

## **PRAYER AND PRAISE**

- Harv Heinrichs received good news from his doctor this week. CT scan showed further improvement to his lungs! Oxygen supply has been reduced. He is feeling better and stronger each week! Harv and Kathy are very appreciative of your prayer support!
- Pray for our interim speaker Harold Peters-Fransen, and for Erika Enns Rodine, our future pastor.
- We pray for the seniors in our congregation: Marianne Braun who is at Eastview; Jean Tarnick who is in her suite at Gardens on Tenth Manor, Sarah Sawatzky at Golden West and others who are not named.
- We pray for those who are grieving.
- We pray for those whose mental health and physical health make employment and daily life a struggle.
- We pray for the family care-givers.

## **Prayer for Our Community**

- Pray for all the Health Care Providers.
- Pray for the church leaders at all levels of our conference.

## **Prayers for the World**

- Pray for security, peace and wisdom for congregations of the Evangelical Mennonite Church of Burkina Faso. They had planned to gather for annual January meetings in KénéDougou province, but terrorist attacks have increased in recent weeks. Authorities have asked churches to decrease public gatherings.

- Witness workers Werner and Joanne De Jong ask you to pray for the safety of students traveling to and from the Meserete Kristos Seminary in Ethiopia over their Christmas break (around Jan.7). Pray for Werner as he mentors four graduate students working on final research papers.

- Ten lay leaders have been identified within the China Mennonite Network for mentoring, training, and preparation for ordination. Pray for God's wisdom and discernment as leaders work with them in this next year.

*If you would like to add or remove any prayer requests, please contact the church office.*

The Welcoming Prayer, by Father Thomas Keating

*Welcome, welcome, welcome.*

*I welcome everything that comes to me today because I know it's for my healing.*

*I welcome all thoughts, feelings, emotions, persons, situations, and conditions.*

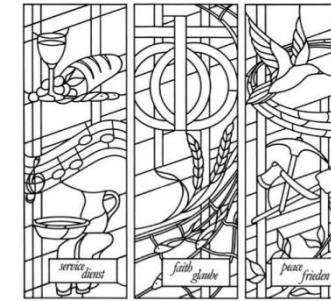
*I let go of my desire for power and control.*

*I let go of my desire for affection, esteem, approval and pleasure.*

*I let go of my desire for survival and security.*

*I let go of my desire to change any situation, condition, person or myself.*

*I open to the love and presence of God and God's action within. Amen*



# Altona Mennonite Church

Worship Service 11:00 am

VOLUME LXII No.3

January 22, 2023

## ***Season of Light / Between Darkness and Light***

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Hymn VT #537 Lord, You Sometimes Speak

Call to Worship

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn VT #808 Between Darkness and Light

Scripture Readings Isaiah 9:14 & Matthew 4:12-23

Reading Let this Darkness be a Bell Tower  
by Rainer Maria Rilke – read by Lori Dueck

Candle Lighting Congregation

Reading Matins (Morning Prayer)  
by John O'Donohue – read by Julia Thiessen

Hymn VT #281 Joyful Is the Dark

Explanation of Practice

Congregational Reading The Welcoming Prayer,  
by Father Thomas Keating

### **AMC Contact information:**

Secretary: Lori Hiebert: C: 204-324-5952 Church: 204-324-6773

Office Hours: Thursday 9:30 am to Noon

Email address: [altonamennonite@gmail.com](mailto:altonamennonite@gmail.com)

Website: [altonamennonitechurch.ca](http://altonamennonitechurch.ca)

Moderator: Loren Brault: C: 204-995-5347

Custodians: Dale Klassen 204-324-7458 Sandra Klassen 204-324-1475

*Altona Mennonite Church is on Treaty One Territory.*

### **Altona Mennonite Church**

#### **Vision**

*God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace so that God's healing and hope flow through us to the world.*

#### **Purpose**

*We seek to know God through Jesus, the center of our faith.*

*We seek to follow God in community, through worship, fellowship, and interpreting the Scripture from a Christ-centered point of view, in the Anabaptist tradition.*

*We seek to obey God by working toward peace and reconciliation, in the spirit of Jesus, reconciling all people to God, to each other, and to the world around them.*

Hymn VT #37 Be Still and Know

Centering Prayer Practice Led by Susie Fisher

Hymn VT #37 Be Still and Know

Sharing Joys & Concerns  
Prayers of the People

Hymn VT #832 The Lord Lift You Up  
Benediction  
Postlude

Worship leader: Susie Fisher  
Musicians: Lori & Loren Hiebert  
Sound: Loren Braul

#### **WORSHIP & MEETING EVENTS AT AMC**

Jan. 29 11:00 am – Worship Service

*Speaker:* Harold Peters-Fransen *Scripture:* Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12 *Worship Leader:* Andrea Hildebrand *Musicians:* Gina Enns, Nancy Ratzlaff *Technician:* Dale Klassen

Feb. 5 11:00 am – Worship Service of Scripture and Song led by Loren & Lori Hiebert.

