

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona

Worship Service

June 5, 2022, 10:30 am

"In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh." ~ Acts 2:17a

The Day of Pentecost

Gathering as a people of God

Hymns of gathering **Fear not**

Light the fire

Mountain of God

Announcements

Call to worship and prayer

Song **God of wonders**

Blessing our young people

Grade 3 bible presentation and sharing

Time with our children

Offering and prayer

ABC conversations with Jacob Friesen-Stoesz

Praying

Scripture **Acts 2:1-21**

Prayer time

Communion

Sharing time

Song **Here I am Lord**

Blessing for the journey ahead

Prayer for the meal and benediction

Song **Not be shaken**

You are invited to stay for a picnic lunch after today's worship service.

Worship Leader: Josh Janzen **Prayer time and communion:** Virginia Gerbrandt Richert
Music: Worship Team **Children's Story:** Kristin Falk

PRAYER & PRAISE CORNER

- ~ **Hospitalized:** Anne Dueck and Helen Neufeld at the Altona Health Centre.
- ~ **Walter Hamm** from our church family passed away June 1, 2022. Funeral services will be held here Monday June 6 at 2 pm. We are invited to join in gratitude for his life and pray for his extended family.
- ~ **Susan Toews** has moved into Blueridge at Eastview
- ~ **International Witness:** Acting as relationship catalysts between Mennonite Church Canada and Mennonite churches in Japan, former Witness workers Gerald and Rie Neufeld are once again living and working in Japan. Their role is to connect with Japanese Mennonite churches for support and relationship building. Pray for decisions being made about the Tokyo Mennonite Centre as earthquake-safe upgrades are needed.
- ~ **We wish a happy birthday and God's blessing to:**
 - Sheila Friesen – June 5
 - Rod Heinrichs – June 6
 - Elizabeth Doell – June 11

WORSHIP CALENDAR

June 5: Church picnic

June 12: Speaker - Mark Tiessen-Dyck

June 19: Speaker - Mark Tiessen-Dyck

June 26: Speaker - Virginia Gerbrandt Richert

Jesus and Empire: A Sermon Series on Colossian

Next week, we begin a four week series on the book of Colossians. This letter was an explosive and subversive text that was written for Christians struggling to follow Jesus in a world of empire. Colossians is also packed with wisdom to help shape our imaginations and lives towards Jesus in this time.

Sr Youth and Jr Youth:

Sr. Youth -June 7, Tuesday, 7 pm: Check your email

Jr. Youth – June 8, Wednesday, 7 pm: Campfire and fellowship

FROM THE PASTOR: Josh Janzen

In my office hangs an icon known as "Rublev's Trinity". It depicts the story from Genesis 18 where Abraham and Sarah had the chance to welcome God in three visitors showed up at their door. For me, it serves as a reminder that God is never far removed from the people and places outside of my door or my home.

That in itself is a comfort as I take stock of the world, we find ourselves in today. In general, I consider myself to be an optimistic person. In the midst of hard things, my tendency is to remind myself and others of hope and that good things are still possible. But even for me, there are times when I find myself overwhelmed, angry, stressed and anxious when I consider our world. From war and genocide in countries that make it into the news, to country that don't, to natural disasters and cycles of harsh drought and overwhelming floods of rain. From the reality of an ongoing pandemic that we are just sort of moving on from even though people are still getting sick, to an almost daily reminder of violent shootings in the US that are being allowed to continue based on some's view that the right to own an assault weapon is more sacred than a right to life.

The world can be an awful place sometimes, and it seems like the entirety of creation is crying out in travail. And unfortunately, it seems like the world has always been in travail. We have seen violence, death, trauma, and struggle from generation to generation. As we continue to live in this world, it can be all too easy to become numb, to be resigned to these realities, to shut ourselves off from the world. Even now as I write, I am wanting to continue right on into my message of hope (which will come). But want all of us to at least take a moment to pause and let ourselves feel whatever it that we need to feel, and just give a big sigh as we let it out.

