

***A place to belong and grow in faith***

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**March 24, 2024**

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59 March 24, 2024 10:00 Service No. 12

**Palm Sunday**

**Gathering**

Prelude

Welcome Herb Sawatzky

Call to Worship

Songs – “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

“Praise Is Rising”

Prayer of Confession

**Life Together**

Announcements

Ministry time

Pastoral Prayer

Song – “Christ Is King”

**Hearing the Word**

Scripture – Mark 11:1-11, Philippians 2:5-11 Kathryn Walker

Children’s Video

Message – **The Way of a Servant** Herb Sawatzky

**Responding**

Song – “My Soul Cries Out”

Offering Prayer

**Going**

Song – “All Hail the Power of Jesus Name”

Benediction

Musicians – Kenton & Sheryl Janzen & Friends

**Welcome here!**

We’re glad you came! Your being here is a sign of God’s love for the world and encourages other Christians. We hope our worship together helps you find

***A place to belong and grow in faith***.

**Praise and Concerns**

***Prayers:***

* Steve Goertz recovering from hip surgery
* Irene Schellenberg recovering from knee surgery
* Dora Fisch-Willms at Garden City Manor
* Our sister church in Pereira, Colombia
* We pray for the family of **Lydia Kerber** who passed away Sunday, March 17th afternoon and who’s funeral service was yesterday.
* Pray for the **family of Gary Harder**, retired MCEC minister and brother in law to Vic Neufeld, who died earlier this week on Monday, March 18. [Read Gary's full obituary](https://erbgood.com/tribute/details/16989/Gerhard-Harder/obituary.html#tribute-start).

Our best wishes to **Ted Wiens** who is still celebrating his 80th birthday which was on Wednesday, March 20th! May God bless you with health and happiness. *Please join us in the gym following the service for cake and coffee.*

Thank you for the cards of sympathy and expressions of condolences on the loss of Sue’s sister, **Shirley Vaccaro.** Helmut & Sue Weier

**Bethany Announcements**

**Spiritual Formation Opportunities Today:**

* 10:00 Worship Service
* 11:10 Adult Sunday School in library - help chose the Spring & Summer worship service themes

**Quilting** - This Tuesday, March 26th will be our last time to quilt together. Thanks to all the dedicated quilters that have participated this past winter.

**Pleasant Manor Communion Service** for those who attend Bethany Mennonite Church and friends, will take place Wednesday, March 27, at 1pm in the Chapel.

**Prayer Breakfast** - Our Prayer Breakfast is planned for Thursday, March 28th at 7am at Bethany. Invite friends and neighbours.

**EASTER WORSHIP SERVICES AT BETHANY**

***Christ among Us!***

**Good Friday**, March 29 at 10:00 a.m., with communion

**Easter Sunday**, March 31

Handbell Prelude 8:45 a.m.

Service at 9 a.m.

After the service: **Paska Breakfast**

**EASTER SUNDAY BREAKFAST** – We are hosting breakfast after our Easter Sunday morning service on March 31st. Please bring your contributions of Paska, raisin bread, or any other breakfast food. We would appreciate your pre-sliced Paska and other food items brought to the kitchen before the service on Easter Sunday. If you’d like to help with set up Good Friday after the morning worship service or clean up after breakfast, please join us in the kitchen.

Please read the latest letter from our friends in the **Pereira Church** on the bulletin board in the foyer**.**

We hope to print our **2024 Directory** soon. Please send in any changes to your contact information to the office.

**THE UPPER ROOM** is a daily devotional guide for $11/year. Samples are available on the narthex shelf; please help yourself. If you would like to sign up, please contact the office.

**Local Food Bank Drive:** Area food banks inform us that donations are down 30% this year while need is up 20%! Your continued support for our food drive to local food banks is much appreciated. Please drop off your donations in the food bin at the front door. Foods and snacks for breakfasts and school lunches are especially appreciated.

**Our Donations Touching Lives**

**You can make your offering to Bethany by:**

• **E-transfer** to office@bethanymennonite.ca

• **Mail** to church at Box 249, Virgil, ON L0S 1T0

• **Drop in the mailbox**  beside the front door on Wednesdays or Thursdays 8:30-3:30 and let Marianne know.

• **Canada Helps** button on [www.bethanymennonite.ca](file:///I:\Bulletins\www.bethanymennonite.ca). CanadaHelps charges 3.75% of the donation, but you will be receipted for full amount.

