



October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 9:30 a.m.

*World Communion Sunday*

**Prelude**

Annie Schulz

**Gathering Thoughts**

Jan Steven

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

**Call to Worship\***

Leader: The banqueting table is prepared:

God calls us to feast together.

**People: We have come from east and west,  
from north and south,  
to sit together at the Lord's table.**

Leader: Compassion, love, and grace pour out like fine wine.

**People: God's word is bread for our journey.**

Leader: Let us join Christians around the world  
to share in God's gifts.

**All: *Let us taste and see that the Lord is good!***

**Hymn**

*Become to us the living Bread*

HWB #475

**Passing of the Peace**

**Offertory Prayer**

**Musical Reflection** *You Are Holy, You Are Whole* Grace Singers

**Prayers of the People**

Jan Steven

**Hymn**

*Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises*

Grace Singers

**Scripture Reading**

Psalm 26 (OT p.503)

**Hymn**

*Here on Christ the Rock I Will Stand*

**Refrain:** *Here On Christ the rock I will stand,  
other ground is sinking sand.*

*Yes, on Christ the Rock I will stand, other ground is sinking sand.*

*Jesus knows the troubles I face;  
in his blood flow mercy and grace.*

*What he gives, I cannot repay, all my sin he washes away.*

Refrain

*Jesus gives me strength when I'm weak;  
he's the satisfaction I seek.*

*He's my shield when troubles draw near.*

*He's my comfort through ev'ry fear.*

Refrain

**Scripture Reading**      Job 1:1, 2:1-10 (OT p.453)

**Meditation**              "It's Not Fair"                              Mac Plunkett

**Hymn of Response**    *From North and South, from East and West*

*From north and south, from east and west, O faithful people, come  
to share the feast that Christ prepares,  
where heavn' and earth are one.*

*Come, all who hunger, all who thirst; with confidence, draw near,  
for Jesus Christ, the bread of life, is truly present here.*

*We thank you for your Word made flesh, our Savior, Jesus Christ,  
whose dying has destroyed our death, whose rising gives us life.*

*With grateful hearts we offer you this sacrifice of praise,  
remembering your faithfulness, rejoicing in your grace.*

*Pour out your Spirit now, to bless these gifts of bread and wine,  
and let them be a feast for us, our cov'nant seal and sign.*

*As Christ is present in this place, so may we one day be  
united at your table now and through eternity.*

**Service of Communion**    Darrell Winger

**Benediction**

**Sending Hymn**      *Sent forth by God's blessing*      HWB #478, v.2

\*Presbyterian Church of Canada

***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]

**Communion Elements** being served are gluten free bread  
and pasteurized grape juice.

**This Sunday (Oct. 6th) is our first adult Bible study** of the fall season. The class will begin at 10:30 in the Fellowship Room. We will be discussing Mac's sermon, "It's Not Fair!", which concerns the Book of Job, and whether God is always fair to humans. Basically, the topic is "Why do bad things happen to good people?", or alternatively, "Why do good things happen to bad people?" This involves the question of how to pursue peace between God and humans beings. Kevin McCabe

## **GRACE NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Prayer for Peace** ~ Almighty and merciful God, we ask you to bring healing to the protracted border and religious wars in Ethiopia. Raise up agencies to overcome famine and to provide for orphans. Break the hatred that leads to churches being burned down. Bless the commitment of the Mennonite church there to join all those who risk countering war with peaceful alternatives.

**Sunday September 29<sup>th</sup>** ~ Attendance - 42

**Budget offering for September** was \$16,135.00

**Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>** ~ Speaker: Darrell Winger

**Scripture Texts:** Joel 2:21-27; **Psalm 126;**

1 Timothy 2:1-7; **Matthew 6:25-33**

**Preaching Team** ~ Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m.

♪ **Women's Chorus** ~ Thursdays, October 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> 9:30 a.m.



**Coffee Times** ~ October 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>

**Bridge of Hope Community** is asking for financial support for a former refugee family after arson damaged their family restaurant in Port Dalhousie. Please pick up the information that is in your mailbox. Thank you.

### **Thanksgiving Sunday, October 13th**

There will be an opportunity in the morning service for you to share what you are thankful for as you reflect on this past year. There may even be an object that especially represents or reminds you of some particular blessing. If so, bring it along and we will have a table at the front where you can place it after sharing as a further act of thanksgiving. Whether simply using words or accompanying words with an item that represents your gratitude, come prepared to share from a grateful heart.