noon: soup lunch served by Friendship Manor  
1:30 pm AMC's AGM

Feb. 12 10:00 am Coffee with Harold

11:00 am - Worship Service - Harold Peters-Fransen

Feb. 19 11:00 am – Worship Service – Dave Regehr speaker

Feb. 21 5:30 – 7 pm - Pancake Tuesday supper to welcome Erika and family

Feb. 26 11:00 am – Worship Service – Erika Enns Rodine

**Birthdays:** January 25 – Murray Sawatzky

#### **AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Harv and Kathy Heinrichs have cancelled their landline. New phone numbers to use are 204-304-9085 for Harv, and 204-324-3186 for Kathy. Email addresses are [harvheinrichs@gmail.com](mailto:harvheinrichs@gmail.com) and [kathyheinrichs@yahoo.ca](mailto:kathyheinrichs@yahoo.ca).

- **From the treasurer:** We begin a new year! As we look forward to having a pastor again, we welcome consistent, generous giving in order to fulfill that commitment. Thank you for your continuing contributions to AMC's budget. You may contribute online if you bank at Access Credit Union (using your 7-digit phone number as your account number), make an e-transfer to [amchurchdonations@gmail.com](mailto:amchurchdonations@gmail.com), or send a cheque to AMC (Box 1237, Altona, MB, R0G 0B0).

#### **WIDER COMMUNITY & MISC. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **MCM Mondays - January 23, 8:00pm online. Ordination. The work of the Church** Our MCM Co-Director of Leadership Ministries, Jeff Friesen, will be leading a conversation on ordination for ministry. Particular emphasis will be given on how ordination is a task of the church as a whole, rather than a responsibility of individual pastors and spiritual leaders. This would be good for people on Pastor-Congregation Relations Committees or church councils. Find the Zoom link and future topics at [www.mennochurch.mb.ca/mcmmondays](http://www.mennochurch.mb.ca/mcmmondays)

- **Altona's free Community Meal** happens on the last Saturday of the month: **January 28, 5:00-6:30pm** at The Community Exchange (116 Main St). Community Meal is about cooking up community one meal at a time... This is a free meal for everyone, come by yourself or bring some family and friends.

- **Camps with Meaning Summer Camp registration is open.** [www.campswithmeaning.org](http://www.campswithmeaning.org)

- **Visit CMU** - The next CMU Campus Visit Day takes place on **February 3, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM**. Enjoy a tour of the campus, meetings with professors and current students, a financial aid presentation, opportunities to ask questions, and a treat from folio café! Visit [cmu.ca/campusvisit](http://cmu.ca/campusvisit).

- MHC Gallery's Newest Exhibit, "Grief and Grievance: Sites of Change" featuring Briony Haig and Barb Bottle is now open. Visit [cmu.ca/gallery](http://cmu.ca/gallery).

- **Singing Our Journey** - This "Sängerfest" (Songfest) will celebrate the centenary of the Rusländer Mennonite immigration to Canada in the 1920's. The event will take place at the Manitoba Centennial Concert Hall, July 15, 2023. All are welcome to **sign-up (by Feb 15)** to sing in the mass choirs. More info at [www.mhsc.ca/soj](http://www.mhsc.ca/soj)

- **Join our leadership team! MCI** is looking to hire a full-time Director of Finance and Administration. Do you enjoy being a part of a collaborative team? Would you like to directly contribute to the decisions of an organization? Do you excel at engaging with prospective donors and stakeholders? Would you thrive in a youthful school environment? If so, we would love to speak with you! To find out more about this position, or to submit a cover letter and resume, please contact [jenniferklippenstein@mciblues.net](mailto:jenniferklippenstein@mciblues.net) or visit [mciblues.net](http://mciblues.net).

- We are looking for **volunteers in MCI's library!** In the library, volunteers assist teachers by supervising students using that space for spares or classwork. We are in need of occasional library coverage on Wednesday & Thursday afternoons and morning and afternoon on Fridays. If you are willing to be on a contact list for library supervision or would like more information, please contact librarian Janna Wiebe by calling the school or emailing [jannawiebe@mciblues.net](mailto:jannawiebe@mciblues.net).

- **We are making preparations for the MCM Annual Gathering to be held on March 3-4, 2023, Friday evening and Saturday, at Douglas Mennonite Church (1517 Rotheras St., Winnipeg).** It is exciting to think about gathering together in person for the first time in three years! This will be a wonderful time of worship, encouragement, information, and affirmation.

Our Gathering 2023 theme is "Re-Imagining Church Together." In light of changes in church and society during the past few years, we as congregations and as a regional church are asking questions like, "Who are we?" and "What is God calling us to be and to do now, in this time and place?" At Gathering 2023 we will explore these questions together, drawing on the hopeful promise of Ephesians 3:20-21. You can find more information about Gathering 2023 at [www.mennochurch.mb.ca/gathering](http://www.mennochurch.mb.ca/gathering).

If you wish to be a delegate at this meeting (we are allowed 4), let Loren Braul or Lori Hiebert know. That info has to be in to the conference office by Feb. 15.