
Scripture Reading

John 12:12-16 (NRSV)

¹² The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³ So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!”

¹⁴ Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written:

¹⁵ “Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt!”

¹⁶ His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

Psalm 118:19-29

¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰ This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.

²¹ I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

²² The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

²³ This is the LORD’s doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴ This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵ Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!
O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.
We bless you from the house of the LORD.

²⁷ The LORD is God,
and he has given us light.

Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.

²⁸ You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God, I will extol you.

²⁹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Education

Bethel Kids Connecting invites your children to join us for a weekly virtual gathering for the season of Lent. The plan is to gather every Sunday at 11:15 am over Zoom for a 30 minute session, until April 4. With the intention of emulating an in-person gathering, each session will include a game, story, scripture verse, prayer time and craft tutorial. Similar to Advent, we are preparing craft bags with supplies for each week's activities. If you have any comments or questions, please do not hesitate to contact Pastor Valerie at valerie@bethelmennonite.ca.

Bethel Announcements

Bethel Kidz Club | We invite all the kids from Grades 1 - 7 to join us on Tues., Mar. 30, at 6:30 for a fun evening of playing games and making new friends! We will be playing a drawing game via Zoom. For this game, you will need an extra device (for example, a smartphone connected to the internet). Feel free to send this invitation to your friends! Contact Valerie for more details: valerie@bethelmennonite.ca

Maundy Thursday Zoom Service, April 1, at 7:00 pm | This year, we will join Jesus at his table for a service of communion and storytelling. We will imagine ourselves seated with him at the table of his last supper to pray, share in communion, and hear reflections from some of his friends and followers. Whether we are long-time followers or just curious about Jesus; whether we are sure in our faith or have doubts; whether we come needing forgiveness, or healing, or rest, we are all invited to Jesus' table.

This will be a **communion service**, and we ask that you prepare your own elements and have them ready to participate. To enter into the spirit of the service, we encourage you to set up your computer or tablet at your table, if you can. Contact the church office for the Zoom link.

Bethel Women in Mission will not be able to meet in April. However, let's join together this month to reflect on the theme "My Cup Overflows with God's Goodness in Times of Pain". Consider keeping a record of your thoughts and prayers and put them in a cup for possible sharing when we can gather again. As you are able, continue to mail or bring your offerings to the church office - clearly designated for Bethel Women in Mission.

Cook the Books | If you ordered a printed copy, please call Lois Bergen (204-453-2199) to make an appointment to pick it up at the church.

Library Update | In his book, *Who Will Be A Witness*, author Drew Hart calls on communities of faith to become agents for justice. Using Scriptural insights and personal stories, he looks at how the witness of the church has been damaged by white supremacy and religious nationalism. Hart offers congregations concrete suggestions for how they can be a witness to Jesus' ethic of love as they act in solidarity with society's most vulnerable. *Please call the church office to make an appointment to access the library.*

The Ordination of Kathy McCamis.

Kathy McCamis has met all the requisite requirements for ordination, and has received a very strong endorsement from the Mennonite Church Manitoba Leadership Commission. Therefore, the Bethel Deacon Executive proposed the following: "Whereas the Deacon Executive, as outlined in the policy and procedures manual, are responsible to 'Call persons who evidence signs of having received a personal calling, for commissioning and ordination,' and whereas Kathy McCamis has completed all steps necessary for ordination set forward from Mennonite Church Manitoba, and whereas the Deacon Executive has affirmed Kathy's gifts and call to ministry, they are hereby calling Kathy McCamis to be ordained for a life of Service within the Church." (From the Deacon Executive minutes dated March 2, 2021.)

The desire of the deacons and of Kathy is to celebrate a service of ordination when the Bethel community may again be gathered together in person. Therefore, the timing of the service will be delayed until such an appropriate date may be determined.

Partners in Ministry

Mennonite Church Canada

mennonitechurch.ca

Job opportunity | Executive assistant, full-time, in Winnipeg, beginning May, 2021. See the MC Canada website for details.