Now, as we worship on the Sunday of Pentecost, we are reminded of God's pouring out of the Holy Spirit upon us. As we pray for our world around us, for our church, for each other, let us be reminded of God's presence with us and be empowered by it. God is never far removed from the peoples and places outside our doors. Let us pray, and let us go out into this broken, beautiful world and meet God there as we work towards bringing God's kingdom on Earth as it is in Heaven.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ABC goes to camp! We are required to communicate numbers of people and arrangements to the camp in preparation for our weekend at Camp Assiniboia September 9-11.

The cost for overnight stay is \$42 per adult per night and \$25 per child per night with additional costs for meals (if cost is a barrier, arrangements will be made so that you can participate). This includes most of the camp activities and facilities. People can stay from Friday to Sunday or from Saturday to Sunday, or come out for the day on Sunday. We are asking people to let the church office know your plans before the end of June so that accommodations can be arranged for. The entire camp is currently being reserved for us, but if we will not use all the available space the camp can have other groups use the space.

Tuesday morning coffee is on! You are welcome to join the church staff in the library on *Tuesday mornings at 10 am.*

We are planning a conversation at ABC on Thursday June 23 from 2-4. This conversation would offer space to share our thoughts, responses and questions around climate change as well as get a basic understanding of what climate change is. If you are interested in participating, please contact Rose Tryon or Pastors Virginia or Mark.

Rejoice renewal time! If you would like to renew or begin a subscription for Rejoice magazine now is your chance. The Rejoice magazine is a four times/year periodical and the cost for this subscription is \$49.31. Please have your payment in to Ang at the church office by *Friday June 10, 2022.*

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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
virginiaagr@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

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Blood Donor Clinic at the Rhineland Pioneer Centre, Thursday June 16 from 1 pm-8 pm. Please call 1.888.236.6283 or go online to book your appointment. We ask that there are no walk ins please.

Bike to church – and everywhere else! The MCM Climate Action Working Group invites you to participate in Commuter Challenge Week, June 5-11. This week-long challenge encourages Canadians to choose active and sustainable modes of transportation. Like last year, they want to recognize ALL trips that are done sustainably (eg. walking, jogging, biking, rollerblading, taking the bus, etc). Register as an individual, team/household, or church/organization

<https://greenactioncentre.ca/commuterchallenge> and on June 5th start logging those kilometres! It's a great way to care for our common home, while establishing healthy, active, and sustainable lifestyles.

You are invited to a "Conversation with Oksana" at Altona Mennonite Church, 287 8 Ave NE, Altona, on June 11, 7:30 pm. Oksana Druchinin is the manager of the Mennonite Centre in Ukraine. Presently in Canada, she continues to manage all donations sent to the Centre in Ukraine and remains in regular contact with our partner agencies and the staff at the Centre. Along with a report on current living and working conditions in Molochansk (now in Russian occupied territory) she will be open to questions from participants. Opportunity to donate to "Friends of The Mennonite Centre in Ukraine" will be given. The person with the largest donation (minimum \$300) will receive a beautiful hand-crafted quilt. All donations are tax-receiptable. For further information about the Mennonite Centre, check our website: www.mennonitecentre.ca

MCC: Are you a '22 high school grad planning a gap year? Consider MCC's new six-month discipleship program for 18-20 year olds. Based in Bethlehem, the Seek program will help you discover the beauty and brokenness of the world, while living in community and ministering to others. Find out more and apply for the program beginning in January at mcccanada.ca/seek

CMU: "Choosing Love in the Wake of Wounding", a Canadian School of Peacebuilding public lecture with Dr. Johonna McCants-Turner, Thursday, June 16 at 7:30 PM CDT in-person at Marpeck Commons or streamed live online. Visit cmu.ca/lectures for more details.

MC Canada: How we move with our bodies for or against others—all of that matters deeply

<https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/article/13483-how-we-move-with-our-bodies-for-or-against-othersall-of-that-matters-deeply> Read our interview with John Boopalan, guest speaker for Gathering 2022, who shares about the importance of embodiment to the Good News and why the messengers are as important as the message.

ABC Church picnic 2022 Small Group Prayer Time

Scripture: Acts 2: 1-4

"When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ***All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit*** and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability."

In groups of 5-8 share any prayer requests you have or what you are praying for these days.

