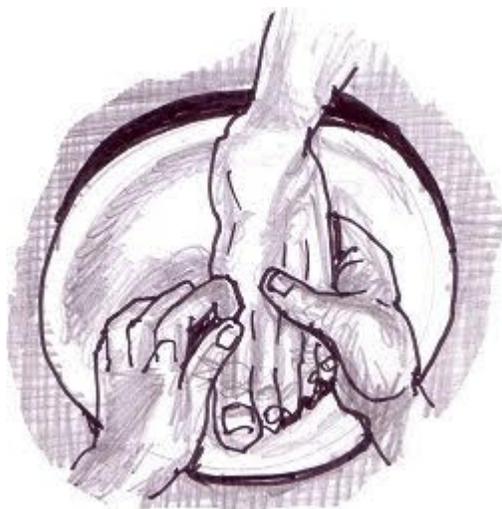


*Welcome to the
Bergthaler Mennonite Church
of Altona*



Sunday, September 6, 2020

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

BERGTHALER MENNONITE CHURCH OF ALTONA

September 6, 2020

WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:30 am

Sermon: Mark Tiessen-Dyck

Worship Leader: Melvin Klassen

Music: Recorded Artists – Steve Bell, Camps with Meaning, Hour of Power Choir,
Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship

“Jesus called them together and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ...”

~ Mark 10: 42-43

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Music Blessed Assurance

Call to Worship and Prayer

Music Be thou my vision

LISTENING

Moment in Mission Video

Scripture Reading **Mark 10: 35-45**

Sermon **“Not so with you”**

RESPONDING

Music Peace Prayer

Prayer for the Offering, the Church and the World

SENDING

Benediction

Music Follow, follow Jesus

PRAYER & PRAISE CORNER

- ~ **Hospitalized:** Mary Voth, Sadie [Willie] Funk, Waldo Schulz, and Anne Kehler and Marge Schellenberg at Altona Health Centre.
- ~ **Pastor Virginia** is taking this weekend off. She will return to the office on September 8.
- ~ **This Sunday our "Moment in Mission"** video is from Abundance Canada, formerly known as Mennonite Foundation. At Abundance Canada we believe that generosity changes everything. Listen to Abundance Canada client Hugo share his generosity journey. Watch the video at <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=-F0j6-quopg> Please include the work and ministry of Abundance Canada in your prayers.
- ~ **Mennonite Church Canada:**
Praise God for the more than 150 surgeries performed by doctors within the Mennonite Church of Congo, in July. This was the second team to respond to an area that has seen increasing child deaths. The first team response in February treated 2,200 people with prevalent health problems such as malaria, diarrhea, acute respiratory infections, typhoid fever, flu and diabetes. [Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission \(AIMM\)](#) is supplying funding for surgical supplies and a minimal stipend for the medical workers.

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.

Our church website abchurchcommunity.ca now includes a link called **Recordings & Bulletin Library**. This library includes all of our 2020 Worship Service recordings, the bulletin for each week, and the Children's Teaching that began this spring. Please note that this library will replace our weekly posting of the audio recording to Libsyn. Please also note that we plan to discontinue access to Libsyn at the end of September 2020. Please contact the church if you need assistance locating this new way of accessing the recording and bulletin library. Children's teaching will be posted to abchurchcommunity.ca. This week's teacher is Jolene Friesen-Stoesz.

[Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona](#) 117 2ND Street NW Altona, MB R0G 0B1
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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 – Mark Tiessen-Dyck

Today I will preach about racism. My sermon is not ultimately about racism – it is about following Jesus – and yet Jesus compels me to repent of racism and address it in this sermon. I chose to preach about James and John and their request to sit at Jesus' right and left hand as part of our series on the disciples of Jesus. Jesus responds by telling his disciples that even though the way of the world is to lord it over, it shall not be so among you.

As I studied and reflected on this teaching of Jesus, I believe it is a powerful word to the sin of racism and a call to repent, choose the way of Jesus, and seek His Kingdom. Racism is one way that we lord it over.

It has been a rewarding and challenging experience to participate in a book study with people from our church who are exploring how we can work to overcome racism. Some of what I share is learning from these discussions. In these conversations we have often reminded ourselves that when our instinct is to be defensive and say, "we're not racist" this is not helpful. Denial is part of the problem. The Jesus way is to acknowledge our complicity and thus we can begin to be part of the solution. Though undoubtedly a challenge, my hope is that this sermon will be an invitation to take another step toward healing from our human inclination to lord it over.