**Chaplain's Corner** ~ Let us continue to keep in touch with church friends who are not able to attend our Sunday services and who welcome prayers, phone calls, cards, and visits. Their contact information is in our Church Directory. These friends include (but are not limited to): Tom B, John B, Erna & Jake B (Ester's parents), Reg F, Agnes G, Jake H, Abe H, Francine I, Erika I, Hertha J, Mary K, and Marlene W. Have I missed anyone? Let me know. Would you like a pastoral care or friendly visit? Let Darrell or Jan S know. Our contact information is at the end of the bulletin. 😊

## Encouragement Team

If you like to encourage people, we have a role for you! We want to develop a small team of persons who help us care for our congregation through encouragement. You might be glad to phone someone, email them or mail them a note. You might be glad to visit someone or invite them out for a coffee. Whether you have little time or lots of time, or you prefer using the phone/email or seeing someone in person, we welcome you to let us know of your interest. Let Darrell or Jan Steven know.

**Free Cards** ~ Julie P has donated some greeting cards and they are on the little table in the foyer beside the Soap for Hope box. Do you have someone who could benefit from a card? Help yourself! 😊

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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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## World Communion Sunday Litany

On this World Communion Sunday, we are reminded of the pain and suffering that many are experiencing in our world. Violence, bloodshed, and warfare spread in Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Lebanon, Myanmar, Sudan, and in many other places. Significant persecution or lack of religious freedom is an everyday reality for many followers of Christ. Local communities are suffering from the increasingly damaging effects of climate change. As we come to the Lord's Table this morning, we come with a weariness and heaviness, but we also come with the assurance that Jesus Christ, familiar with suffering and pain, is with us and longs to bring peace, reconciliation, and hope to our world.

### We Pray Together

**Leader:** O God of all

Of Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, Isaac, and Ishmael:

**People:** Our hearts are broken at the suffering and death present in our world.

Our voices cry for peace and for justice.

**Leader:** Comfort those who grieve,

Console and heal the injured,

Be close to those in fear,

Restrain with your mighty hand those who perpetrate violence.

**People:** As we prepare to take the bread and cup, may this be a reminder of your sacrificial love for all in this world.

**Leader:** Renewed by your love, may we always seek justice, pursue peace,

And extend your love to our neighbours.

**All:** Amen.

### 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**

**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**

**All:** We will go now to share God's love with all, in our neighbourhoods and in other places.

We will care for others in God's name.

We will go now to join in offering the grace of Jesus to all.

We will join the Servant of all in seeking justice and hope for everyone.

We will go now, knowing we are one people in the gift of the Spirit.

We will bring peace to places torn apart by violence, we will help to rebuild lives damaged by fear and hate.

Amen.

### **Benediction**

May the strength of the Father fill you, the power of Christ embolden you, and the leading of the Spirit guide you as co-creators of the kingdom of God...now and forever.

Go in abundant hope, peace, and love.

## **ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD**



Please pray for the **MCEC community of congregations**. This week we pray for **McArthurs Mills Christian Fellowship**. Bill Theobald provides pastoral leadership to this congregation. Pray for this congregation as they serve their community in the Bancroft area.

**Continue to pray for areas in the world who cry out for peace.** We grieve for all who have experienced the horrors of war and violence. May God bring comfort, healing, and justice to those suffering. Lord, have mercy on us and hear our prayers for peace and reconciliation in these troubled regions.

### **A Second for the St. Catharines Soup Kitchen - The Ozanam**

The good folks at The Oz send this lovely note. You can see the original on the bulletin board as well as a list of foods frequently needed.

Jan & Friends (meaning the Funks)

The Ozanam Soup Kitchen has been busy serving as much fresh summer produce as is available. Thank you for bringing vine ripened tomatoes and other vegetables to us. The summer numbers coming to our door to be fed every day has exceeded any previous time. Every bit of produce counts! The Ozanam Soup Kitchen



### **A Moment for MCC: Lebanon**

Please pray and donate for the people of Lebanon. The cycle of violence continues, with hundreds killed in Israeli military strikes on Monday. MCC continues to respond to displacement from southern Lebanon and is developing a further response. Contributions designated for MCC's Gaza crisis response help to meet needs in southern Lebanon, as well as in Gaza and the West Bank.

Lebanon has been devastated by ongoing crises. 80% of the Lebanese population is below the poverty line. 90% of the country's 1.5 million Syrian refugees face extreme poverty.

<https://mcc.org/what-we-do/where-we-work/lebanon>