MC Canada's Sustainability Leadership Group (SLG) focusses on the environmental and social impacts of MC Canada activities. It identifies ways the regional churches and nationwide community can improve in these areas while remaining economically sustainable. Visit our Sustainability webpage: <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/sustainability>.

Bethel Mennonite Church, March 28, 2021

Prayer request | In the midst of the worst-yet coronavirus outbreak in Palestine, [Bethlehem Bible College](#) (BBC) invites us to pray with them for students, staff, faculty, families and all Palestinians. They pray for healing, for economic recovery, and for vaccines to arrive and become widely available. See the video of BBC President, Dr. Jack Sara, describing the situation: [facebook.com/83882478582/posts/10158454297688583/](https://www.facebook.com/83882478582/posts/10158454297688583/).

Indigenous-Settler Relations (ISR) | Join Steve Heinrichs (director of ISR) for an online book club on *Beloved Amazonia*. Beginning April 8, we'll gather by Zoom each Thursday at 1:30 pm (CST) for five weeks of circle conversation. Together, we will dream new paths for the Church in these lands now called Canada. Together, we will consider what roles we can play to help make this gospel dream a reality. Register at: <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/beloved-amazonia>.

Mennonite Church Manitoba

[mennochurch.mb.ca](https://www.mennochurch.mb.ca)

MCM invites applications for the position of Director of Church Engagement, 0.5 FTE. Information at: [mennochurch.mb.ca/news](https://www.mennochurch.mb.ca/news).

Leadership Transitions in MCM | *Adam Robinson* has resigned as Associate Pastor at Douglas MC, where he served for 11 ½ years, ending on Apr. 30. | *John Klassen* will end his ministry at Emmanuel MC on Mar. 31. *Karen Schellenberg* will begin a 9 -month Intentional Interim assignment there starting Apr. 1. | *Gloria Beck* will complete her pastoral ministry at Arnaud MC on Apr. 30, where she served for 7 years. *John Klassen* will serve as Intentional Interim Pastor starting on May 1. | *Rafael Doerksen* will complete his ministry at Springfield Heights MC on Jun. 30. He has served as Lead Pastor for 5 years. | *Norm Voth* will serve as the Intentional Interim Pastor of Elim MC, Grunthal, starting in September. *Harold Peters-Fransen* currently serves as Pastor and will retire from ministry this summer after 8 years at Elim MC. We pray God's blessings on these transitional changes. - *Rick Neufeld*

Canadian Mennonite University

[cmu.ca](https://www.cmu.ca)

Virtual Open House | Mar. 31, 4:00 pm. See: [cmu.ca/virtualopenhouse](https://www.cmu.ca/virtualopenhouse).

ReNew: Resources for Preaching | Wed., Mar. 31, 11:00 am. Sheila Klassen-Wiebe, Assoc. Prof. of New Testament, will talk about the commentary on the book of James that she is writing, as part of the Believer's Church Bible Commentary series. Register: [cmu.ca/renew](https://www.cmu.ca/renew).

Spring at CMU | April 13, 7:00 pm, at [cmu.ca/springatcmu](https://www.cmu.ca/springatcmu). Hear stories from students, faculty and alumni; CMU Singers' premiere of *Breathe* by Leonard Enns; and more. Optional Part Two: Conversation with President Cheryl Pauls and others at 8:00 pm. RSVP to development@cmu.ca by April 9 to receive the conversation Zoom link.

MCC's Grow Hope farmers are starting to work their fields for the planting season. Learn how you can help: mccmb.ca/GrowHope.

Happy Easter from MCC! | At Easter, many Ukrainians decorate eggs to give to friends and family as a symbol of new life. Decorate your own; see the colouring page at: mccmb.ca/stories/colour-your-own-easter-egg.

Other

Lindenwood Estates | Suite available. Church member open house Sun., Apr. 11, 1:00-2:00. Public open house Sun., Apr. 11 & 18, 2:00-4:00. Please contact D'Anne Hansen 204-979-0432.