

*Welcome to the
Bergthaler Mennonite Church
of Altona*



Sunday, November 1, 2020

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

BERGTHALER MENNONITE CHURCH OF ALTONA

November 1, 2020

WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:30 am

Sermon: Mark Tiessen-Dyck

Worship Leader: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert

Music: Flying Free

Children's Story: Amanda Wiens [via video]

Scripture Reader: Sarah Dueck

"The greatest among you will be your servant. For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted"

~ Matthew 23: 11 & 12

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Music **The Lord is King HWB 69**

Call to Worship and Prayer

LISTENING

Moment in Mission Video / The Lord's Prayer

Music **Teach me, O Lord HWB 487**

Blessing & Appreciation for Education Workers

Children's Story

Scripture **Matthew 23: 1-12**

Sermon **"Actions speak louder than words"**

RESPONDING

Music **Will you let me be your servant HWB 307**

Prayer for the Offering, the Church and the World

SENDING

Benediction

Music **Rain down STJ 49**

PRAYER & PRAISE CORNER

- ~ **Hospitalized:** Elizabeth Doell, Waldo Schulz and Anne Kehler at Altona Health Centre.
- ~ **Condolences** to Waldo & Helen Schulz, family and extended family, at the passing away of brother in-law Egon Enns of Winnipeg.
- ~ **This Sunday in our "Moment in Mission"** we hear from Kim and Jamie Arpin-Ricci. They share about their continued work with Little Flowers Community and their new initiatives; Courageous She and Peace & Justice Initiatives. Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HNeb9ytnlwk> and support their ministry here: www.jamiearpinricci.com/support
- ~ **Mennonite Church Canada:** International Witness workers, Tom and Christine Poovong, ask for prayers for peace in Thailand. Protestors and activists have been marching and demanding change in government since July. Pray for the safety of protestors and wisdom of government leaders and the monarchy as they respond to demands.

- **Access to the livestreaming** on Sunday mornings will be available from the Altona Bergthaler Church website [abchurchcommunity.ca]. The live stream will begin at 10:30am.
- **Children's Bulletins** are available in the foyer for ages 3 plus, and 7 plus. The children's story video will be posted to the Church website.

Jr Youth

- **Nov 3, 7-9pm** – Game Night!

Sr Youth

- **Nov 6, 7-9pm** – Movie Night!

Ventures - Wednesdays 7:8:15pm.

- **Girls: Nov 4 [Wed]** – String art craft.

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Worship Services available online at: abchurch.libsyn.com Facebook: ABC community
Lead Pastor: Mark Tiessen-Dyck, 324-5990/cell 1-204-771-3406 marktd@abchurch.ca
Asst Pastor: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert, cell 304-6119 viriniagr@abchurch.ca
Associate Pastor of Youth Ministry: Josh Janzen, 324-6717, 1-402-631-3481 joshj@abchurch.ca
Children's Ministry Coordinator: Amanda Wiens, 324-6719 amandaw@abchurch.ca

From the Pastor: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert

This past weekend I participated in the Mennonite Church Canada Study Conference via Zoom. The topic was "*Table Talk: Does the Church still have legs?*" * I was glad for the opportunity to see and listen to Mennonites from across Canada discuss this topic.

One of the speakers was Sara Wenger Shenk former president of AMBS. Her sessions delved into the identity and character of the church. After asking the question "Why Church?" she answered it with several metaphors. The image that grabbed my attention the most was that of **the church as a river**. The church is needed for the health of the community in the same way that a river is needed for the health of the land. As a river contributes to the nourishment of the ground around it, so should churches contribute to the neighbourhoods around them. This nourishment is not meant to be a by-product of the goal of the church but a foundational characteristic of why we need the church to continue to exist.

Her session left me wondering what would change if we used this image of the river as our guide for how we make decisions and talk about the church?

*All sessions are available on the CommonWord website.

Blessing and Appreciation for Education Volunteers

Isaiah 51:1 "*Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness and who seek the LORD: Look to the rock from which you were cut and to the quarry from which you were hewn.*"

God of Creation, you have gifted these individuals with creativity and curiosity. We pray that you would fill them with the power and compassion of your Holy Spirit. Fill them with energy and insight into your Word, the story of Your faithful heart.

