

*Welcome to the
Bergthaler Mennonite Church
of Altona*



Sunday, January 24, 2021

Worship Service

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona

WORSHIP SERVICE

January 24, 2021

*“Yes, the sparrow too has found a home there;
the swallow has found herself a nest where she can lay
her young beside your altars, LORD of heavenly forces,
my king, my God!” ~ Psalm 84:3*

GATHERING and PRAISE

Welcome and Announcements

Music **Mountain of God**

Call to Worship and Prayer

LISTENING

Music **This little light of mine**

Children’s Story

Scripture **Matthew 6: 25-34**

Sermon **“From worry to Kingdom-oriented-concern”**

RESPONDING

Music **His eye is on the sparrow**

Prayer for the Offering, the Church, and the World

SENDING

Benediction

Music **Now may the Lord of peace**

Sermon: Mark Tiessen-Dyck

Worship Leader: Craig Neufeld

Children’s Story: Heidi Toews

Music: Recorded Artists: Kim Thiessen/Darryl Neustaedter Barg,
Bryan Moyer Suderman, The Mennonite Hour Singers, Camps With Meaning.

Our worship service will be available on the church website
Sunday morning [abchurchcommunity.ca] at 10:30 a.m.

PRAYER & PRAISE CORNER

- ~ **Hospitalized:** Anne Braun, Elizabeth Doell, Helen Schulz, Waldo Schulz at Altona Health Centre; Anne Kehler at Notre Dame de Lourdes Hospital. Doreen Sawatzky at Health Science Centre.
- ~ **Condolences to:**
 - ~ Ed & Carol Rempel, family and extended family, at the passing away, of father Henry Rempel of Altona, on January 15.
 - ~ Bob & Anne Doerksen, family and the extended family, at the passing away of Anne's brother Bill Derksen of Altona, on January 14.
- ~ **Mennonite Church Canada**
Sunday, Jan. 24, 2021, is Anabaptist Global Fellowship Sunday! MWC calls us to prayer on this day. Praise God that Anabaptists around the world are united in faith in God's kingdom across language and cultural differences. Give thanks for the growing networks in the MWC family: mission, service, health, peace and education.

WORSHIP CALENDAR

Consider the Birds of the Air a sermon series on birds of the Bible. We will dive deeper and fly higher into the meaning and symbolism behind several images/stories of birds included in our scriptures.

Jan 31 - A mother Hen gathering her brood. Matt 23: 37

Feb 7 - On Eagles Wings. Isaiah 40: 28-31, Rev 4-5

Feb 14 - Baptism / Livestream at 10:30 a.m.

Donations for the church can be dropped off at Don and Grace Fehr's home at **85 Martin Crescent**. Place your donation in the designated box. PLEASE NOTE THEIR NEW ADDRESS, and don't leave your donation at Don and Grace's former residence.

2020 Donation Receipts will be mailed.

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Lead Pastor: Mark Tiessen-Dyck, 324-5990 cell 1-204-771-3406 marktd@abchurch.ca
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Children's Ministry Coordinator: Amanda Wiens, 324-6719 amandaw@abchurch.ca

FROM the PASTOR: Mark Tiessen-Dyck

In the spring, Kelsey Driedger and Seth Klassen began meeting with Josh and myself for a baptism preparation journey. Sometimes meeting in person and sometimes by zoom, we explored the biblical story, studied Christian convictions, discussed what it means to follow Jesus, reflected on the history of the church, and delved into myriad questions and dimensions of our faith. Hilda Franz and Lyndon Toews joined our meetings as mentors, contributed to our discussions, and have been valuable partners for Kelsey and Seth in the journey.

Throughout this experience, Josh and I have witnessed God's work in the lives of Kelsey and Seth and their growth in response. Kelsey and Seth have accepted Christ's call to baptism and for this we rejoice! Initially, we had insisted that the baptism would occur when we are able to worship in person, however, with the uncertainty of these times, together we have discerned that we will move forward with the baptism under the current circumstances. When the path forward is clear, it is unnecessary, even painful, to wait. We are planning for Seth and Kelsey to be baptised on February 14! The worship service will be live streamed (not pre-recorded as has been our practice). We are asking that everyone join as a congregation on February 14, at 10:30am to join in worship and celebration on this essential day in the life of our church.

We are planning boldly and lightly for this day, recognizing both its importance and that we live in a time when there are many disruptions due to people becoming ill or requiring to isolate. There may also be changes in what are safe gatherings and interactions. Should circumstances require an adjustment in our plans we will respond trusting that God is still at work.

I encourage you to pray for Kelsey and Seth. We are grateful to God for their saying 'yes' to baptism and ask God's continued leading in their lives of faithfulness.

Jr Youth

- Jan 26, 7pm – Talent show.

Sr Youth

- Jan 29, 7pm – Talent show and conversation.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **As pastors**, we are inviting people of all ages to talk with us about baptism. If you are experiencing God's call to baptism, are wondering if the time is now, or have already been baptized and desire to explore our faith anew, let's talk. The first step is a conversation. Please do not hesitate to be in touch! – Mark, Virginia, Josh.
- **Tuesday morning coffee** – join us at 10am via ZOOM.
- **The pastors** are still working from home during critical code red. You are welcome to be in touch by phone or email. Susan will be in the office so you are also welcome to call the church. The facility will be closed to visitors during the critical code red period.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Canadian Mennonite University – cmu.ca

- **CMU** is returning to hybrid classes at its Shaftesbury campus on Jan 25, when students will again have the option to be part of courses in-person or virtually. Full details at media.cmu.ca/nr-january-25-return-to-in-person-hybrid-classes
- **Jan 27, 4pm - Be part of CMU's next Virtual Open House** - take a virtual tour of the CMU campus and connect with Admissions Counsellors, faculty/students. Open to all students, parents, teachers and school counsellors. Visit: ww.cmu.ca/virtualopenhouse
- **Through this Place** - monthly E-Newsletter offering a window into CMU. Sign up at www.cmu.ca/newsletter .

Mennonite Church Manitoba – mennochurch.mb.ca 204-896-1616

- **MCM** invites applications for two positions: Financial Services Assistant (.75 FTE) and Administrative Assistant (0.5 FTE) to start ca. Feb 1, 2021. These job descriptions are posted on the MCM site. Submit application letter and resume to Peter Rempel, Interim Administrator, at office@mennochurch.mb.ca by Jan 20.

Mennonite Central Committee Manitoba – manitoba@mccmb.ca

- **Threads**, an MCC Manitoba radio show, airs at 8:45am every 4th Sunday of the month on CFAM 950. Visit mccmb.ca/Threads for past episodes.

Mennonite Disaster Service - ecomunications@mds.mennonite.net

- **The January *On the Level*** is now available from MDS. In this issue we invite all to participate in the MDS Annual Celebration, there's a deeper look at the challenges of scheduling volunteers during a pandemic, and we'll share how the Lancaster, PA unit is collaborating with the community to repair fire damage at a house for homeless families. Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/3sHxeGR>
- **Feb 6, 2pm** - Join MDS as we celebrate the work of our many volunteers in 2020 and look ahead to what God has in store for MDS in 2021. Through our theme of Unexpected Opportunities, Unexpected Blessings, we will tell stories of hope and restoration during the pandemic as we helped survivors of natural disasters get back into their homes. Visit <https://mds.mennonite.net/annual-celebration/>.