Grace Mennonite Church

September 6th, 2026 9:30 a.m.

Season of Creation

Prelude Annie Schulz

Gathering Thoughts Darrell Winger
Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship
Leader: Listen. Let all who are thirsty, come.
People: Listen carefully. Let *all* who are thirsty, come.
Leader: We are thirsty, all of us – the young, the old, the trees, the soil, the creatures that fly, crawl, and swim --
People: all of us, sharing a common home and seeking abundant life.
All: Together, let us seek and find ourselves, in God's story of shalom.

Prayer

Hymn *Come to the Water* VT 35, vv.1,2,3

Passing of the Peace

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

Musical Reflection *All Who Are Thirsty* VT 49

Prayers of the People Darrell Winger

Hymn *At the Dawn of Your Creation* VT 179

Scripture Reading Isaiah 55:1,2 (OT p.685)

Hymn *Come Away from Rush and Hurry* VT 9

Scripture Reading Matthew 7:7-12 (NT p.7)

Meditation "Season of Creation" Micah Peters Unrau

Hymn of Response *Rain Down* VT 703

Benediction Darrell Winger

Hymn *The Peace of the Earth Be with You* VT 838

Postlude

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

Coffee Time after the service in the Church Hall

GRACE NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance ~ Sunday August 30th – 33

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.

We welcome Micah Peters Unrau, as our guest speaker today, as we begin our focus on the Season of Creation series. Micah serves with Mennonite Church Eastern Canada (MCEC) in the role of "Church Engagement Associate". Micah lives in Kitchener and his home church is Hillcrest Mennonite. He is also pursuing a theology degree at Canadian Mennonite University.

Today September 6th, 4:00 p.m.

Grace Church Social at Doug & Ester's Farm (3017 8th Avenue, Jordan) Watermelon and Rollkuchen, etc. Bring your own lawn chair.

Women's Chorus ~ Thursdays 9:30 a.m., September 10th & 24th

Sunday September 13th ~ Speaker: Darrell Winger
Scripture Readings: Isaiah 55:3-5; Romans 8:19-23

Virleen Ruth Unruh, of Lethbridge AB, beloved wife of Fred Unruh (former pastor at Grace 1975-1985), passed away peacefully at the Chinook Regional Hospital on Saturday, August 22, 2026 at the age of 93 years. Let's remember the family in our prayers. To send a condolence, please visit www.cornerstonefuneralhome.com

Grace Bible Study Fall 2026
On Sunday September 20, at 10:45am 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

Keeping in Touch with Our Grace Friends
Our Grace friends who are home-based or living in long-term care would love to hear from you: Irene B., Anne D., Agnes G., Jake H., Erika I., Hertha J., Mary K. (in St. Catharines), and Marlene W.
Let us continue to keep in touch through visits, phone calls, and cards.Is there someone you are concerned about? Please reach out by phoning or visiting them — and let me, Jan Steven, know as well. And if you would like a friendly visit, I'm your gal. But I won't know if you don't tell me. 😊 **Jan,** 289-990-4839, janscats@gmail.com

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 Mennonite Church** in prayer. Darrell Winger provides pastoral care to this community in St. Catharines, Ontario. Pray for this congregation that they may grow in joy, peace and faithful discipleship, so that God's healing and hope flow through them to the world.

Special thanks to Mary Koop (Jordan) for creating our beautiful *Season of Creation* banner in record time!

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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

ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD

Coming Soon! Grace-Linwell Community Bible Study:
"Footsteps of Jesus, Walking with Jesus". A six-session, once-a-month Bible Study journey. Fall dates (all Wednesdays): Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Nov. 4.,1:00 – 2:00 pm in Lounge at Grace-Linwell Apartments *Held at the Grace-Linwell Apartments but open to all who are interested! Coffee & refreshments available.* Questions? Contact Jan Steven 289-990-4839 or janscats@gmail.com

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

Update on the Parking Lot "Yard Sale"
Thank you to those folks who offered to volunteer with the sale on Sept. 12th. The hours have changed slightly: *opening time is now 8:00 a.m. and closing time is 1:00 p.m.* The Niagara Palestine Coalition (NPC) provides most of the volunteers, but Grace volunteers can still assist with the following:
***"staging"** of the donations in the Grace foyer, Friday the 11th, from 7:00 to 9:00p.m.
***"setup"** of the venue on the morning of the event (7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.)
We have cancelled the bake table but hope you will come and buy a falafel for lunch. They are excellent! If you can help out or have questions, please contact Laur Steven at 289-990-4839 (laursteven53@gmail.com). Thanks!

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