

*Welcome to the
Bergthaler Mennonite Church
of Altona*



Sunday April 3, 2022

Lent 5 "From Scarcity to Abundance"

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona

Worship Service

April 3, 2022 10:30 A.M.

"Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus." Phil 3:13-14

Lent 5 – From Scarcity to Abundance

GATHERING and PRAISE

Welcome and Announcements

Music **"Your Kingdom Come!" Great God**

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

Responsive Reading

Music **Beyond a dying sun HWB 323**

LISTENING

Music **Today Earth Is Singing VT 510**

Children's Story

Scripture John 12:1-8

Sermon **"Living like Mary"**

Prayer of confession and assurance

RESPONDING

Music **You've got a place SJ 4**

Sharing time

Prayer for the Offering, the Church, and the World

SENDING

Benediction

Music **Jesus, keep me near the cross HWB 617**

Sermon: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert **Worship Leader/Scripture:** James Friesen

Music: Flying Free **Children's Story:** Video

Our worship service will be live-streamed Sunday morning at 10:30am and is available on the church website at [\[abchurchcommunity.ca\]](http://abchurchcommunity.ca). If using a handheld device [phone/tablet] you may get a message that says "video unavailable", but if you click on the line "watch this video on YouTube" it will reload and play for you.

PRAYER & PRAISE CORNER

- ~ **Hospitalized:** Susan Toews and Agatha Kehler at the Altona Health Centre
- ~ **Our condolences** to Noah and Joanna Ginter and their family in the passing of Noah's grandfather Bill Ginter.
- ~ **Our condolences** to Nicole and Mike Friesen and their family in the passing of Nicole's grandfather Jacob Klassen.
- ~ **Clara Kehler** would like to share that her most recent bone scan showed that her levels were stable. She is thankful to God and for all those who are praying for her.
- ~ **On April 17th** we will be welcoming several individuals into our congregation through transfer of membership; Bonnie Friesen, Herman and Helen Kuhl, Herold Schlegel and Elaine Erb.
- ~ **Pray for** the Many congregations within the Iglesia Cristiana Menonita de Colombia (IMCOL) who are feeding, housing and caring for refugees from Venezuela. Pray that God will provide what the Colombian churches need to meet the physical and spiritual needs of these new neighbours.
- ~ We included a few birthdays we missed this past month. **We wish a happy birthday and God's blessing to:**

Craig Neufeld	March 28	Andrew Richert	April 3
Penny Wahl	March 30	Liz Hildebrand	April 3
Bill Bergman	March 31	Clara Kehler	April 3
Edward Doell	March 31	Lori Driedger	April 5
Stephanie Friesen	March 31	Anne (Ronn) Friesen	April 8
Maida Richert	March 31	Andrew Harder	April 9
Kirsten Giesbrecht	April 1		
Rick Neufeld	April 1		

WORSHIP CALENDAR

- April 3:** Lent 5- Virginia – From scarcity to abundance
- April 10:** Lent 6 – Mark – From power over to power with
- April 15:** Good Friday
- April 17:** Easter Sunday – Virginia – From ending to possibility

Responsive Reading

- One:** We use boxes to limit our understanding of God's ways
- Many: these boxes put unnecessary boundaries around God**
- One:** *Your ways, O God are higher than our ways*
- Many: Let us seek God's ways** PAUSE
- All: Lord, move us from our scarcity mentality into your abundant life.**

FROM THE PASTOR: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert

I have always felt like the passage in the bible when Jesus is telling us not to worry was written specifically for me (Luke 12, Matt 6). Because I can easily get wrapped up in all of the things that there are to worry about. And no matter how much I try there is no simple trick to stop worrying, it is a life long journey, one that requires me to continually come back to the words of Jesus, and offer my worries up in prayer.

Recently I was reading a devotional by Kate Bowler in her new book, "Good Enough: 40ish devotionals for a life of imperfection." In it she suggests that in response to the many things in life that can overwhelm us, we do something for no reason at all, just for fun. She suggests things like learning a new language or trying a new skill, going to find the biggest statues or animals in the clouds. And to try these things without pressure or need to be perfect, but to simply find joy in them.

