Grace Mennonite Church

October 4th, 2026 9:30 a.m.

Season of Creation

World Communion Sunday

Prelude Annie Schulz

Gathering Thoughts Judy Willems
Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

Leader: Listen. Creation is singing!
Listen carefully.
Creation is singing a song of joy and peace.

People: We are created beings, all of us – born of a Creator who inspires us to work together to regenerate life in every part of our common home.

Leader: Listen. Creation is singing a song of joy and peace, healing and transformation, that we can embrace as our vocation.

All: Together, let us celebrate the eternal promise of an eternal God – the promise of shalom.

Prayer

Hymn *This is God's Wondrous World* VT 180

Passing of the Peace

Prayer for Offerings
[Offering plate is available on table at back of sanctuary]

Musical Reflection

Prayers of the People Judy Willems

Hymn *All Creatures, Worship God Most High* VT 81, vv.1,2,7

Scripture Reading Isaiah 55:12,13 (OT p.686)

Hymn *Touch the Earth Lightly* VT 145

Scripture Reading Matthew 24:45-51 (NT p.28)

Meditation "Stewardship of Creation" Mac Plunkett

Communion Hymn *In the Singing, in the Silence* VT 481

Service of Communion Darrell Winger

Benediction Darrell Winger

Hymn *Sent Forth by God's Blessing* VT 812, v1

It is good to be together in worship this morning!
The ushers are pleased to help any who need assistance.

Grace Prayer Group

Please join us after the service today in the Fellowship Room for Prayer Group. You are encouraged to come with your prayer requests as we gather to pray for our church family, our community and our world. Julie Plunkett

GRACE NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance ~ Sunday September 27th – 42

Thanksgiving Sunday October 11th ~ Speaker: Darrell Winger
Scripture Readings: Psalm 65; 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Thanksgiving Sunday
As we gather next Sunday, we want this time to be an opportunity for all of us to express gratitude and thanksgiving. So, come prepared to share what has been meaningful to you in this past year, something or someone that has been life-giving, an experience or happening for which you are grateful, a Scripture, song, or even poem that has been especially helpful to you this past year, or perhaps it is an answer to prayer that continues to remind you of God's faithfulness.

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

Next Coffee Times ~ Sundays October 11th and 25th

Preaching Team ~ October 14th 10 am

Grace Bible Study Fall 2026-Session 2
We meet on Sunday October 18, at 10:45am in the Fellowship Room. Please read chapters 4&5 of "God Never Gives Up on You: What Jacob's Story Teaches us about Grace, Mercy, and God's Relentless Love," by Max Lucado.
All are welcome!
If you want to join please contact Mac and Julie Plunkett.

ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD

Please pray for the **MCEC community of congregations**; this week we hold **Hanover Mennonite Church** in prayer. God, may Hanover Mennonite Church be a faithful vessel of Christ's love and hope, bringing Your grace and transforming presence throughout the Saugeen region.

Radiant Care Pleasant Manor Is hiring a chaplain. Please see our Community Bulletin Board for more information. Apply at www.radiantcare.net *Work Here – Radiant Care Pleasant Manor

The next session of **Footsteps of Jesus: Walking with Jesus** is on Wednesday, October 7.
We will be focusing on The Early Ministry Journeys.
Time: 1:00-2:00 p.m.
Location: Grace-Linwell Apartments Lounge (behind Grace Mennonite Church) 671 Niagara Street, St. Catharines
Coffee and chocolates will be served. **All Are Welcome!**
Questions? Contact Jan at 289-990-4839 or janscats@gmail.com

Friday, October 23, Vineland United Mennonite Church will be hosting the one-man show *Looking for Kindness Amidst Anxiety* by Old Reverend Randell Neudorf. This honest, humour-filled, multi-disciplinary experience weaves together music, storytelling, and visual art to prompt conversations about mental health, faith, and the tender parts of life. **Doors open at 7:00 PM, and the show begins at 7:30 PM.** Tickets are FREE, and EVERYONE is welcome! Hope to see you there.

Giant Fundraiser Garage Sale Support the **Niagara Warehouse of Hope** on **Saturday, October 24, 2026**, at **46 Broadway Ave. (Port Weller East)**. The event starts at **8:00 a.m.** with an outdoor BBQ breakfast and lunch. Shop a wide selection of crafts, housewares, toys, electronics, jewellery, clothing, and a bake table. Donations are welcome. All proceeds support their mission of helping people help themselves around the world. For inquiries, contact **905-646-7237** or **contact@nwoh.ca**

Volunteers Needed: Trunk or Treat! Linwell Church
Join us for Trunk or Treat on Tuesday, October 27, from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Over 300 kids came out in recent years, and we'd love your help again this year.
What is it? Vehicles gather in a parking lot, open their trunks, and hand out treats as children walk from car to car. Decorating and dressing up are welcome but optional.
What we need: Volunteers to hand out candy, chocolate, pencils, or stickers. Congregation members and Grace-Linwell Apartments residents are all welcome. It's a great way to share in the joy of Halloween without kids coming directly to your door.
To sign up: Contact Pastor Tim Amor
Emails: pastortimamor@gmail.com Cell: 289-990-4290
Feel free to invite others. The more the merrier!

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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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Contact Us: Telephone: 905-935-6112 Email: gracemennonite@bellnet.ca
677 Niagara Street, St. Catharines

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
Worship & Music Associate	Annie Schulz 905-941-5511	annieschulz@yahoo.ca
Office Administrator	Ester Funk	gracemennonite@bellnet.ca
Community Chaplain	Jan Steven 289-990-4839	janscats@gmail.com

World Communion Sunday Litany

As we conclude the Season of Creation, World Communion Sunday gives us an opportunity to celebrate the reconciliation and unity we experience within our diversity as a global church. May this be a witness to the broader redemption, restoration, and wholeness that Jesus Christ promises all of creation in the coming of his Kingdom.

We Confess Our Faith

Leader: Let us confess our faith together.
All: We are not alone, we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.

We Pray Together

Leader: We turn our face to you, O God.
In a world aching to be made new, we cry out with those who suffer.
People: Lord Jesus, as we remember your death,
we pray that our world will grow into the
shape of your communion table,
where all are welcomed, and all are fed.
Leader: Make us a people who grow your family
by practices of mutuality, generosity, and justice,
sowing seeds of peace in every action we take.
All: **Come Holy Spirit, breathe on us and these elements,**
so that the bread we break and the cup we share
might be a communion of the body and blood of Christ. Amen.

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

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

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

The Cup

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 (Please take a cup as the trays are passed. We will 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: God of every nation and generation,
gather us into the great company of your people –
those who have gone before us,
those who worship beside us,
and those we may never meet in this life.
Until the day when every people and every nation
are gathered into your eternal feast,
keep us faithful to one another and to you.
All: Send us from this table as people of Christ’s peace.
One body. One Spirit. One Lord. One faith. One hope.
One table. Amen.

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