Grace Mennonite Church

September 13th, 2026 9:30 a.m.

Season of Creation

Prelude Annie Schulz

Gathering Thoughts Laur Steven
Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship
Leader: You are not alone.
You are: a creature within creation, a part of a whole, with a story to share, and a covenant to keep.
People: And we do not worship alone.
We are: a community within creation,
a part of God's story, summoned
by God's faithfulness to be faithful to each other.
All: Together, let us worship
for the sake of our common life –
a life that leads to shalom.

Prayer

Hymn *Summoned by the God Who Made Us* VT 1, vv.1,3,4

Passing of the Peace

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

Musical Reflection (VT 539) *God Speaks to Us in Bird and Song*
Women's Chorus

Prayers of the People Laur Steven

Hymn *God of the Fertile Fields* VT 750

Scripture Reading Isaiah 55:3-5 (OT p.685)

Hymn *Touch the Earth Lightly* VT 145

Scripture Reading Romans 8:19-24 (NT p.158)

Meditation "Living in Relationship" Darrell Winger

Hymn of Response *The Garden Needs Our Tending Now*
VT 788, vv.1,3

Benediction Darrell Winger

Hymn *We Are People of God's Peace* VT 797, vv.1,2

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

The Peace of Wild Things
by Wendell Berry

When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

GRACE NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance ~ Sunday September 6th – 41

Season of Creation: God's Shalom for our Common Home
Each year from September 1 to October 4, the Christian family unites for this worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. It is a special season where we celebrate God as the Creator of the heavens and the earth, and our responsibility to steward well the gift of all that has been created. As followers of Christ from around the globe, we share a common call to care for Creation. We are co-creatures and part of all that God has made. Our well-being is interwoven with the well-being of the Earth.

Church Council ~ Wednesday September 16th, 1:30 p.m.

Women's Chorus ~ Thursdays 9:30 a.m**.**
September 24th, October 8th & 22nd

Sunday September 20th ~ Speaker: Jan Steven
Scripture Readings: Isaiah 55:6-9; Matthew 6:7-13

Grace Bible Study Fall 2026
On Sunday September 20, at 10:45 am in the Fellowship Room, we begin our five session Bible Study. We will focus on Max Lucado's recent book: "God Never Gives Up on You: What Jacob's Story Teaches us about Grace, Mercy, and God's Relentless Love."
For those joining us who already have the book, please read chapters 1-3. If you are interested in joining there is still time. Please speak with Julie or Mac Plunkett!

Grace congregational Town Hall ~ Sunday, September 27th following the morning worship service and coffee time.
Next Coffee Time ~ Sunday 27th

The Women's Chorus at Grace meets every other Thursday a.m. from 9:30 – 10:45. If you like to sing you are welcome to come for fellowship and music preparations for our Sunday services. The practice dates will be printed in the bulletin weekly.

Coffee time at Grace is generally twice a month. The dates will be printed in the bulletin weekly. The Hospitality Committee welcomes baking (homemade or bought) for these times of fellowship. The sign up sheet is on the front bulletin board.

ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD

Please pray for the **MCEC community of congregations**; this week we hold **Grace New Life Mennonite Church** in prayer. Srirasack Saythavy provides pastoral care to this community in Hamilton, Ontario. Pray for this congregation and their pastor as they seek to follow God and be a blessing in their community.

MCC Canned Chicken ~ If you have ordered canned chicken from the MCC Ontario meat cannery in New Hamburg, please remember to pick up your order on **Friday September 18th 10 am – 2 pm** at the MCC Thrift Store on Grantham Avenue in St. Catharines.

Annual Corn Roast on Sat Sept 19 from 5-7pm at Linwell Church, 335 Linwell Road, St. Catharines.
Come watch the steam engine cooking the FREE corn
We'll also have a fundraiser BBQ & drink sale with live music If you can, please bring your own lawn chair.

Hello supporters of Grow Hope Niagara,
We wanted to circulate a date for everyone to see this year's crop of soybeans at the Bethesda Home property on Tintern Road. The crop tour and CFGB/MCC update meeting will take place on **Sunday Sept 20th** this year. We'd like to meet at **3:30 pm at 2832 Campden Road** (Tom & Mary Anne Neufeld farm) for a gathering time and some discussion about MCC global partnership with CFGB for 2026 and some nibbles and drinks. From there we will then drive a few minutes to the field on Tintern road. There, Larry Dyck will elaborate on the conditions that have produced this year's crop and prospects for its harvest.
We hope to have a good group out to hear about the needs and conditions surrounding development abroad and how your participation in this yearly event makes a difference in the work of MCC/CFGB. Tom & Mary Anne Neufeld

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