



November 19th, 2023 9:30 a.m.

Being Faithful in Grace

Prelude Annie Schulz

Gathering Thoughts Waldo Pauls

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship* & Prayer

Leader: When the world is no longer a paradise
and creation shows its full power over us still
and we are brought down to size
on this small planet of ours

People: We worship.

Leader: When the memories linger of the past
and war shapes us beyond our knowing
and conflict becomes a story of life

People: We worship.

Leader: When the way is more barren than beautiful,
when the path is more a climb than a stroll,
when the desert expands and the horizon stretches

People: We worship.

**All: *We worship because we can,
we worship because we hope,
we worship because we know our vulnerability.
When things shift and we need to hold on,
we worship.
It is the only strength we have for the journey.***

Hymn *We gather together* HWB #17

Passing of the Peace

Offertory Prayer

Offertory Song *O Give Thanks* Grace Singers

Prayers of the People Waldo Pauls

Hymn *O God, our help in ages past* HWB #328

Scripture Reading Psalm 90:1-8, 13 (OT p.547)

Hymn *Time Propels Us like a Current* Back of Bulletin

Scripture Reading Matthew 25:14-30 (NT p.28)

Meditation “Does God Still Care?” David Brubacher

Hymn of Response *Jesus, Be the Center*

Jesus, be the center, be my source, be my light, Jesus.

Jesus, be the center, be my hope, be my song, Jesus.

Refrain: *Be the fire in my heart. Be the wind in these sails.*

Be the reason that I live, Jesus, Jesus.

Jesus, be my vision, be my path, be my guide, Jesus.

Refrain

Jesus, be the center, be my source, be my light, Jesus.

Benediction (Congregation please stand) David Brubacher

Sending Hymn *May the Peace of Christ*

May the peace of Christ be with you.

May the love of Christ dwell deep in your heart.

May the Spirit enlighten your way.

May you live in the comfort of God's care. (Repeat)

Postlude

*Roddy Hamilton from the Church of Scotland

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 Singers** meet in Church Hall after today's service.

Adult Sunday School ~ We meet in the assistant pastor's office after church to respond to the sermon and talk about chapters in the book *THE BIBLE UNWRAPPED*. Join us. We not only get to know the Bible better but also one another. Come and see what we are up to.

GRACE NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday November 12th, 2023 ~ Attendance – 44

Sunday, November 26th ~ Memorial Sunday

Speaker: Darrell Winger

Scripture Texts (Focus texts highlighted): Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24;
Psalm 100; **Ephesians 1:15-23**; Matthew 25:31-46;

Ecclesiastes 3:1-14

Coffee Time after the service

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

Chaplain's Corner ~ Volunteering from home! 😊

Did you know that you can volunteer at MCC from home? Donor Stewardship Support Volunteers help by phoning and thanking donors for their gift, and helping to write out thank you cards.

For more information, contact: Beth Hovius

Phone: (519) 745-8458 ext. 239 Email: bethhovius@mcco.ca

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.

Time Propels Us like a Current
(Tune is Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing)

*Time propels us like a current, yet it turns, a spinning sphere;
now a moment, then it passes, gone like breath on frozen air.
Time is ours to mark and measure, not to grasp, or understand.
Holy Presence, we receive it, gift and myst'ry, from your hand.*

*At our ends and our beginnings, the Eternal One is there,
silent Voice, inviting Presence, saying, "Now. The time is here.
Mortal one, you are beloved. I would walk this while with you.
Do not fear; stir up your spirit: I am making all things new."*

*Yet we fear, O God of Ages: still old evils wound and rage.
Fearsome voices, gaining power, shout their hate from ev'ry stage.
You sang peace on waves of chaos, ordered rhythms:
 nights and days.
Hone in us the skills of justice, sing in us your song of grace.*

*Teach us all the steps of kindness; lead us in your holy dance,
keeping time with love eternal, living in your present tense.
Be for us the turning center, present Partner, steady Friend.
Love, compel us, lead us, joyful; faithful till the ages end.*

Tel: 905-935-6112 Email: gracemennonite@bellnet.ca

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

www.gracemennonitechurch.com

www.facebook.com/gracemennonitechurchstcatharines

Pastor	Darrell Winger 905-483-2335	Darrell.winger@gmail.com
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Community Chaplain	Jan Steven	janscats@gmail.com

ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD



A Moment for MCC: Raw Carrot Soup

It's always a good time for Raw Carrot Soup. It's not raw, and there are many kinds. The top seller is the chicken noodle. Currently you can buy this soup at the MCC Thrift Store on Grantham. After December 19, while the shop is being renovated, Raw Carrot Soup will be available at the Niagara MCC Office at 505 Carlton Street.



Grow Hope Report ~ Soybean Harvest

This year there was a good stand of soy beans on the Bethesda farm on Campden Road. There was ample rain and good growing conditions. Thank you to everyone who supported the field project this year. In a world of increasing instability and leftover economic pressures from covid 19 MCC/Canadian Food Grains Bank (CFGB) are more needed than they have been in recent years with food insecurity.

Tom Neufeld, Stewardship Associate for CFGB projects, MCC

From Mennonite Church Eastern Canada (MCEC)



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

This week we pray for **Crosshill Mennonite Church.** Julie Ellison-White provides pastoral leadership for the congregation. Lora Gerber is Children's Ministry Worker at Crosshill. Pray for this growing, caring congregation as they care for their community.

*As we lament the ongoing hostility between **Israelis and Palestinians**, let us continue to pray for those working for a future that ends the deep and longstanding injustices that lie at the root of the crisis.

Christmas Bus Tour Enjoy a delicious dinner at Betty's Restaurant and a spectacular Christmas light display in Niagara Falls on Wed. Nov. 29. Board the bus at St. Catharines UM church at 4:30, 335 Linwell Rd. The bus has a ramp down so can accommodate people using walkers. We will return at approximately 9:00. Payment of \$60.00 (to cover costs) is necessary at the time of booking to hold a spot. This includes a dinner with 3 choices (turkey, beef or fish and chips), dessert and tea/coffee, and the cost of the highway coach. If we cannot fill the bus with 50 people by Nov. 21, the tour will be cancelled and your money refunded.

Call Elaine Reimer 289-434-5550 Email: rereimer2e@gmail.com

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