

*Welcome to the
Bergthaler Mennonite Church
of Altona*



Photo credit: Susan M Dueck

Sunday, January 2, 2022

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona

Worship Service

January 2 2022 10:30 A.M.

“Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” ~ John 20: 30-31

REJOICING IN THE LORD’S PRESENCE

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn **Bless’d be the God of Israel** HWB 174

Call to Worship and Candle Lighting

Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance

Hymn **To us a Child of hope is born** HWB 189

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

Hymn **For God so loved us** HWB 167

Children’s Story

Scripture **Luke 1:1-4, John 20:30-31, Philippians 3:7-11**

Sermon **“4 Gospels, 1 Jesus:
knowing Jesus, past, present, and future”**

LEAVING TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

Hymn **Lord, I am fondly, earnestly** HWB 514

Prayer for the Offering, the Church, and the World

Benediction

Hymn **As with gladness men of old** HWB 218 Vs.1,2,4

Sermon: Mark Tiessen-Dyck **Worship Leader:** Amanda Wiens
Pianist: Hilda Franz **Candle Lighter / Scripture Reader:** Gavin Wiens
Song Leader: Milly Klassen **Children’s Story:** Mark Tiessen-Dyck

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:** Katherine Bergen, Lena Hoffman, and Helen Schulz at Altona Health Centre. Katie Krahn at BTHC.
- ~ **Pray for:** Glenn Friesen as he's receiving chemo treatments, and for Waldo Schulz at Eastview.
- ~ **Condolences** to Katie Krahn, family and extended family, at the passing away of her sister, Sarah Penner of Winkler.
- ~ **We wish a happy birthday and God's blessing to:**
 - Katie Krahn [Jan 1]
 - Sheree Wahl [Jan 2]
 - Hilda Franz [Jan 4]
 - Bernie H Friesen [Jan 4]
 - Anna Peters [Jan 5]
 - Tena Giesbrecht [Jan 5]
 - Marilyn Martens [Jan 5]
 - Eddy Martens [Jan 6]
 - Sophia Friesen-Stoesz [Jan 7]

"Jesus it's nice to meet you!"

Our Advent and Christmas worship series is all about getting to know Jesus.

- Nov 28 When and where did Jesus live? What was the context of Jesus life and time?
- Dec 5 What did Jesus teach? What was the essence of his message?
- Dec 12 Speaker: Virginia What did Jesus do? And what did it accomplish? What was it about?
- Dec 19 Speaker: Mark Why did Jesus encounter opposition to his message and work?
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols at 6:30pm.
- Dec 26 Speaker: Virginia Baby Jesus.
- Jan 2 Speaker: Mark 4 Gospels, 1 Jesus. How we learn about Jesus.
- Jan 9 Speaker: Josh Who is Jesus?

From the Pastor: Josh Janzen

As we enter into the new year, many of us will have the conversations with ourselves on what our resolutions will be. You know, lose 10 pounds, save \$8,000 for that post-pandemic trip to Europe, and so on. However, one thing I've started to notice is people ditching New year's resolutions in favor of New year's intentions. Essentially, setting intentions for the new year comes down to working to cultivate new habits and practices that help us live better and achieve our desires.

Theologian James K.A. Smith tells us that "we are what we love". Each and everyone of us is oriented to some end, some vision of the good life, whatever that may be, and we desire it; we want it. So, it's our hearts and our longings that shape us. Love as our most fundamental orientation in the world, shapes us on an unconscious level, guides our actions and forms our habits, all in service of what our view of the ultimate good life is. What's more is that all of this is tied up with discipleship and spiritual formation. Those New year's resolutions or New year's intentions that we set for ourselves matter in the life of our church. So, what are desires and longings as ABC? By what and how will we be formed? In the face of another year of uncertainty, what will we set as our intentions in 2022?

Candle Litany

Leader: We light the Christ candle to honor Jesus and listen as all creation joins in praise.

People: Imagine that. . . We are God's wonders, blessed wonders.

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

The position of Church Treasurer is a part-time appointed position with duties and responsibilities related to the finances of the church, staff, and the Canada Revenue Agency. A job description is available from any member of the Finance Commission, and the church office. If you have any questions about the above opportunity or replacement suggestions, we encourage you to contact one of the following members of the Finance Commission: Elmer Friesen, Al Harder, Clint Klassen, and Al Friesen, Chair.

- **Beginning early in the new year**, we are going to be including people's birthdays and significant wedding anniversaries in our weekly bulletin. This is a small way to build community and relationships, as we have the opportunity to wish one another a happy birthday. The church office is continuing to gather information and will be reaching out by email if we do not have your birthday and anniversary in our records. We look forward to celebrating one another in this way.
- **The pastors** will be taking some time off over the Christmas holidays: Mark will be on vacation Jan 3-10; Virginia Dec 27-Jan 3.
- **The Mitten Tree Project** donations will be collected till January 2. All items collected will be donated to Union Gospel Mission in Winnipeg. If you are unable to bring your items to church, call Amanda Wiens 204-324-6719 to arrange for a pick-up.
- **We are requiring** that all 12 and over attending our in-person worship services be vaccinated. Please be willing to show your proof of vaccination. Wear masks throughout the worship service.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mennonite Church Canada – office@mennonitechurchcanada.ca

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

- **Collecting stories** of people's experiences with Spiritual Direction. If you are interested in participating in this project, contact Laura Funk, Spiritual Director in Residence at MCM. LFunk@mnochurch.mb.ca

Canadian Mennonite University – cmu.ca

MCC Manitoba - manitoba@mccmb.ca

- **SALT positions** are available! SALT is a 1-year cross-cultural service experience for Christian young adults from Canada and the USA. Visit mccmb.ca/salt for more information.
- **MCC Manitoba** is looking for a Constituency Relations Coordinator who thrives on connecting with people/building meaningful relationships. In this role, you will deepen engagement and broaden awareness of MCC's relief, development and peace work with church communities and other groups. The position is halftime with a flexible home office base. Apply online at mccmb.ca/openings.

Mennonite Disaster Service – mdscanada@mds.org