



November 17th, 2024 9:30 a.m.

Prelude

Annie Schulz

**Gathering Thoughts
Lighting the Christ Candle**

Pam Pauls

Call to Worship

Leader: If you are delighted to be here,
and if you are tired or troubled,

People: you are welcome.

Leader: If your faith is strong,
and if your faith is battered or frail,

People: you are welcome.

Leader: If you are eager to praise God,
and if you need to be quiet,

People: you are welcome.

**All: *God welcomes us all to worship today
And promises to meet us here.***

Prayer

Hymn *All praise to our redeeming Lord*

HWB #21

Passing of the Peace

Offertory Prayer

Musical Reflection

Prayers of the People

Affirmation of Faith

Pam Pauls

Back of bulletin

Hymn *We praise thee, O God*

HWB #99, vv.1,2,5

Scripture Reading Psalm 138 (OT p.577)

Hymn *What does the Lord require*

HWB #409

Scripture Reading Mark 12:38-44 (NT p.49)

Meditation "It Seems Unlikely"

Darrell Winger

Hymn of Response *My Life Is in You, Lord*

Chorus: *My life is in You, Lord, my strength is in You, Lord,
my hope is in You, Lord, in You, it's in You.*

*My life is in You, Lord, my strength is in You, Lord,
my hope is in You, Lord, in You, it's in You. 2x*

*I will praise You with all of my life,
I will praise You with all of my strength;
with all of my life, with all of my strength.
All of my hope is in You.*

Chorus

Benediction

Darrell Winger

Sending Hymn *In My Life, Lord, Be Glorified*

In my life, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.

In my life, Lord, be glorified today.

In our song, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.

In our song, Lord, be glorified today.

In your church, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.

In your church, Lord, be glorified today.

In your world, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.

In your world, Lord, be glorified today.

Postlude

Resources used in the service this morning were drawn from Voices Together

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 Semi-Annual Meeting after the morning service
in the Church Hall*

Intercessory Prayer ~ Israel You are the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Through Christ you brought us into the covenant you had with the Jews. Once they were persecuted; now modern Israel persecutes its neighbours. Holy and merciful God, we plead with you to intervene, to raise up just governments that pursue peace for Jews and Arabs.

GRACE NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday November 10th ~ Attendance - 53

Memorial/Eternity Sunday, November 24th

Speaker: Darrell Winger

Scripture Texts: **Psalm 90:1-6, 17; Hebrews 12:1-3**

Coffee Time after the service

Preaching Team ~ November 20th, 10:00 a.m.

♪ **Women's Chorus** ~ Thursdays at 9:30 a.m.

November 21st, December 5th, 12th, 19th

Coffee Times ~ December 8th, December 22nd

Sunday, December 1st - Speaker: Laur Steven

Advent 1 and Communion

Advent/Epiphany Adult Bible Study: There will be no more adult Bible studies for November, but we are beginning a new series on the first Sunday of Advent (Dec. 1st). The normal pattern will be that coffee time Sundays and adult Bible study Sundays will alternate. Bible studies will begin at 10:30 a.m. Sunday mornings, or as soon as members can conveniently make their way to the Fellowship Room. We will be using a 32-page pamphlet which the Canadian Bible Society has prepared, entitled "Thoughts on the Gospel According to Luke". Printed copies are already available from Judy Doerksen at the cost of \$3.50 a piece. This study will run, in six lessons, throughout Advent and Epiphany. Contact Kevin for more information (905-646-8062).

ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD



*Please pray for the **MCEC community of congregations.**

This week we pray for **Niagara United Mennonite Church.**

Daniel Janzen provides pastoral leadership to this congregation. Please pray for this church community in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

*Lord, we lift up **all who are impacted by war around the world.** Bring comfort to those who mourn, healing to those who suffer, and hope to those in despair. Surround the displaced with safety, provide strength to caregivers, and inspire leaders to pursue justice and peace. Let your peace take root in every nation, renewing hearts and guiding us toward reconciliation and an end to all violence.

