

BERGTHALER MENNONITE CHURCH of ALTONA

Sunday, June 9, 2024 10:30 am

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Creative Colouring: as a part of our worship everyone is invited to contribute to one of three posters that spell the word JOY. There will be three stations set up with a poster and markers. You are welcome to colour the shapes on the poster or add your own to symbolize what brings you joy.

Gathering

Welcome

Song Here I Am To Worship

Call to Worship and Prayer

Song Build Your Kingdom Here

Blessings

Prayer for Offering

Offering and Song Blessed Be Your Name

Time with our children

Grade 3 Bible presentation

Sharing

Scripture 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

Sharing about Joy Noah Ginter and Tina Heppner

Meditation Always Joy

Song My Lighthouse

Prayer for the Church and the World

Sending

Benediction and Prayer for the meal

Song Not Be Shaken

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Sermon: Mark Tiessen-Dyck **Music:** ABC Youth

Worship Leading: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert

Children's Story: Andrew and Stephanie Rempel

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona

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Assoc. Pastor: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert, C 304.6119 viriniagr@abchurch.ca

Associate Pastor of Youth Ministries: Terrell Wiebe, 204.216.0058,

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FROM THE PASTOR: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert

This Sunday as a part of the worship service we will be giving Bibles to the grade 3's. This has become an important tradition in our church, to give Bibles to children once they are at an age when they are usually able to read the stories on their own. I fondly remember receiving my first Bible at about that age. I still have it and it has many papers and notes in it from my younger years.

But as I got older, I wanted a hard cover Bible, and I used that one for my studies for many years. Then I got what was called a "purse Bible" because it was cute and small and could be easily taken places, in a purse. More recently I have been reading my Bible on an app on my phone, it is very convenient because I always have it with me.

All of these Bibles have served me well over the years and many others as well. I don't think I could say any one is better than another because all of them in their own ways drew me into the scriptures and closer to God.

As I give the children their Bible's this Sunday, I invite you to think about the Bibles that you have used in your life time, have you used the same one, or has it changed, why did it change, and how has that change helped you engage with your faith and with God?

Our Bibles are full of sacred words and important stories to help us learn and grow in our faith and relationship with God.

Next week we start a sermon series on the biblical prophets called, "God's Spokespeople". In this series we'll be exploring the message of the prophets in their contexts and seek a prophetic imagination for our present time.

June 16. Micaiah son of Imlah and the role of prophets. Speaker: Virginia

June 23: Amos and the call to justice. Speaker: Mark

June 30: Hosea and the call to fidelity: Speaker: Mark

July 7: Babylon and the announcement of judgement: Speaker: Terrell

July 14: Second Isaiah and the announcement of comfort: Speaker: Virginia

July 21: Prophets after exile. Speaker: Mark

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER AND PRAISE:

We wish a happy birthday and God's blessing to:

Virginia Gerbrandt Richert – June 9, Herman Kuhl- June 10,
Larry Rempel- June 12, Mike Friesen- June 13, Al Friesen- June 13,
Albert Falk- June 14, Val Sawatzky- June 15

Hospitalized: Clara Kehler and Jake Sawatzky are at the Altona Health Centre.

International Witness: The three Mennonite denominations in the Congo and Africa Inter Mennonite Mission (AIMM), with support from Mennonite Church Canada, are embarking on a project to assist and accompany congregations to reinforce local and sustainable support for pastors. The project will provide start-up funds and training in entrepreneurial and management fundamentals for bi-vocational pastors. Pray for the leaders and trainers in this project. You can participate with your gifts here: <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/AIMM>

THIS WEEK AT ABC:

Sun. June 9, 10:30: Church picnic. Sunday school is done for the year.

Tue. June 11, 10:30 am: Coffee with the church staff.

Thur. June 13, 7 pm: Personnel committee meeting

Adult Sunday school is finished for the year. We will resume our study of Luke in September.

Save the Date: September 28-29. ABC retreat at Camp Assiniboia.

You may recall how Church Council recently invited those who sit in the rows at the back of the sanctuary, for a discussion regarding the use of that area of the sanctuary. This was in response to a suggestion from congregation members who requested the creation of a small space on the main floor where young families could choose to worship, as opposed to feeling isolated upstairs in the nursery. (The conversation did not relate to where people chose to sit). Thank you for your observations, and suggestions. Thanks also to those who were unable to attend in person and have followed up with a telephone conversation. We are actively working on implementing that suggestion and hope to have something in place by summer. Our goal, as always, is to make our sanctuary (and worship service) as accessible and welcoming as possible. Thanks for doing your part in making that

happen. Please feel free to reach out if you have further suggestions or questions. - Al Friesen on behalf of Church Council

In the next few months we will be printing a new contact list for the church. If your address, phone, email has changed please let Ang in the office know by *June 14*. We also encourage people to let the church office know your cell phone number if it is not already included in the last contact list (one reason for this is that it is helpful for the pastors to get in touch with you if you or a loved one is in the hospital for example).

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Many of the community announcements have posters in the lobby for more extensive information.

