



**September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 9:30 a.m.**  
*15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

**Prelude** Annie Schulz

**Gathering Thoughts** Doug Schulz

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

**Call to Worship and Prayer**

***All: Our hearts are stirred by the noblest theme  
as we lift up our voices in honour of thee,  
our Creator God, our gracious Redeemer King.***

**Hymn** *O worship the King* HWB #66

**Passing of the Peace**

**Offertory Prayer**

**Musical Reflection** *Goodness of God* Diana Lantin

**Prayers of the People** Doug Schulz

**Hymn** *Fairest Lord Jesus* HWB #117

**Scripture Reading** James 1:17-27 (NT p.229)

**Grace Singers** *The Gift of Love*

**Scripture Reading** Psalm 45 (OT p.516)

**Meditation** "A Heart for the King" Dawn Berkelaar

**Hymn of Response**    *Jesus Christ is Love Divine*

*Jesus Christ is love divine, love alive eternally.  
Measureless in space and time, beyond words, a mystery.*

Refrain: *When we love, we move with Christ;  
love in us has come alive.*

*By God's grace, love finds our heart; we receive it gratefully.  
Yet the love that we impart reflects back imperfectly.*

Refrain

*In our weakness, love persists. In our failures, love restores.  
Love invites when we resist. We build walls; love opens doors.*

Refrain

*We give thanks for all the ways love is shaping us today.  
Humbly we return our praise: ev'rything we do and say.*

Refrain

**Benediction**

Doug Schulz

**Sending Hymn**    *As You Go Out From Here*

*As you go out from here, may the Lord go with you.  
The face of God shine on you ev'ry day.  
We are sent by God wherever we are living,  
salt and light as people of the Way.*

**Postlude**

***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 NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Speaker note:** Today we welcome as our speaker, Dawn Berkelaar, a former high school student of Doug Schulz. Dawn is a lecturer at Redeemer university in Ancaster as well as an avid freelance writer and editor. She lives in Hamilton with her husband Edward (also a Redeemer prof) and their four children.

**TODAY September 1<sup>st</sup>, 4:00 p.m. Grace Church Social**

at Doug & Ester's Farm (3017 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Jordan)

Watermelon and Rollkuchen. Bring your own lawn chair, chairs will be provided if you don't have one.

If you need a ride, please let Ester know.

**Please sign up** on the bulletin board in the foyer!

**Sunday August 25<sup>th</sup>** ~ Attendance - 43

**Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>** ~ Speaker: Darrell Winger

**Scripture Texts: Psalm 34:1-14; Luke 5:17-26;**

James 2:1-10 (11-13)

**We will be participating in communion on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.** Each time we break bread and share the cup together, we have the opportunity for reflection and celebration of important truths: Christ's sacrificial love, his grace and forgiveness, and his invitation to pursue a right relationship with him and each other, enabled by his Spirit.

**Please join Pam & Waldo Pauls** for coffee and cake to celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary during Coffee Time on **September 8<sup>th</sup>.**

**Worship Committee** ~ September 4<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m.

**Coffee Times** ~ September 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>

**Women's Chorus** ~ September 12<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>

**Rejoice Devotional** ~ We have an extra subscription of the Rejoice which has been paid for. Call the office if you are wanting a copy.

**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 the 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 Pastor Darrell or Chaplain Jan know. Our contact information is at the end of the bulletin. 😊

## **Our Fall Theme is "Pursuing Peace: Loving Our Neighbours"**

As followers of Jesus, as we experience the gift of God's peace we also receive his calling to live that out in our world. When we hear the words of Jesus, "*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you*" (John 14:27), we also embrace the words of the psalmist, "*seek peace and pursue it*" (Psalm 34:14). Extending peace in our world flows from the peace we ourselves have known in Christ. We share the gift we have received. We are a Jesus movement embracing the "both/and" of his teaching from Matthew 22:37-39: "*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind...and...you shall love your neighbour as yourself.*" The gracious movement of the Spirit draws us into the fullness of God's love, bringing us peace, and then calls us to express this by loving our neighbours. What does it mean for us to pursue peace and to love our neighbours in our local community and in the broader world? As we journey together as a congregation this fall may we be open to what God has for us.

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



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

This week we pray for **Listowel Mennonite Church.** Nancy Frey provides pastoral leadership to the congregation. Pray for them as they strive to be a church that praises God, loves one another, makes more and better disciples, serves in Christ's name, grows in faith and gives generously.

### **MEDA Fundraiser Event for Guatemala Project**

September 12<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m. Hosted by Dorothea & Rudy Enns.

18 Firelane 2A, Niagara-on-the-Lake

An evening of refreshments, music and connection with the MEDA community.

Whether you're a seasoned MEDA member or new to global development, all are welcome, as we explore together the integration of entrepreneurship, faith and creativity for our shared purpose of poverty alleviation!

Dean Shoemaker, Senior Development Office at MEDA will be sharing stories from a recent trip to Guatemala and the WE4CA project (Women's Empowerment for Central America). We hope to see you there!

Register at [www.MEDA.org/events](http://www.MEDA.org/events) or call 519-741-7638



**Soap for Hope** ~ MCC urgently needs soap donations for countries where soap is scarce. Both bath soap (85 g or larger, in wrapper) and laundry soap (Fels Naptha, Sunlight, or Zote) are needed. Donations can be placed in the box in the church foyer marked Soap Donations.



### **A Moment for MCC (Mennonite Central Committee)**

Meet Pushpa Lakra. Pushpa is part of the Prabha self-help group in her village in India. She learned how to grow mushrooms from a training with MCC partner DISHA, and then DISHA supported her with six mushroom spawns. Currently, Pushpa eats the mushrooms she grows and sells some in her local market. But she is hoping to expand so that she can earn enough income for a livelihood. MCC funds this project through its account at Canadian Foodgrains Bank to improve food and nutrition security in Indigenous communities.

Mennonite Central Committee – Relief, Development, and Peac in the Name of Christ.

## **AED/CPR Certification Training at Niagara UM**

On Monday, September 16, from 9:30am to 12:30pm, Heart Niagara will be holding an AED/CPR Certification training session at Niagara United Mennonite Church. If you would like to become certified or re-certified, please contact Julie by email or phone: [office@redbrickchurch.ca](mailto:office@redbrickchurch.ca) or 905-468- 3313.

**The Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario and the Ontario Heritage Trust** will install a commemorative historical plaque at the site of the WW2 Alternative Service (Conscientious Objector) Camp at Montreal River, just north of Sault Ste Marie, Ontario. All are invited to the official unveiling, Thursday, September 26 at 4:00 pm at Conrad Grebel University College. September 27, the MHSO has arranged for two buses to go from Waterloo to Montreal River for the installation of the plaque on September 28. Overnight accommodation has been reserved for bus participants for Friday, September 27. The buses will then return to Waterloo. For further details, and to reserve a spot on this trip (accommodation deadline is August 27), go to <https://www.mhso.org/content/montreal-river-alternative-service-camp-bus-trip>



**Mennonite  
World Conference**

As we commemorate 500 years of Anabaptism, may we rightly remember our shared past. May we renew our commitments to following Jesus, living out unity in community with others, and building peace. May we also invest in our common witness with other members of Christ's global body.

Pray for cultivation of an Anabaptist identity rooted in following Jesus together as church communities, becoming peacebuilders. Pray that we would reach across barriers that divide us, listening patiently to those with whom we disagree, and de-escalating violence. Pray for courage to confront injustice.