Affirmation of Faith

We believe our hope in God gives us courage for the struggle.
The people God have often misused God's promises as excuses
for doing nothing about present evils.

But in Christ the new world has already broken in and the old
can no longer be tolerated.

We know our efforts cannot bring in God's kingdom.

But hope plunges us into the struggle for victories over evil that
are possible now in the world, the church, and our individual lives.

Hope gives us courage and energy to contend against
all opposition, however invincible it may seem,

for the new world and the new humanity that are surely coming.

Jesus is Lord!

He has been Lord from the beginning.

He will be Lord at the end.

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

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This Advent Season: *Together Toward the Light*

Advent marks the beginning of the liturgical year. It begins on December 1 and continues until December 24. Advent means “arrival”, and during this season we look forward for the arrival of Emmanuel, God-with-us, in the birth of Jesus, as well as looking forward with hopeful anticipation toward Christ’s second coming. Advent reminds us of why Christ came and is a season for spiritual reflection and preparation as we anticipate the Christmas season.

Our Advent theme is ***Together Toward the Light***. Advent is a season of hope. We are reminded of the promise of God through Isaiah, “The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.” This promise was fulfilled in Jesus! “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.” (John 8:12) Even now, as we walk through darkness, we glimpse the promised light of Jesus Christ. Thankfully, we have companions as we journey through darkness toward the light. In this Advent season, let’s consider how we lean into the light of Christ, allowing him to shine in us and through us to others who are also hoping to glimpse light in the world. May this Advent be a time when we move together toward the light.



MCC – Give Gifts of Comfort & Joy!

Check out our Christmas Tree in the Foyer for Gift Ideas.

You can give online at <https://mcc.org/christmas> or you can give at our church through cash, cheque, or e-transfer. Be sure to note that the donation is for MCC – Give Gifts of Comfort & Joy! You may have received the magazine MCC “Gifts of Comfort and Joy” in the mail. If not, there are copies available under the tree. Blessings!



Save the hour! November 20th, 2024 1:30 to 2:30 pm

Positive Living Niagara and Grace Mennonite Church

(Come at 1:15 to get first dibs on coffee and cookies! 😊)

FREE SEMINAR – Grace Mennonite Church Hall

Hannah Zettler – “Community Supporting Each Other”

Hannah will help us understand:

- Why there is an increase in the number of marginalized people?
- How one becomes part of the community of addiction/mental health/homelessness/poverty? (It can happen to anyone.)
- What options are available for these neighbours?
- What everyday people like us can do to help?

The event will be free – and any donations will go to Positive Living’s “snack fund” for the people needing their services. For more information, chat with Jan Steven.

Canadian Foodgrains Bank – A Top Ten Impact Charity!

Canadian Foodgrains Bank is a partnership of 15 Canadian churches and church-based agencies working together to end global hunger. They work with locally-based organizations in developing countries to meet emergency food needs, achieve long-term solutions to hunger and work to foster informed action by Canadians and governments to support this international cause.

CFB is proud to be recognized as one of *Charity Intelligence Canada’s* Top 10 Charities, as they work toward a world where every person is fed and lives with dignity. The local project is Grow Hope Ontario and our local representative is Tom Neufeld who attends The First Mennonite Church in Vineland.

Pleasant Manor Christmas Bazaar and Tea

Date: Saturday November 30th, 2024 10-11:30 .m.

At Pleasant Manor, Virgil Parking is limited so come early.

Food and Bake sale will be held in the LINK gathering room.

The Tea Room will be in the Chapel as well as the crafty items.

Women’s Auxiliary would appreciate any donations of food baking, jams, sauces and preserves for this fundraising event.

PLEASE bring your baked goods and items Friday November 29th between 6-8 p.m.

Money goes to purchasing things needed around the home as well as programs needed to enhance the lives of the residents.

Please bring your own bag to carry purchases.

ONLY cash is accepted.

See you there! Bring family, neighbours and friends.