

Call to Worship

Leader: The heavens declare the glory of God;

People: the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Leader: Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.
They have no speech, they use no words;
no sound is heard from them.

**People: Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the world.**

Leader: In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.

**People: It rises at one end of the heavens
and makes its circuit to the other;
nothing is deprived of its warmth.**

Leader: Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD;

People: let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation!

Leader: Let us come before God with thanksgiving

People: and extol him with music and song!

Leader: Come, let us bow down in worship,
let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;

**People: for he is our God
and we are the people of his pasture,
the flock under his care.**

Leader: May the words of our mouths
and the meditations of our hearts

**People: be pleasing to you, LORD,
our Rock and our Redeemer.**

Scripture Readings

The Psalter: An Invitation to Interact With God

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing. Know that the LORD is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. (Psalm 100:1-3)

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest. (22:1-2)

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God? My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me continually, "Where is your God?" (42:2-3)

I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up, and did not let my foes rejoice over me. O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me. (30:1-2)

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul! I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long. (146:1-2)

How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I bear pain in my soul, and have sorrow in my heart all day long? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me? (13:1-2)

I waited patiently for the LORD; he inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD. (40:1-3)

O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. (95:1-3)

Education

Adult Ed | March 1: Hear about Mennonite Voluntary Service. Current MVSers and some MVS committee members will share their experiences.

Bethel Announcements

Potluck Lunch | Today, Feb. 23, at 11:15 am.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper | Tuesday February 25. Supper will be served from 6:00 to 7:00 pm. All are welcome! If you are willing to help in the kitchen, please contact the church office.

Bethel Singers | Rehearsal on Wed., Feb. 26, at 7:15 pm.

An evening of music, stories, and conversation, served with coffee and popcorn. Enjoy the extra day you have been given this year to hear stories and music. This should be a fun evening of hearing different experiences. *This coming Saturday, Feb. 29, at 7:00 pm, in the Dining Hall.*

Bethel Women in Mission | Meeting on Mon., March 2, at 1:30 in the Bethel Dining Room. The speaker will be Karen Schellenberg on the topic of "My Cup Overflows with God's Goodness". All women are welcome.

Are you in grade 6-9? Are you interested in having a fun evening, getting to know new people and explore your faith in a safe environment? We are inviting you and your friends to our monthly **Wednesday Youth Event!** Meet us on Feb. 26, from 6:30 until 7:30 pm in the Foyer of Bethel Mennonite Church. If you have any questions, contact: valerie@bethelmennonite.ca.

MC Manitoba Annual Gathering | Sat., March 7, at Altona Berghaler Mennonite Church. Bethel MC is sending 13 delegates.

Bethel Triathlon is being planned for March 15: bowling, crokinole, and faspas are the planned activities. Sign-up will start on March 1.

A weekly Bible study series called *Living the Questions* will start at Bethel on the evening of Mar. 16, and will continue on Monday nights through to April 27. This series, sponsored by the Deacon Executive, consists of seven sessions (Part 2 of the entire *Living the Questions* curriculum). This study does not seek to provide easy answers, but is a resource for people who are in the midst of a life-long conversation about the mysteries of faith and life. Each session will start with a 20-minute video, followed by an hour (or more) of discussion. Participants will be offered a written guide for the discussion. Please contact the Church office if you would like to attend.

Voices Together | We anticipate the publication of *Voices Together*, a new hymnal for churches of MC Canada and MC USA, some time in summer this year. The official launch for MC Canada will occur at Bethel on the first weekend of November. Bethel has already put in its order for these books to replace our present *Hymnal: A Worship Book*, but payment is not required until April. If you wish to purchase one of these books, and if you wish to take advantage of the discounted price to which Bethel is entitled, please use the order form in your mailboxes and on the table beside the mailboxes. ***Orders and payment must be in the church office by Apr. 1.***

Donation receipts | The 2019 receipts, for donations made to Bethel, were placed in your mailboxes recently. Any questions? Please call the office.

New Pulpit | With the arrival of a new pulpit and communion table at Bethel, the Worship Committee have also been experimenting with configuration changes on the platform: the location of the pulpit and table has not yet been decided for the long term. Over the next few weeks and months, we expect that these items will be moved from time to time into various locations, to identify where the "best" location might be, for sound, visibility, and overall worship ambience. We expect that the grand piano may also be moved onto the platform to see the effect on musical performance, both instrumental and choral. The congregation is asked for feedback. Please let the Worship Committee members or the pastors know how these changes feel to you.

Library update | A huge thank you to Ike Derksen who created an engaging and colourful new sign to mark our children's section of the library. Children are welcome to try out the chairs and pillows in a corner surrounded by books chosen just for them. We have new *Berenstein Bears* titles and are adding to our *Talking To Kids About* series. Other children's books that may be of interest are *Grandfather Gandhi* by Arun Manilal Gandhi and Bethany Hegedus, *The Sandwich Swap* by Queen Rania of Jordan, and *The Barefoot Book Of Children* by Tessa Strickland, Kate Depalma and David Dean.

Partners in Ministry

Mennonite Church Manitoba

mnochurch.mb.ca

MCM has launched a new website. The other Regions and MC Canada have new sites as well. Start here: www.mennonitechurch.ca

MCM Executive Minister Search | The committee is inviting comment on the role of the Executive Minister. See: <https://mnochurch.mb.ca/news>

Mennonite Church Canada

mennonitechurch.ca

News: AIMM asks for prayer in Burkina Faso; Mar. 10 AIMM event in Winnipeg; Colombia church faces need by Venezuelan refugees; Christians provide masks in Wuhan communities. *Details on the MC Manitoba Update on the bulletin board.*

Canadian Mennonite University

cmu.ca

CMU Events | *Coffee House*, “Songs, Hymns and Stories in Defence of Creation”, Mar. 1, 2:00-4:30 pm, MHC Gallery.

Beethoven Choral Fantasy, a celebration of Beethoven’s 250th anniversary year; Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, CMU Festival Chorus, and UM Singers conducted by Dr. Janet Brenneman. Mar. 7, 8:00 pm, Centennial Concert Hall.

Westgate Mennonite Collegiate

westgatemennonite.ca

Westgate now accepting applications (Gr. 6-12) for 2020-2021 school year. Apply: westgatemennonite.ca, or call 204-775-7111.

Mennonite Central Committee

mccmb.ca

Position available | Manitoba Thrift Coordinator: mccmb.ca/openings.

See more MCC Manitoba announcements on the bulletin board.

Other

Lindenwood Villa | Open house, Feb. 29, 12:30-2:00 pm; 204-594-2289.

Keeping the Peace | Exploring past and present relationships between peace and policing in Winnipeg. Public lecture, March 11, 7:00 pm, First MC, 722 Notre Dame Ave. *See poster on bulletin board.*

See the many event posters and other information on the bulletin board.