Altona Musical Theatre Company is having auditions for their first production "South Pacific" June 17 and 18 at 6:30 at Altona Mennonite Church. Contact Mary Costen at 431.733.4122 or gmccosten@gmail.com.

MCC: Do you know an 18- to 20-year-old seeking to grow in their faith and personal development? Encourage them to join Seek – a transformative six-month discipleship program designed to deepen their understanding of what it means to be an Anabaptist follower of Jesus in a complicated world. The next Seek cohort will be travelling to Cambodia in January 2025. [Apply online](#) today! mcc.org/seek.

Mennonite Church Canada: Secret Treaty Tour and Book Launch - June 29. Sharing stories of the West Reserve before Mennonite Settlement and first encounters between Ojibway and latecomers. How do we forge a different way of sharing this land? Neuberghthal Commons. Info and registration at www.mennochurch.mb.ca/mcic.

Mennonite Church Manitoba weekly congregational profile: First Mennonite Church has historically been a hub for many Mennonites coming to Winnipeg, especially during the waves of immigration between the 1920s and 1950s. Having passed the years of growth and institutional development that immigration brought, they approach their 100th anniversary settling into their smaller size and nurturing new and enduring values. Their worship format is relatively traditional with a choir serving every other week and various groups and individuals providing special music on alternating weeks. They are increasingly making their facility available to the community as they learn from and support both Mennonite and non-Mennonite organizations and activities. Preaching and education also form cornerstones for how they engage their Christian formation. Pray for them as they continue a time of ministerial transition.

HERE I AM TO WORSHIP VT 227

Vs 1

Light of the world, you stepped down into darkness,
opened my eyes, let me see.
Beauty that made this heart adore you,
hope of a life spent with You.

Chorus:

Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
here I am to say that you're my God.
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
altogether wonderful to me.

Vs. 2

King of all days, oh, so highly exalted,
glorious in heaven above.
Humbly you came to the earth you created,
all for love's sake became poor.

Chorus

Bridge:

I'll never know how much it cost, to see my sin upon that cross

Chorus



BUILD YOUR KINGDOM HERE VT 393

(Vs. 1)

Come set your rule and reign in our hearts again.
Increase in us we pray. Unveil why we're made.
Come set our heart ablaze with hope, like wildfire in our very souls;
Holy Spirit, come, invade us now.
We ae your church; we need your pow'r in us.

[Vs. 2)

We seek Your kingdom first. We hunger and we thirst;
Refuse to waste our lives, for you're our joy and prize.
To see the captive hearts released, the hurt, the sick, the poor at peace,
we lay down our lives for Heaven's cause.
We are your Church; we pray, revive this earth

Chorus:

Build Your kingdom here. Let the evil fear.
Show Your mighty hand. Heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire. Win the people back.
Change the atmosphere. Build Your kingdom here, we pray.

Vs. 3

Unleash your kingdom's pow'r, reaching the near and the far.
No force of hell can stop your beauty, changing hearts.
You made us for much more than this; awake the kingdom seed in us.
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ.
We are your church; we are the hope on earth.

Chorus



MY LIGHTHOUSE VT 597

Vs. 1

In my wrestling and in my doubts. In my failures you won't walk out.
Your great love will lead me through. You are the peace in my troubled sea.
(Whoa, oh) You are the peace in my troubled sea.

Vs. 2

In the silence, you won't let go. In the questions, your truth will hold.
Your great love will lead me through: You are the peace in my troubled sea.
(Whoa, oh) You are the peace in my troubled sea.

Chorus:

My lighthouse, my lighthouse. Shining in the darkness. I will follow you!
Oh! My lighthouse, my lighthouse! I will trust the promise.
You will carry me safe to shore, safe to shore, safe to shore, safe to shore.

Vs. 3

I won't fear what tomorrow brings. With each morning I'll rise and sing.
My God's love will lead me through: You are the peace in my troubled sea.
(Whoa, oh) You are the peace in my troubled sea.

Chorus:

Bridge:

Fire before us, You're the brightest. You will lead us through the storms

NOT BE SHAKEN

I will declare my choice to the nations
I will shout for joy to 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
I will serve my God, serve my God, all my days

Chorus:

When the nations crumble,
the word of the Lord will stand.
Kings may rise and fall.
His love will endure
Though the strong may stumble.
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

BLESSED BE YOUR NAME VT 637

(Vs. 1)

Blessed be your name, in the land that is plentiful,
where your streams of abundance flow. Blessed be your name
Blessed be your name when I'm found in the dessert place,
though I walk through the wilderness. Blessed be your name.

Chorus:

Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise.
When the storm clouds gather in, Lord, still I will say.
Blessed be the name of the Lord. Blessed be your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord. Blessed be your glorious name

(Vs. 2)

Blessed be your name, when the sun's shining down on me,
when the world's all as it should be. Blessed be your name.
Blessed be your name on the road marked with suffering.
Though there's pain in the offering. Blessed be your name.

Chorus

Bridge

You give and take away, you give and take away.
My heart will choose to say, "Lord blessed be your name".

Chorus

