

*Welcome to the
Bergthaler Mennonite Church
of Altona*



Arrangement by: Jmy Rempel

Photo credit: Susan M Ducek

Sunday, February 27, 2022

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona

Worship Service

February 27, 2022 10:30 A.M.

“Jesus answered, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish”

~ Luke 13: 2-3

GATHERING and PRAISE

Welcome and Announcements

Music **What a friend we have in Jesus** HWB 573

Call to Worship and Prayer

Music **If you but trust in God** HWB 576

LISTENING

Music **Joy, joy, joy down in my heart**

Children’s Story

Scripture **Job 8:1-8, 11, 6:1-4, 9:1-8**

Sermon **“Withholding legitimacy to Suffering and Evil”**

RESPONDING

Music **My life flows on** HWB 580

Prayer for the Offering, the Church, and the World

SENDING

Benediction

Music **Precious Lord, take my hand** HWB 575

Sermon: Mark Tiessen-Dyck **Worship Leader/Scripture:** Al Friesen

Music: Hilda Franz, Andrew Richert **Children’s Story:** Lisa Hiebert Penner

Our worship service will be live-streamed Sunday morning at 10:30am and is available on the church website at [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:** Lena Hoffman at Altona Health Centre. Susan Toews at Boundary Trails Health Centre.

~ **Mennonite Church Canada**

Pray: Lakan and Lakambini (Dann and Joji Pantoja), Witness workers in the Philippines, mentor young leaders who have the vision to carry their ministry of peacebuilding and reconciliation on the island of Mindanao into the future. Pray that these new leaders would be granted wisdom, strength and joy as they follow Jesus in difficult circumstances. To donate to ministry in the Philippines, visit mennonitechurch.ca/peacebuildingphilippines.

~ **We wish a happy birthday and God's blessing to:**

Ethan Giesbrecht	[Feb 28]
Matthew Giesbrecht	[Feb 28]
Sally Funk	[Mar 1]
Willie Funk	[Mar 1]
Marvin Falk [Joyce]	[Mar 2]
Lynda Hiebert	[Mar 3]
Stephanie Rempel	[Mar 3]
Ruth Peters	[Mar 4]
Hilda Wiebe	[Mar 5]
Delores Enns	[Mar 6]
Bernard Wiebe	[Mar 6]

WORSHIP CALENDAR

March 6 - Lent 1 - Speaker: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert

March 13 - Lent 2 - Speaker: Josh Janzen

March 20 - Lent 3 - Speaker: Mark Tiessen-Dyck

March 27 - Lent 4 - Speaker: Mark Tiessen-Dyck

We are NOT requiring vaccination to attend our worship services.

We ask that you please wear a mask throughout the worship service.

From the Pastor: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert

This year our theme for Lent is: **Seeking God's Ways**. This theme will push us each week to look at some of the truths about the ways of God, as well as the many ways that God's people can get it wrong. We will look at the ways we sometimes think God is offering us one thing (like privilege) but what God is really offering looks quite different (like inclusion). Or how we might think the world works in one way (scarcity), but really it works in a very different way (abundance), and how we think power means one thing (control), but it is really found in something else (solidarity).

Each week we will have a physical representation of the ways that we attempt to put God in a box of our own making, of our own assumptions, and how we need to release the human made boundaries on God to make space to seek and see God's ways. It is only then, by releasing these constraints, that we will be able to fully embrace God's ways. The weekly themes are:

- From security to generosity
- From fear to compassion
- From earning to receiving
- From estrangement to embrace
- From scarcity to abundance
- From power over to power with
- From ending to possibility

It is our hope that as we explore this theme of "seeking God's ways" that we will find the encouragement we need to explore the ways we are being called to step outside of our own limitations to acts of greater faithfulness and love.

Sr Youth

- **Mar 1 [Tues], 7pm** – Pancakes and Ashes.

Jr Youth

- **Mar 2 [Wed], 7pm** – Pancakes and Ashes.

Ventures – Wednesdays 7:00 – 8:15 pm

- **Girls:** MCC school kits.
- **Boys:** Woodworking part 1.

