

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona

WORSHIP SERVICE ~ Baptism

February 14, 2021

*Welcome to the
Bergthaler Mennonite Church
of Altona*



Sunday, February 14, 2021

Worship Service

“There is one body and one Spirit - just as you were called to one hope when you were called - one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of us all, who is over all and through all and in all.” ~ Ephesians 4: 4-6

GATHERING and PRAISE

Music

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship and Prayer

Hymn

Water has held us

HEARING GOD'S STORY

Children's Story

Testimonies of Mentors

Testimonies of Kelsey and Seth

Music

Chain Breaker

Prayer for the Church, the World, and the Offering

Scripture

Ephesians 4: 1-6

Sermon

“Location, Improvisation, Captivation”

Music

Rise Up

ENTERING GOD'S STORY

Kelsey and Seth Affirm their Faith

Baptism

Prayer in the Waters

Rising to New Life

LIVING GOD'S STORY

Hymn

Heart with loving heart

Benediction

Postlude

Sermon: Mark Tiessen-Dyck

Worship Leader/Children's Story: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert

Music: Harve Hildebrandt, Pete Letkeman, Sheila Friesen

Recorded Artists: Assembly Mennonite, Zach Williams, Andra Day,
Quarantine Virtual Hymn Sing

PRAYER & PRAISE CORNER

- ~ **Hospitalized:** Elizabeth Doell, Helen Schulz, and Waldo Schulz at Altona Health Centre, Anne Kehler at Notre Dame de Lourdes Hospital, Henry & Helen Thiessen in Morris Hospital.
- ~ **Mennonite Church Canada**
Pray for the fellowship of Lao migrant workers near Bangkok and their leadership as they form a community of faith that focuses on discipleship and leadership training. Pray that Witness worker, Tom Poovong, will have wisdom and strength to support this group as together they serve God in their local and home communities.

WORSHIP CALENDAR

Lent 2021 - Deep calls to Deep—God is calling us to go deeper.

In preparation for this we invite you to *gather six items [stones, buttons, seashells or other objects]*, for each person in your household. These objects will represent our prayers for the season. You are welcome to place them in a bowl or glass so they are easily accessible as you join in with worship from home.

- Feb 21 - Lent 1 Called to deep Relationship
- Feb 28 - Lent 2 Called to deep Commitment
- Mar 7 - Lent 3 Called to deep Wisdom
- Mar 14 - Lent 4 Called to deep Healing
- Mar 21 - Lent 5 Called to deep Growth
- Mar 28 - Lent 6 Called to deep Hope
- Apr 2 - Good Friday
- Apr 4 - Easter - Called to deep Living

Jr & Sr Youth

- Feb 17 [Wed] - Ash Wednesday kits, see email for details.

Amplifying Jesus: Sunday night worship....is a 6-week series of Lent Worship Services for MCM Youth, starting Feb 21 8:00 pm. Hosted by Kathy Giesbrecht these half hour services will include: special guests sharing about Jesus, songs led by Mackenzie Hildebrand, art and prayer. We are hoping to create a space for spiritual encouragement and connection. Contact Kgiesbrecht@mennochurch.mb.ca for Zoom Link.

FROM the PASTOR: Mark Tiessen-Dyck

Over the last few weeks, I have been praying through the church directory. I take a few minutes to pray for each person by name, thanking God for each of you and entrusting to God any matters I may be aware of about your life or situation. This has been a wonderful exercise for me to feel closer to you while we are distant in other ways. In these times of prayer, both wonderful experiences and difficult realities have returned to my consciousness, and this has been important as a pastor.

While there are negatives to working from home, as pastors we felt it prudent to do this for the health and safety of the congregation, our community, and ourselves as pastors. We certainly did not want to be in a situation where all the church staff were required to quarantine and thus not available in crisis situations. Nor do we wish to see negative impacts upon our ministry that could occur if we were infected and had long term symptoms. I anticipate returning to regular office hours in the not-too-distant future. Even though I have been primarily working from home, my labours and spirit remain deeply invested in our congregation, its health, and its future. The pastors may have left the building, but we haven't left the church! It was concerning (but helpful) to receive feedback that there exists a perception that we are unreachable because we are working from home, or that calling us at home would be interrupting something. I understand that this requires an adjustment since we are accustomed to reaching pastors at the church office. But let me be clear: we are available and want to hear from you. I encourage you to call, email, or text Virginia Josh and myself. For day to day matters of the church, calling during our daily working hours is great. For an urgent matter or crisis, you may call us anytime day or night and we will do everything we can to respond as soon as we are able. We don't always answer the phone because we are in meetings or require uninterrupted focused time, but we return messages promptly. We are also interested in having outdoor conversations in driveways or visits by walking, and the cold does not deter us!