God of hope, guide each person as they study your Word and guide our children. Strengthen the gifts you have given them, and energize their compassion, remind us to find ways to support and encourage them throughout the year. May we share in their joy and times of difficulty.

We commit ourselves, each to our part, in this joyful task. May your steadfast, faithful, covenant love guide all we do. Amen.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Thank you** to Imy Rempel for the lovely fall visual display.
- **Coffee Time** - You are welcome to join the staff for coffee in the church library at 10am on Tuesdays.
- **Do you** have a desire to bless the ABC youth with snacks for Youth Group? Contact Josh to sign up! joshj@abchurch.ca or 204-324-6717.
- **Personnel Commission** is accepting applications for the part-time position of **church custodian**. Please e-mail Andrew Rempel at andrewmrempel@gmail.com for more information by Nov 1, 2020.
- **Thank you** to everyone who donated to help cover the cost of Mona's mom's surgery in Syria. So far you have donated \$500! I will be in the foyer after the service again this Sunday and hope to raise another \$500. I know there is no shortage of places to donate your money to and am so grateful for your generosity towards this cause. ~ Stephanie Friesen
- **Nov 4, 4-6:30pm – Fundraising Soup & Dessert 'drive-thru'** at the Altona Bergthaler Church. **By donation** – make cheques payable to Altona Bergthaler Church with 'Soup & Dessert' in the memo line.
- **Nov 10, 10am** - We wish to have a time to say **farewell** to Ida Mittelstet, our church caretaker, who is retiring this month after 13 years of serving our church. Please wear a mask. More details to follow.
- **Nov 23, 7pm – ABC Fall Meeting.**

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mennonite Church Canada** – office@mennochurch.ca 888-6781
Mennonite Church Manitoba – mennochurch.mb.ca 204-896-1616
- **Domestic Violence** Awareness Month Webinar Series presented by MCC Manitoba. Learn more on their website at [this link](#).
- Mennonite Disaster Service**
- MDS is now accepting volunteers for fall/winter projects.
- Mennonite Central Committee Manitoba** – manitoba@mccmb.ca
- **Share** the message "to remember is to work for peace" by wearing a Remembrance Day MCC peace pin. To order, call 204-261-6381 or email EmilyAnnDoerksen@mccmb.ca. Visit mccmb.ca/Peace-Buttons.
 - **Nov 21, 7pm** - Join us for a virtual MCC Centennial Celebration, featuring storytelling, music, & prayer. Visit mccmb.ca/Events to register.
 - **Christmas** Giving guides, gift inserts and greeting cards are available by pre-order only. Request copies to be mailed to you or arrange a safe pick-up - 204-261-6381 or manitoba@mccmb.ca.
- Canadian Mennonite University** – cmu.ca
- **Nov 4, 6-7pm - CMU Wednesday Webinar 'Why CMU?'** will highlight the uniqueness of CMU as a university option. Info and to register at www.cmu.ca/webinar.

Today we give thanks for the people who are such a vital part of our Children's and Youth Ministries.

We pray for and encourage our **Sunday School teachers** who share important lessons with our kids each week:

Cheryl Harder	Amanda Wiens
Lorraine Hamm	Stephanie Rempel
Heidi Toews	Byron Loepky
Jennifer Klassen	

We are thankful for our **Girls Ventures leaders** who use their energy to connect with girls of this church and this community:

Stephanie Rempel	Amber Thiessen
Jolene Friesen Stoesz	Amanda Wiens
Crystal Harder	

We are grateful to have a **Pastor and a group of parent volunteers** who are ready to guide and nurture the faith of Altona's youth:

Josh Janzen (Pastor)	Jennifer Klassen (Sr Youth)
Trevor-Friesen Stoesz (Jr Youth)	Jason & Tammy Driedger (Sr Youth)
Cheryl Harder (Jr Youth)	
Rachel Wahl (Jr & Sr Youth)	
Andrew Rempel (Jr & Sr Youth)	

May we continually pray for, encourage, and support these people this coming year.