Berghaler 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

- **This coming week** will be Susan's last as our church's Administrative Assistant. Her final day is Friday, March 4. We are grateful for her many years of service and wish Susan God's blessing as she begins her retirement. You are welcome to express appreciation and well-wishes to her this week; there will also be an opportunity to do so later. As three of our church staff, Amanda, Don, and Susan, are departing their roles, there will be an event this spring to acknowledge and celebrate their contributions to our church community. Details are TBD.
- **We are looking for you!** The Personnel Commission is looking for 2-3 congregants who are interested in getting to know our pastors better, willing to pop in regularly to see how they are doing, and willing to meet quarterly (or more if needed) for a deeper look into how we can better support them. People who are willing to review monthly reports, time sheets and expenses as well as pastoral reviews, and update Memo's of Understanding as needed. If this sounds like something that would interest you, or for more detailed information about this position, please contact Stephanie Friesen at 204-319-0377 or via email at friesenstephanie25@gmail.com Thank you.
- **Do you love books?** The ABC library is looking for a volunteer to lead the Library Committee! This individual would help coordinate and perform duties related to our library, including cataloguing, purchasing, organizing books. Please speak to Jolene Friesen-Stoesz, Education Commission chair if you want more information, or if you would be interested in supporting the ABC Library Committee as a volunteer in some capacity.
- **Calling all readers!** We are starting up another book study at church, reading the book: *The Bible Unwrapped: making sense of scripture today* by Meghan Good. If you are interested in joining, please let pastor Virginia know by March 1. The discussions will happen on Thursday afternoons at 2 pm.
- **Feb 27, 1pm - ABC Annual Congregational Meeting.** The meeting will be in-person, or you may join by Zoom. The Zoom link is in the Report Book. Report books are available in the foyer. Everyone is invited to bring a bag lunch to eat in the church basement. Dishes/utensils and beverages **will not** be provided. We hope to enjoy a time of fellowship.
- **If you are interested** in becoming a member of our church, we invite you to speak to speak to one of the pastors. We are planning to welcome new members into our congregation this spring.
- **Singers** of all ages join an impromptu choir on **Sunday, March 6. Rehearsal** at 9:15am - sing with the congregation in our worship service at 10:30am. Contact Laurie Enns with questions. Songs we will sing: Holy, Holy, Holy HWB 75, Jesus tempted in the desert STS 36, Today Earth is singing VT 510, In Lonely Mountain ways VT 589, and Let this mind be in you VT 572.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Gardens On Tenth** job opportunity: Accounting & Payroll clerk, full time position. For details visit www.gardensontenth.ca
 - **YFC Altona/Youth Unlimited** is seeking to fill the position of Outreach Director, to lead ministry outreach and programs directed to young women. This is a full-time position, with flexibility. Start date July 1. Sheridan Sawatzky at 204 304 6521 / email sheridan.sawatzky@yfc.ca
- Mennonite Church Manitoba** – mennochurch.mb.ca 204-896-1616
- **March 5 - MCM Annual Gathering 2022.** If you're not a delegate, you're still welcome, register at www.mennochurch.mb.ca/events
 - **Join** the Virtual Choir for Gathering 2022. Instructions and files at www.mennonitechurch.ca/gathering2022 [open until March 1].
 - **Camps With Meaning** summer camp registration is open. Visit www.campswithmeaning.org to learn more and register.
 - **Mar 5, 2-4pm** -Afternoon of Equipping - Congregational Care. Offering a tasting of stories, teachings, inspiration and connection. Over the two hour Zoom event you will have opportunity to choose from 12 different topics, all connected to Congregational Care. See the MCM event page for the options and free registration. www.mennochurch.mb.ca/events
 - **Mar 24-26** - Sabbath Retreat at Camp Assiniboia. Laura Funk, Spiritual Director-in-Residence at MCM, will lead this time of rest and renewal for the season ahead. Info/registration www.mennochurch.mb.ca/news
 - **Camp Assiniboia** invites applications for the "Facilities Manager" position. Visit www.campswithmeaning.org/news for more info.
- Canadian Mennonite University** – cmu.ca
- **Feb 23, 6pm** – Virtual Open House. Visit cmu.ca/experience.
 - **Xplore:** At the Intersection of Faith and Life – Xplore offers life-long learning investigating dimensions of the Christian faith, our world, and life in it. All without any assignments or examinations! Xplore happens in a six-week block, with online courses offered Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings, beginning March 1. Visit cmu.ca/xplore.
 - **John & Margaret Friesen Lectures:** Reading Mennonite Writing Now – Mennonite literary studies in North America is in a period of transition with a fast-growing body of Mennonite fiction, poetry, and life writing. What does Mennonite literature look like today, and how can we read it most productively? Join Dr. Robert Zacharias on March 3 at 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM. Details at cmu.ca/friesenlectures.
- Mennonite Disaster Service** – mdscanada@mds.org
- Make a difference, consider one of our openings. Visit our website: <https://mds.org/employment/>
 - The February edition of *On the Level* is available from MDS. In our current issue: Meet two sisters who carry on the family tradition of MDS service, learn how Mennonites and Catholics are working together in Ontario to reunite a family separated for nearly two years, and relive the excitement and hear memorable stories from the MDS Annual Celebration in Sarasota last month. Click: <https://conta.cc/3GSYSQY>