Her logic is that when life can get overwhelming, we need to remember to find joy. We need to embrace the curiosity we once had and the joy that can be found in doing something for no other reason than it might be fun. And we need to remind ourselves that God is present with us at all times, we don't need to be productive or useful to earn God's love, God simply is with us and delights with us as well.

So, join me in doing something for no reason whatsoever. Let us learn to skip again, or bake cookies, or re-discover poetry and find the beauty in it simply by trying.

Sr Youth and Jr Youth – details to come

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona 117 2ND Street NW Altona, MB R0G 0B1
Web Page Address: abchurchcommunity.ca Office: 324-6717 E-mail: office@abchurch.ca
Worship Services available online at: abchurchcommunity.ca Facebook: ABC community
Lead Pastor: Mark Tiessen-Dyck, 324-5990 cell 1-204-771-3406 marktd@abchurch.ca
Assoc Pastor: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert, cell 304-6119 virginiagr@abchurch.ca
Assoc Pastor of Youth Min: Josh Janzen, 204-502-1991, cell 1-402-631-3481
joshj@abchurch.ca Children's Ministry Coordinator: Amanda Wiens, 324-6719
amandaw@abchurch.ca

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Even though there are currently no government requirements to wear masks at this time, we are going to be taking a gradual approach to removing our masks. We continue to request that if you are experiencing covid symptoms that you worship from home.

We are asking everyone to abide by this timeline:

April: wear a mask for entering, exiting, moving around and singing (masks can be removed once seated)

May and beyond: masks are optional.

There is a \$100.00 camp sponsorship available to children attending camp this summer. Applications are in the church office. Please apply as soon as possible.

Pastors Mark and Josh will be returning from their holidays on April 4th.

If anyone is interested in the old fridge in South Wing, please let Cheryl or Jolene know.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Thank you to all who donated items for the **Build a Village** family that is arriving shortly.

The Gardens on Tenth presents a drive by soupin' fundraiser on April 7th from 5-7pm. Menu includes cabbage borscht, chicken noodle soup, buns and dessert. Drive in, pick up your food, give your donation, exit and enjoy!

Canadian Mennonite University:

Common Word Webinar: 100 Years of Mennonite Central Committee. Join Alain Epp Weaver, Esther Epp-Tiessen, and César Flores for an online conversation on April 7 at 7PM CDT. Hear about MCC's 100-year history of service and reconciliation, including the complicated ways Christian service has been intertwined with colonialism, racism, and regimes of power. Visit commonword.ca/go/2314 to register.

Verna Mae Janzen Music Competition – The 17th annual competition will be held on April 8 at 7PM CDT in the Laudamus Auditorium. Masks are required. For more information, visit cmu.ca/events.

Spring at CMU, April 10, 7PM CDT online. Engage with the CMU story hearing reflections from CMU students, faculty, and alumni. Choral performances by CMU's ensembles. Visit cmu.ca/springatcmu.

Mennonite Church Manitoba:

Stations at Home Street Mennonite Church- A group of artists in the congregation have created their own renditions of each Station of the Cross which will be displayed on the exterior wall of the building beginning April 9 (weather depending); folks are encouraged to stop by anytime during Holy Week to contemplate the images.

Good Friday through the Senses - Stations of the Cross involving taste, touch, smell, sound, and sight. Choose from multiple 2 hour blocks, April 15 and 16 at the MCM Office.

Visit www.mennochurch.mb.ca/events for more info and free registration.

Mennonite Disaster Service:

MDS Canada will be setting up a project in Monte Lake, BC starting in early May and running through the fall. If you would like to sign up to serve for 1-3 weeks at this project, please contact Clara Flores at cflores@mds.org or by calling 204-261-1274. Volunteers of all skill sets are welcome to serve. Help us bring hope to a community affected by disaster.

Mennonite Central Committee:

What is a sustainable diet? Germinating Conversations and Knox United Church, Brandon invite you to attend a conversational event featuring four local farmers with varying perspectives and practices related to sustainability and food production. Watch the livestream at youtube.com/c/TheKnoxKonnexion or attend in person at Knox United Church, 451 18th Street, Brandon on April 7 at 7pm.