A note from the Covid Task Force: wearing masks as we prepare to welcome children back to Sunday School.

Our church is preparing to begin Sunday School before the end of September. In keeping with the precautions of schools and other community places, we are asking children to wear masks when they come to Sunday School. Because we are asking this of children, we are asking this of adults as well. **Beginning on our homecoming Sunday, September 13, we are asking everyone who comes to worship, could you please wear a mask** prior to entering the building until seated in a pew. It is okay to take off your mask once seated, but we ask that you wear your mask again when leaving your pew and visiting indoors, until you have exited the building. As we anticipate larger Sunday morning gatherings, increased activity in our building, and the challenge of physically distancing, this is a way to honour each other, create a safer environment, and demonstrate our love for the children of our church community. Individuals who live with conditions making it difficult to wear a mask are not asked to wear one.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Homecoming Picnic Lunch - Sept 13

You are invited to an outdoor [weather permitting] picnic lunch on Sunday, Sept 13 following the worship service. Please bring your own picnic lunch (including drinks) for your family, as well as chairs or a blanket to sit on outside. The church will provide dessert. There will also be some games for the children after lunch.

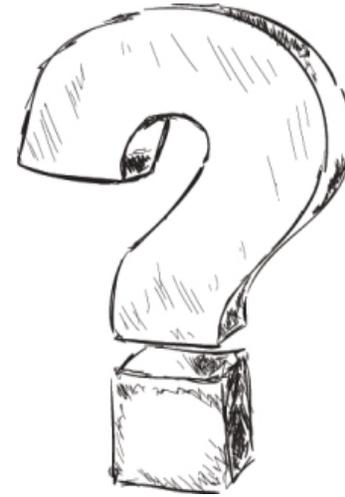
- **As the weather turns cooler**, we are temporarily suspending Tuesday morning 'Coffee Time'. As staff, we look forward to welcoming you back in the not too distant future.
- **Sept 21 – Koinonia Ladies Group** starts their year...new members are welcome. Interested in joining? Call Erna Doell 324-8133 for details.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Sept 10, 3-7pm** - Blood Donor Clinic at Altona Rhineland Pioneer Centre, Main Floor Hall 227 10th Ave NW. Please call 1-888-236-6238 for your appointment - NO WALK INS please.
 - **Sept 12** - Eden Foundation's *Head for the Hills 2020* - join us again this year. For more information and to register click [HERE](#).
 - **Sept 19 - Visit the Villages Tractor Trek.**
- Mennonite Church Manitoba** – mennochurch.mb.ca 896-1616
Mennonite Church Canada – office@mennochurch.ca 888-6781
- **Sept 6** – Join the concluding MC Canada online worship service from Morden Mennonite Church. All the services since March 22, when this began are available on the Mennonite Church Canada webpage: <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/worshipservices> .
 - **Oct 24, MC Canada Study Conference.** Join us as we gather virtually for "Table Talk: Does the Church still have Legs?", a study on the nature and identity of the church and the role of worship. Registration: www.mennonitechurch.ca/tabletalk2020

Mennonite Central Committee Manitoba – Manitoba@mccmb.ca

- **Thank you** to all of those who donated to the Lebanon Crisis. As of Aug 24, MCC across Canada has raised over \$250,000 to be matched by the Canadian government. Relief efforts will focus on emergency food and hygiene supplies. Donations can still be made at donate.mcccanada.ca/cause/lebanon-crisis.
- **Oct 22, 9am-4pm** -Join us for a Pastoral Care and Domestic Abuse workshop in Morden. \$40 registration includes lunch. Limited capacity - register by Oct 16. For more info or to register visit mccmb.ca/Events.
- **GO! 100** is coming to a close, however, there is still time to support a participant. From biking to eating ice cream sandwiches to sharing time with grandparents, our challengers have been busy this summer. Visit mccmb.ca/GO-100 and click "Donate to a participant" to support.



HOPEFUL ANSWERS TO HARD QUESTIONS

Sept 13: What will Covid mean for the Church?

Sept 20: How do we respond when a loved one chooses a different path?

Sept 27: Does God ever change?

Oct 4: Is Church irrelevant? Do we need it to be Christian?

Oct 11: How can we be grateful when prayers are not answered?

Oct 18: How can we share our faith?

Oct 25: How do we integrate science with our faith? (and what if extraterrestrial life was discovered!?)

A sermon series at Altona Bergthaler Mennonite Church
Services are Sunday at 10:30am. In person (with Covid precautions) and available live streamed and recorded at abchurchcommunity.ca