Ideas to pray for:

Our world (war in Ukraine, those still grieving in Texas and Buffalo)

Our community (those experiencing flooding)

Our church (the grade 3's who received their bibles)

and for the people sitting next to you

Do not worry about making sure your prayer is perfect or covers everything that needs to be said. It is simply important that you pray whatever is on your heart, not worrying about whether it is right or wrong.

Take time to pray.

Go around the circle, give everyone a chance.

Remember, the Holy Spirit is present with each of you.

Prayer suggestion: Dear God, I pray that you bless _____. Be with them in their good times and hard times. In all things surround them with your unending love and compassion. Amen.

Communion:

For the bread: "The body of Christ, broken for you and for all the world."

For the cup: "The blood of Christ, shed for you and for all the world."

Fear Not

Fear not, for I have redeemed you
I have called you by name, and you are mine
When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you
When you pass through the fires,
You will not be burned.

Oh God, I want to serve You
To do Your will, to trust, to obey
Still sometimes I wonder,
Where you are leading
And when I listen, I hear you say

Fear not, for I have redeemed you
I have called you by name, and you are mine
When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you
When you pass through the fires,
You will not be burned.

Light the Fire

Vs. 1: I stand to praise You
But I fall on my knees
My spirit is willing
But my flesh is so weak

Chorus: So light the fire (light the fire)
In my soul (in my weary soul)
Fan the flame (fan the flame)
Make me whole (make me whole)
Lord You know where I've been
So light the fire in my heart again.

Vs. 2: I feel Your arms around me
As the power of Your healing begins
Your Spirit moves through me
Like a mighty rushing wind

Chorus

The Mountain of God Phil Campbell-Enns

Vs 1: Come let us go to a place that is pure
To learn about love and wipe away tears
He'll melt swords of steel and hearts made of stone
He'll set prisoners free and give strangers a home

Chorus: So come, come as you are
Oh come, from near and far
Oh come, salvations we'll taste
As we climb the mountain of God

Vs 2: From each corner and end of the earth
We'll gather together to sing of your worth
Of blind who can see, and weary who rest
Good news for the poor, freedom for oppressed

Chorus

Vs. 3: New life awaits for all who believe
All who love mercy, do justice, walk humbly
With Christ as our guide, united we'll be
Living the kingdom secure in God's peace

Chorus

God of Wonders

Vs. 1: Lord of all creation
Of water, earth and sky
The Heavens are Your tabernacle
Glory to the Lord on High

Chorus
God of Wonders, beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy, holy
Lord of Heaven and Earth
Lord of Heaven and Earth

Vs. 2: Early in the morning
I will celebrate the light
When I stumble in the darkness
I will call Your name by night

Chorus

(Bridge)

Hallelujah, to the Lord of Heaven and Earth
Hallelujah, to the Lord of Heaven and Earth
Hallelujah, to the Lord of Heaven and Earth

Chorus

Lord of heaven and earth. Lord of heaven and earth.

The River is Here - Andy Park

Vs. 1: Down the mountain the river flows
And it brings refreshing wherever it goes
Through the valleys and over the fields
The river is rushing and the river is here

Chorus: The river of God sets our feet a-dancing
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter
And we rejoice, for the river is here.

Vs. 2: The river of God is teaming with life
And all who touch it can be revived
And those who linger on this river's shore
Will come back thirsting for more of the Lord

Chorus

Vs. 3: Up to the mountain, we love to go
To find the presence of the Lord
Along the banks of the river we run
We dance with laughter, giving praise to the Son

Chorus

Here I am Lord

Vs. 1: I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin, my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Chorus: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

Vs. 2: I, the Lord of snow and rain. I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

Chorus

Vs. 3: I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide, till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Chorus

Not Be Shaken

I will declare my choice to the nations
And I will shout for joy in the congregation,
I will worship God, worship God, all my days.
Those who love the Lord are satisfied,
Those who trust in Him are justified,
And I will serve my God, serve my God, all my days.

When the nations crumble, the word of the Lord will stand.
Kings may rise and fall. His love will endure.
Though the strong my stumble, Oh, the joy of the Lord is strength
To my soul, I will not be shaken, I will not be moved, I will not be shaken.