***Prayers:***

***Mennonite Church Eastern Canada***

* Please pray for **Goshen Mennonite Church**in Ottawa, ON. Pastor François Machichi provides pastoral care for this congregation. Please pray for them as they minister, predominantly in Swahili, and provide a safe and familiar place to newcomers in Canada.
* Pray for the **INNOVATE** **team** as INNOVATE ministry draws to a close. Pray for the many lives and congregations who have been a part of the **ReLearning Community/INNOVATE** missional discipleship initiative. May God be praised for the lives changed, congregations strengthened and neighbourhoods transformed.
* Continue to pray for Myanmar, Ukraine, Gaza and throughout a world that cries for peace. Pray for those who are displaced, those who search for family members, those who make decisions and those who attempt to provide aid. Lord, hear our prayers.

***Mennonite Central Committee***

• Pray for peace in Haiti and for political and social stability that people can go about their normal lives. Pray also for MCC staff and its 11 partners in the country that they would have wisdom and resilience in the course of ongoing stress and trauma.

**Mennonite Church**

Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp's **40th Annual Bowlathon** is happening again this year on April 6th! You can show your support by making a donation at [hiddenacres.ca/donate](http://hiddenacres.ca/donate), and select “Annual Bowlathon” from the list. If you have any questions please contact us at [info@hiddenacres.ca](mailto:info@hiddenacres.ca) or 519-625-8602. Thank you!

**MCEC Financial Zoom Call, April 17, 2024, 7-8 p.m. online.**The internal financial statements will be presented in advance of the Annual Church Gathering. This conversation provides an early opportunity for conversation and to ask questions. This event is open to pastors, delegates, treasurers, councils and congregational leaders. Register through your Annual Church Gathering registration or at [mcec.ca](https://mcec.ca/event/23092-2024-04-17-mcec-financial-zoom-call). If you have registered through the ACG registration, you do not need to re-register.

**Spring Seniors Retreat at Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp** - On Monday, April 29th join us for a day of fellowship, community and conversations. Dr. Martha Taylor will share with us in the morning and Jane Kuepfer will host a panel discussion in the afternoon as we intentionally explore end-of-life conversations.

**Annual Church Gathering, April 26 & 27, 2024, Leamington, ON.** Inspired by Hope. Be inspired by the hope we find in Jesus. "We need you this weekend," says Ben Cassels, MCEC moderator. "We need you voice, engagement, wisdom and prayers as we gather to be the Church." Hear stories of inspiration and experience the wonder and mystery of God. Doug Klassen, celebration of ten years of ministry impact with Legacy Initiatives Fund; welcome new congregations and more! [Registration is open in both English and French.](https://mcec.ca/annualchurchgathering)

**MCC, MDS**

The March **MDS Newsletter** is available from the office.

**Broader Church & Community**

**2024 Lenten Book Study Lunch**: Becoming Kin: An Indigenous Call to Unforgetting the Past and Reimagining Our Future. Author Patty Krawec will be at Trillium United Church for lunch and a presentation. <https://www.broadleafbooks.com/store/author/8248/Patty-Krawec> on Wednesday, March 27, 12:00 -2:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The suggested donation is $25 or as much as you are able. Please confirm attendance at the office: [office@trilliumunited.ca](mailto:office@trilliumunited.ca)

**Hello Singers at Bethany!** This year, Bethany and Niagara UM's Easter Sunday services will not overlap in timing, and so we'd like to warmly invite all singers to join our Easter Sunday choir. Practices will take place on Thursday March 28th at 7:00pm in the sanctuary at Niagara UM. The Easter Sunday service begins at 10:45am. We look forward to worshipping together!

**Seasons Chorale** will be performing on Good Friday @ 3pm at St. Catharines United Mennonite Church (335 Linwell Road). All Are Welcome!! Elevator is available; please enter through front entrance.

**German Service on a Sunday Afternoon** – To honour our local Mennonite heritage, mark your calendars for a German Service on Sunday April 21 @ 2:30pm at St. Catharines United Mennonite Church (335 Linwell Road). After the service of singing, sharing, and engaging with each other in the German heart language, we will gather for light refreshments in the gym. Alle Willkommen!! All Welcome!!

To Men of all ages: On Saturday May 4th Niagara United Mennonite Church is hosting a **Man-Up Niagara** event at 7pm. This is a free Non-Denominational Service, and all men are welcome. See [manupniagara.com](http://manupniagara.com/).

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

March 24-31, 2024

Today 10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

11:10 a.m. – Adult Sunday School

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. – Quilting

6:00 p.m. – Handbell choir

7:30 p.m. – JuBELLation



Friday 10:00 a.m. – **Good Friday** Worship Service

Sunday 9:00 a.m. – **Easter** Service

10:00 a.m. – Easter Breakfast

*Scripture:* Psalm 118:1–2, 14–24, Isaiah 25:6–9, John 20:1–18, Acts 10:34–43

*Theme:* Christ among Us!

**Worship services are recorded** live and kept on our youtube channel indefinitely. Recordings begin shortly before 10am and end after 11:04. Those who prefer not to appear in the recording are encouraged to sit near the back of the sanctuary in front of the cry room, and exit through the door on that side.