email Pastor Darrell.



Men's Breakfast

Saturday, June 22nd at 8:30 a.m. here at the church, all men are invited to a time of connecting and conversation while enjoying a delicious breakfast. If you'd like to help make the breakfast, let Ted or Darrell know.

Spirit, Working in Creation

*Spirit, working in creation, bringing order out of strife;
come among your gathered people,
giving harmony and life.*

*Spirit, speaking through the prophets
so the voice of God was heard,
come, inspire, alert your people to this day's prophetic word.*

*Spirit, breathed upon disciples, giving peace where there was fear;
come among us, touch us, send us,
making Jesus' presence near.*

*Spirit, wind and flame, empow'ring, fearless witness to the lost:
come unite, renew your wonders; give us your new Pentecost.*

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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ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD

Masjid an Noor Open House - Our friends from the St. Catharines mosque (117 Geneva St.) who helped Grace form the Bridge of Hope refugee sponsorship group in 2015, are inviting us to make a visit during their Open House on **Sunday, May 26, from 1 - 5 p.m.** This is part of the annual Folk Arts Festival. Free admission. It will be a good opportunity to connect again with our Muslim brothers and sisters as we continue Bridge of Hope work together. We anticipate the arrival of another refugee family later this year.
Doug Schulz

 *Please pray for the **MCEC community of congregations.** This week we pray for **Hillcrest Mennonite Church.** Kevin Peters Unrau and Kathryn Cressman provide pastoral care for this congregation. Please pray for this congregation as they minister in the New Hamburg area.

***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, Hear our prayers.



**A Moment for MCC (Mennonite Central Committee)
With guidance from an MCC partner,
Rwandan farmers are improving their yields.**

Jean Bosco Nsanzimana was used to getting food from the market – “even though I was a farmer,” he says. Practices like intensive tilling had left his land, in the Kayonza District of Rwanda’s Eastern Province, depleted and unable to produce much food. And in this region of Rwanda – hotter and lower-lying than much of the country – changing weather patterns have brought additional challenges.

...Conservation agriculture training, provided through MCC partner Peace and Development Network (PDN), is helping these farmers, and others throughout Rwanda find steadiness amid the uncertainty that climate change brings. Now, when growing conditions are right, these farmers can grow enough to sustain their families, with extra to sell. Even when conditions are subpar, farmers who follow conservation agriculture practices get at least some crops.

<https://mcc.org/our-stories/when-communities-grow-together>



New Hamburg

**Mennonite
Relief Sale**

**MCC – Relief, development, and peace
– in the name of Christ. MCC New
Hamburg Relief Sale May 24 and 25.**

An event filled with food, quilt auction, friends, community and compassion. Your presence enriches the atmosphere and supports MCC's global relief, development and peace efforts.

An Historic Opportunity!

Have you ever wanted to go inside of the Historic Methodist Church at Beaverdams? You're in luck! There is a **Heritage Methodist Church Service on June 2 at 2 pm – Marlatts Rd, Thorold, ON.** Why would Mennonites care? Old Order Mennonites crafted the 26 windows needed to restore Beaverdams Church to its 19th century roots!

Rumor has it that this year's service will feature a 19th-century 'circuit rider', portrayed by guest speaker Rev. David Pritchard – former pastor at Grace United Church in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Annie's sister, Esther Giesbrecht, is Music Director there. It's a small world.

United Mennonite Home is excited to welcome back its Annual Spring Bazaar!

Join us on **Saturday June 8th** from 10am-12:30pm at 4024 Twenty-Third St. Vineland. Festivities consist of a Bake Sale, Penny Sale, Silent Auction, Entertainment, and BBQ Lunch (Farmer's Sausage back by popular demand!)

For more information, please contact Jodi Thompson – Programs Manager at (905) 562-7385 ext. 5004 or jthompson@umh.ca.

German Service on a Sunday Afternoon:

Sunday June 9 @ 2:30 pm: You and yours are invited to this event again (last one was April 21). Honouring church history and the local historic Mennonite community we will be singing, sharing, and engaging with each other in the German "heart language." After the German worship service in the sanctuary, we will gather for light refreshments in the gym. Looking forward to seeing you all again... and bring your friends/neighbors!! Alle Willkommen!! All Welcome!! (Elevator to sanctuary/gym available; please enter through front entrance) Location: St. Catharines UM Church, 335 Linwell Road.

Communion Service Litany

In a world dry and thirsty, Living Water flows.

In a world fainting and breathless, Divine Wind blows.

In a world cold and dark, Spirit's Flame glows.

The Holy Spirit is here, and we open our awareness to perceive and receive him.

God's Spirit is here! We give thanks and celebrate!

Come to this table

Where bread and cup are transformed by the Spirit of God

Into a meal of love and grace

A supper of visions and dreams

A table where all souls are welcome.

We Confess Our Faith and Need of God's Forgiveness

Leader: Let us confess our faith together.

All: We believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come again

to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting.

Leader: Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our need of God's forgiveness.

All: Have mercy on me, O God,
According to your steadfast love.
For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.

Leader: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation,
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
In the name of Jesus,
we are forgiven, loved, and free.

Prayer

Loving God

Whose Divine Lungs exhaled the Spirit into our World

Your breath continues to transform our world

From the still to the stirring.

Before the earth was formed

Your Spirit swirled through voids and shadows.

As humans were created

Your breath filled their lungs and souls.

Your Divine Air continues to fill us up

When our bones are dry, and spirits are sluggish.

On this day of Pentecost

When we celebrate the breath of the Spirit coming upon the disciples

We invite the Spirit to come upon these elements,

so that the bread we break and the cup we share
might be a communion of the body and blood of Christ.

God of winds, pour out your Spirit to make the elements come alive
for us.

Make this meal awaken our sleepy hearts and stagnant souls.

May this time of eating and drinking be one

where we stir from our sadness and rise from our hopelessness.

May we begin to celebrate visions

And animate the dreams that have only been alive in our minds.

On this Pentecost, as we come to the table,

May we experience a needed second wind in our own lives.

Words of Institution

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me."

The Bread

The servers come forward to serve.

Distribution of the Bread (Please hold the piece of bread until all are served and we can partake together.)

Prayer for the Bread.

Leader: The body of Christ, broken for you.
(We eat the bread together.)

The Cup

The servers come forward to serve.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Distribution of the Cup (Take a cup as the trays are passed. Please wait until all are served and we can partake together.)

Prayer for the Cup.

Leader: The blood of Christ shed for you.
(We drink the cup together. Please place the empty cup in the holder in front of you.)

Prayer After Communion

Leader: Thank you, Divine Spirit,
for this meal of remembrance,
and for coming to us as we have shared it.

All: May the love we find at this table
be reflected in our lives.
May the power we receive at this table
make us peacemakers and healers.
And may the Spirit who fills us again at this table
lead us to be those who proclaim Christ's Reign
in the words we speak
and the things we do.
Amen.

Benediction & Blessing

Divine Spirit, fill the world with your peace,
fill this community of faith with your purpose,
and fill us with your power,
For the sake of your Reign.
Amen.

Adapted from resources provided by Michelle L. Torigian
and John van de Laar