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Berghaler 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: abchurch.libsyn.com Facebook: ABC community
Lead Pastor: Mark Tiessen-Dyck, 324-5990 cell 1-204-771-3406 markt@abchurch.ca
Assoc Pastor: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert, cell 304-6119 viriniagr@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

- **Our worship service** will be available on the church website Sunday morning [abchurchcommunity.ca] at 10:30 a.m.
- **Feb 21, 1pm – ABC Annual General Meeting via ZOOM.** The link is in the Report book - under the Agenda. Paper/hard copies of the book are available by calling Susan at the Church Office.
- **Mar 6 - Mennonite Church Manitoba Annual Gathering 2021** - online. If you are interested in being a delegate on behalf of ABC at the MCM Gathering 2021, please call the Church Office 324-6717, by Feb 12.
- **CD's to borrow** –The church now owns CD's of songs from the *Sing the Journey* and *Sing the Story* hymnal supplements as well as from the new hymnal *Voices Together*. We also have a few copies of the new hymnal at church. If you would like to borrow any of these please be in touch with Susan at the church office.
- **Tuesday morning coffee** – join us at 10am via ZOOM.
- **Personnel** Commission has reviewed the current Covid restrictions and continues to affirm the pastoral staff to work from home during critical code red. You are welcome to be in touch by phone or email. While the pastor's hours vary slightly, they are **8:30am - 4:30pm Tuesday-Friday**. Susan will be in the office so you are also welcome to call the church. Susan's hours are **9-12 and 1-3 Tuesday-Friday**. The facility will be closed to visitors during the code red period. To contact the staff at their home please use the following phone numbers. You are welcome to call during office hours or anytime needed during an emergency.
Mark - 1.204.771.3406
Virginia - 204.304.6119
Josh - 1.402.631.3481 or 1.204.502.1991
Amanda - 204.324.6719

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

- **Mar 6, 9am-12 noon online - Come learn about your regional and nationwide ministries at the 2021 Mennonite Church Manitoba Annual Gathering.** Delegates should register through their church office. Non-delegates are most welcome, but we're asking you to register on the MCM website or by calling the MCM Office. 204-896-1616 mennochurch.mb.ca .
- **Camps with Meaning** Summer Staff applications are on the CwM website. Visit www.campswithmeaning.org and follow the Summer links.

Mennonite Central Committee Manitoba – manitoba@mccmb.ca

- **Happy Valentine's Day!** Show a loved one you are thinking of them by sponsoring a comforter in their name and sending a valentine card. Every donation will go towards the cost of making a cozy comforter for vulnerable people around the world. mccmb.ca/GreatWinterWarmup.
- **For MCC, peace** is what we do. Peace means something different to

each person. Help us answer the question "What is peace?" by sharing what peace means to you – it can be an idea, a poem, a memory or just a few words. We're collecting submissions for a creative art piece. You can contribute at mccmb.ca/what-is-peace.

- **Kairos**, [MCC partner org.] is hosting regional online gatherings to discuss Indigenous perspectives of land, youth and Residential School legacy in Feb & Mar. Visit kairosCanada.org/events/indigenous-connection-to-the-land.

Mennonite Disaster Service - ecomunications@mds.mennonite.net

- **Behind the Hammer** is now available in a digital version. It offers additional content not available in the print version. Access the digital version on your phone, tablet, or laptop. Subscribe to upcoming issues here: <https://mds.mennonite.net/e-mail-and-newsletters/>

Mennonite Collegiate Institute – mciblues.net

- **Considering MCI for the 2021-22 school year?** New students who apply by March 15th will share in \$25,000 of available tuition support. One lucky applicant will also receive their first year of tuition FREE! Visit: www.mciblues.net/admissions/new-student-incentive/ or contact our Student Recruitment Associate, Sophie Gerbrandt, at sophiegerbrandt@mciblues.net

Canadian Mennonite University – cmu.ca

- **Feb 24, 7-8:30pm - Face2Face | Who Cares? The elderly among us...** A global pandemic is shining a light on our assumptions about the elderly among us. COVID-19 has exposed cracks in our systems of care, and shed light on our understandings of aging, revealing how we value older adults in our communities. How might we listen anew to the voice and resilience of older adults, and how could such listening reshape our imagination and understanding? Join us on Zoom for a conversation with a Personal Care Home Exec., and seniors, including an Indigenous Elder.
- **Feb 17, 4pm - Wednesday Webinar:** next one is *Year One: Exploring Your Options*. Many students feel pressure to know exactly what they want to study in university. CMU's Year One option offers essential opportunities to build a broad base, expand interests, discover academic passions, and develop important transferable skills. This webinar will also provide info on degree major requirements. See www.cmu.ca/webinar.
- **CMU's Xplore 55+** Enrichment program offers courses exploring dimensions of the Christian faith, our world, and life in it – all without assignments or exams! Eight online courses are offered on Wednesday mornings from March 3 – April 7 and include a rich array of options in Christian worship, biblical spirituality, Christian faith and Indigenous spirituality, the Book of Revelation, Old Testament Prophets, the power of music (from Bach to the Beatles), Abrahamic faiths in dialogue, and the witness of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Go to www.cmu.ca/xplore for information and to register.

BAPTISM February 14, 2021



Kelsey is the daughter of Jason and Tammy Driedger. She is in Gr 12 at W.C Miller here in Altona. At university she hopes to study nursing in order to be an extension of God's love and grace in the world. Kelsey is a long time camp volunteer.



Seth is the son of Clint and Jen Klassen and is currently in Gr 9 at MCI in Gretna. He loves the outdoors and often finds God outside in nature whether it's hunting, fishing, or farming. Seth sees himself participating in God's work in the world through farming.

As Seth and Kelsey are baptized, we will be invited to respond with these words. The words will be shared on the live-stream of the service, but they are included here so that we may reflect in advance on our commitments to be the church with Kelsey and Seth.

**Kelsey and Seth, as Christ has received you in baptism,
We receive you into the fellowship of the church.**

We pledge

To bear each other's burdens

To assist in times of need

To share our gifts and possessions

To forgive as Christ has forgiven us

To support each other in joy and sorrow

And to seek first the Kingdom of God.

As you covenant with God, we renew our covenant with God.

May the Holy Spirit make us one body,

In service to Christ our Lord

Amen