



May 4th, 2025 9:30 a.m.
Anabaptism at 500
1525 - 2025

Prelude Annie Schulz

Gathering Thoughts Jan Steven
Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship VT 869

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.

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

Leader: Renamed.

People: **Reborn.**

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

Prayer

Hymn *Christ is our cornerstone* HWB #43

Passing of the Peace

Offertory Prayer

Musical Reflection

Prayers of the People Jan Steven

Hymn *We would extol thee* HWB #74

Scripture Reading Psalm 145:1-13 (OT p.581)

Hymn *I sing with exultation* HWB #438

Scripture Reading Philippians 1:1-11 (NT p.196)

Meditation "Stories that Shape Us" Darrell Winger

Hymn of Response *For we are strangers no more* HWB #322
vs.1 & 3

Benediction

Sending *We are people of God's peace* HWB #407
vs. 1 & 2

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]

*Adult Sunday School after the service today
in the Fellowship Room downstairs*

GRACE NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, April 27th ~ Attendance - 62

♪ **Women's Chorus** ~ Thursdays May 8th & 22nd at 9:30 a.m.

Coffee Times ~ May 11th & 25th

Sunday, May 11th ~ Speaker: David Brubacher
Scripture Readings: Revelations 3:14-22, James 4:7-10

Please join Anna & Darrell Winger in their celebration of their 40th wedding anniversary during Coffee Time on **May 11th**.

Smiley Cookies Fundraiser

Erika Klassen is fundraising for Centre4Women by baking her own smiley sugar cookies. The cost is \$20.00 for one dozen cookies and delivery will be next Sunday, May 11. Please contact her asap to put in your order! 😊

Celebrating Cathy and Nick!

On Sunday May 25, during the coffee time after the church service, you are invited to offer your good wishes to Cathy and Nick regarding their upcoming marriage on September 20, 2025.

Migrant Justice Prayer Circle

You're warmly invited to a monthly online Migrant Justice Prayer Circle, gathering faith communities from across the region. We meet the first Wednesday of every month to pray, reflect, and lift up the needs and dignity of our migrant neighbours. Next gathering: **Wednesday, May 7 at 10 am**. RSVP to Kit by email (kit@migrantworkersalliance.org) or text (905-324-2840.)

Anabaptism at 500 – Our Focus in May

On January 1, 1525, a small group of Christians secretly gathered in Zurich, Switzerland for a worship service. They experienced voluntary baptism as adults as a way of expressing a transformation of life in the way of Jesus. This was considered a radical, even heretical, act in that time and place. For many, this decision led to imprisonment, torture, and even death. But this gathering also marked the beginning of the Anabaptist movement that continues to today in the form of Amish, Hutterites, Mennonites, Mennonite Brethren, Brethren in Christ (Be in Christ in Canada), and other related groups. A movement that now spans the globe as one stream of the broader Christian Church.

In 2025, congregations within this Anabaptist/Mennonite movement, are invited to commemorate the 500th anniversary through a Sunday morning series that invites personal and congregational spiritual renewal. We want to celebrate with a focus on the Anabaptist story in May.

Week One: Renewal through Story – Darrell Winger

Week Two: Renewal through Repentance – David Brubacher

Week Three: Renewal through Trust and Yieldedness – Laur Steven

Week Four: Renewal at the Lord's Table – Darrell Winger

ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD



Please pray for the **MCEC** community of **congregations**. This week we are praying for **Steinmann Mennonite Church**. Sara Erb, Ben Cassels and Louise Wideman provides pastoral leadership for community. Pray for this community in the Baden area which seeks to express God's love through service in their neighborhoods and around the world.

During the week that follows **the Lapu-Lapu mass casualty event in Vancouver** we pray, alongside MCBC, for the friends and families of victims harmed by the violence and deaths in Vancouver. We also pray for justice and ultimate healing for the one who acted against these lives. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers.

TOY Donations Needed!

The Niagara Free Store is getting ready to launch monthly free store events in May, and they are in need of new or gently used toys for all ages to support local families who attend. The children will truly appreciate these toys.

Drop-off Location: Silver Spire United Church at 366 St. Paul St. If you have questions, please call 905-682-8328.

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.

Contact Us: Telephone: 905-935-6112 Email: gracemennonite@bellnet.ca

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

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