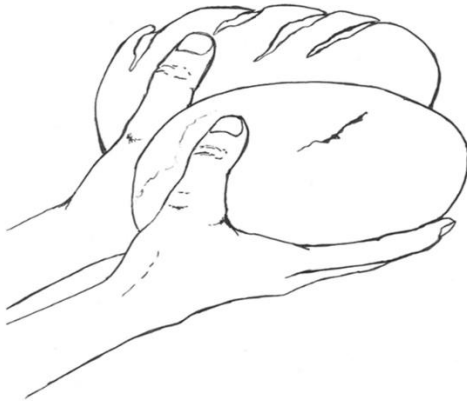


*Welcome to the
Bergthaler Mennonite Church
of Altona*



Sunday, March 6, 2022

Lent 1 "From security to generosity"

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona

Worship Service

March 6, 2022 10:30 A.M.

*Then celebrate all the good things the LORD your God has done for you and your family--each one of you along with the Levites and the immigrants who are among you"
~ Deuteronomy 26:11 CEB*

GATHERING and PRAISE

Welcome and Announcements

Music **Holy, Holy, Holy** HWB 75

Call to Worship and Prayer

Music **Jesus is tempted in the desert** STS 36

Responsive Reading

Prayer of Confession and Assurance

LISTENING

Music **Today earth is singing** VT 510

Children's Story

Scripture **Deuteronomy 26: 1-11; Luke 4: 1-13**

Sermon **"Sharing our first fruits"**

RESPONDING

Music **In lonely mountain ways** VT 589

Prayer for the Offering, the Church, and the World

SENDING

Benediction

Music **Let this mind be in you** VT 572

Sermon: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert **Worship Leader/Scripture:** Melissa Tiessen-Dyck
Music: Choir **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]. 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 at Altona Health Centre. Ed Stoesz at Health Science Centre, Winnipeg.
- ~ **Bernard Wiebe** would like to thank the Bergthaler Church family for the Valentines Day Surprise and all the thoughts and prayers while he was in hospital.
- ~ **Thank you** for the many expressions of thanks and appreciation I have received. It has been my privilege over the past 23½ years to contribute to the mission of this church. Over these years the role has evolved as staff changed, technology advanced, Covid arrived, but through it all I enjoyed the feeling of being a support to this ABC congregation [my wonderful family!]. ~ Susan M Dueck, ABC Admin Asst
- ~ **New Addresses:**
- ~ Lena Hoffman has moved to # 208 Eastview Place
 - ~ Mary Sawatsky has moved to # 102 Gardens On Tenth Apts.
- ~ **Mennonite Church Canada**
- Pray:** Witness workers Werner and Joanne De Jong were granted a three-month visa to finish the semester teaching at Meserete Kristos Seminary in Ethiopia. They are thankful for your prayers and support. They continue to pursue longer-term visa options with the help of their hosts.
- ~ **We wish a happy birthday and God's blessing to:**
- | | |
|------------------|----------|
| Helen Schulz | [Mar 10] |
| Anne Braun | [Mar 11] |
| Alan Harder | [Mar 12] |
| Mary Anne Loepky | [Mar 12] |
| Rose Tryon | [Mar 12] |
| Shirley Toews | [Mar 13] |

WORSHIP CALENDAR

- March 13** - Lent 2 - From fear to compassion ~ Josh
- March 20** - Lent 3 - From earning to receiving ~ Mark
- March 27** - Lent 4 - From estrangement to embrace ~ Mark

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 ways of clinging to security to your ways of generous living.*

From the Pastor: Josh Janzen

With war and violence raging in Ukraine, there are moments when it can just feel overwhelming. One particular struggle that we as Anabaptist Christians must deal with is how we respond to this violence, especially as Ukrainian soldiers and citizens defend themselves against Russian aggression.

As I lament the continued violence, something that has brought me hope are these short videos of non-violent resistance and hospitality displayed by the Ukrainian people that show up on social media. In Melitopol, as a Russian Army convoy tried to navigate through the city, unarmed civilian protestors packed the roads, blocking the convoy from moving. Another video shows a Ukrainian farmer sabotaging the Russian military by using his tractor to literally drive away with a Russian armored vehicle. Elsewhere, a Russian soldier who couldn't be more than 18 or 19 surrendered to some local civilians. He was given some hot tea, a pastry, and one woman let him use her phone so that he could video chat with his mother to let her know that he was alright.

These acts of resistance and compassion are the very embodiment of Christ. Even in the midst of war, we can see so clearly that there can be another answer to violence besides more violence. May we continue to celebrate these courageous acts, pray for Ukraine, and offer our love and support that witnesses to the love of Christ both near and far.

Sr Youth

- **Mar 8 [Tues], 7pm** – Pancakes and Ashes.

Jr Youth

- **Mar 9 [Wed], 7pm** – Pancakes and Ashes.

Ventures – Wednesdays 7:00 – 8:15 pm

- **Girls:** Science fun
- **Boys:** Woodworking part 2

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

- Pastor Virginia will be away on holidays March 7-13
- Pastor Mark will be away for his quarterly weekend off March 11-13
- **We are looking for you!** 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 Memos 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.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mennonite Central Committee – manitoba@mcc.ca

- **Respond to the crisis in Ukraine.** MCC is responding to the crisis in Ukraine through its local partners. Russian military forces have invaded the country with missiles striking major cities and casualties growing. Your prayers and donations will help partners scale up their work, providing relief and trauma healing for vulnerable and displaced people. Donate today at mcccanada.ca/ukraine.

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

- **Mar 24-26** - Sabbath Retreat at Camp Assiniboia with Laura Funk, Spiritual Director-in-Residence at MCM. 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

- **Mar 9, 11am-2pm - 2022 Social Justice Fair** hosted by Menno Simons College. Take the opportunity to interact with community organizations, to learn about important causes and issues, and find ways to be involved! Visit mscollege.ca for more info/register for free.

Mennonite Disaster Service – mdscanada@mds.org

- Make a difference, consider one of our openings. Visit our website: <https://mds.org/employment/>