



September 8th, 2019
God's Goodness in Creation

Prelude Annie Schulz

Welcome Lorraine Sawatzky

Call to Worship

Leader: Sustaining God,

whose word of promise weaves all creation together,

**People: remember us as we enter into worship, that we
may find ourselves woven into the body of Christ,**

Leader: ready to worship and energized to carry your work
into the world.

**All: In the name of Jesus and through the power
of the Holy Spirit.**

Prayer

*Hymn *With happy voices singing* HWB 83

Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you.

Offering/Offertory/Prayer

Women's Chorus *We Will Praise You*

*Scripture Reading Psalm 139:1-18 HWB 823

Prayers of the People Pastor Doug

Scripture Reading Luke 14:25-33 [NT p.78] Erna Froese

*Hymn *I want to walk as a child of the light* BB 9

Sermon "THE SHAPING OF JESUS FOLLOWERS"

Pastor David

*Hymn of Response *God, who touches earth* HWB 511

Benediction

*Sending Hymn *He leadeth me* HWB 599 v.1

It is good to be together in worship this morning!

The ushers are pleased to help any who need assistance.

Please stay for coffee fellowship after the service.

OFFERING FOR SUNDAY September 1, 2019

Budget – \$2,770.00

Attendance – 50

SCRIPTURE READINGS For September 15, 2019

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Psalms 14

Luke 15:1-10

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

MONDAY 10:15 am Grace Mennonite Women

THURSDAY 6:30 pm Women's Chorus

SUNDAY 9:30 am Pastor David, Speaker

Focus Group ~ We have planned ahead to make our Sunday conversations challenging and nourishing. Each week we will begin with responses to the sermon. Then we will have a focused discussion on a topic. Today a few people will report on their reading about the climate crisis and what we can do in our personal lives to keep it from getting worse. For the Sundays following we will read chapters from the book *Stories: How Mennonites Came to Be*. The author, historian John Roth, tells inspiring and challenging stories from Mennonite beginnings in Europe, expansion in North America, and spread around the world. Come and join us in finding ways of being faithful and joyful Christians in a topsy-turvy world. We meet in Pastor Doug's office up the stair way at the back of the church hall.

Office Hours ~ Ester's office hours are Thursdays and Fridays 8:30 am – 2:30 pm.



Grace Church is again hosting **Coffee Hour** this Fall beginning today September 8th in the church hall following our Worship Service. Come join us for coffee, tea, water and delicious goodies. Thank you from the Hospitality Committee.

All women are invited to visit the Ukrainian Catholic Church on Monday September 9th. Please meet at church at 10:15 to carpool. We will have lunch at Angels after. Please sign up if you are coming, if you have any questions speak to Irene Seager.

♪ **Women's Chorus Practices:** Thursday September 12, 6:30 pm;
Sunday September 15, 9 am; Sunday September 22, 11 am.

The **Property Committee** is always on the lookout for those who might be available to assist with “projects” that periodically come up around the church. This might include outside yardwork, laying flooring, sidewalk snow shovelling and other general maintenance duties. If you are interested in helping out on occasion, please let Ted Kopp know.....we could always use some extra help!

Church Council is asking for an individual who would consider becoming a member-at-large (representing the congregation) for our meetings, which are held approximately 6-8 times a year. Please speak to Ted Kopp if you are interested.

OUTREACH & INSIGHT


Indigenous Focus - Over the past four years, Pastor Doug has participated as a Supporter of the Haudenosaunee Right to Hunt (the annual late Fall deer harvest in Short Hills Park). At our service on September 29th we will have guests presenting perspectives on treaty and land rights in Niagara, led by Elizabeth Chitty, a local artist and peace and justice activist who studied at Conrad Grebel University College.

The supporters of the Haudenosaunee Right to Hunt organization wrote to our church recently, saying: "We believe that a future is close at hand in which Indigenous rights are better understood and accepted in our community... With so much education and dialogue around the issues, we see a dramatic shift in public sentiment and an exciting moment for the Niagara community. For our 2019 educational programming, we are shifting our focus from on-site workshops at Short Hills Provincial Park to a free one-day conference on Saturday, November 16th 2019." [More details coming]

Land Acknowledgement - *We acknowledge that we meet on the traditional territory of the Anishbaabeg and the Haudenosaunee peoples whose ancestors preceded our settlements by 8000 years. They welcomed our ancestors and invited them to be a part of the Dish With One Spoon Treaty which directed all to peacefully share the resources around the Great Lakes. From that time to this, the Indigenous peoples have been allowed .2% of Canada's land mass. We modern day Canadian settlers are not guilty of setting colonization in place but we are all responsible to move toward reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. This land acknowledgment is, we hope, one step toward right relationship with Indigenous Peoples. [Authored by Rose Marie Cipryk, Pelham Quakers]*

New Bridge of Hope Sponsorship: BoH has received approval from IRCC (Immigration) to sponsor a refugee family from Syria, currently living in Lebanon. The mother (31), Dalia, is a widow. She has a 10 year old son, Abdallah, and an 8 year old daughter, Souad. They should arrive any time from 4 to 12 weeks. BoH will be receiving \$10,200 from a Refugee Hub Fund after they arrive, a grant BoH applied for. We are in need of an additional \$20,000 to support them for their first year in Canada. If you are interested in donating to support this family, BoH would be grateful for your gift. Cheques should be made out to Grace Mennonite Church, with Bridge of Hope written on the memo line or on your offering envelope. Bridge of Hope Community thanks you. Lorraine Sawatzky, Treasurer, Bridge of Hope.

ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD

 **MCC News ♦Grow Hope Niagara** – Don't forget the celebration with food on Sept. 15 at 4 pm at the home farm of Larry and Marg Dyck on Moyer Rd. in Campden. There will be side trips over to the Grow Hope Niagara 41 acre farm site.

♦**Make Coins Count** – The first count since the Relief Sale has been made and the jug cleared for security reasons. As of Sept. 1, we have contributed \$44.05 in coin toward MCC Relief efforts in 3 months. Another sincere thanks from MCC for your support. We have recently been advised that at the last New Hamburg Relief Sale "Make Coins Count" from around Ontario contributed \$3,300. to MCC.

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR

... those facing health challenges and those experiencing recent and continued grief.

... **Karen Falk** has had hip replacement surgery, and all went well. She is now in recuperating therapy and will join us when she is able.

... **Daniel Janzen** will be installed at Niagara United Mennonite Church today September 8th as Pastor. Pray for Daniel and the congregation as they begin their ministry together.

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