

Preston Mennonite Church

*Being transformed by and extending God's love
through worship, hospitality and service*

www.prestonmennonite.com

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Worship Leader: Vickie Robinson

Song Leader: Robert Witmer Accompanist: Wendy/Heather Imrie

Earth Sunday: The Cry of Creation

2017 Theme: Environmental Justice with Indigenous Peoples

The earth is the Lord's and everything in it! Psalm 24:1

PRELUDE

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Welcome

Call to worship the God of creation

Leader: Our God created the heavens and the earth.

Hymn: HWB 120 "Holy, holy, holy," verse 1

Leader: Our God created us in God's image, male and female God created us.

Hymn: HWB 120 "Holy, holy, holy," verse 2

Leader: Our God made us to be in relationship with creation and with God.

Hymn: HWB 120 "Holy, holy, holy," verse 3

Leader: Our God desires relationship with us, for God created us in the image of God, in relationship with one another.

Hymn: HWB 120 "Holy, holy, holy," verse 4

Leader: Come, let us worship the Triune God, blessed Trinity!

Opening prayer

Psalm 24

Praising/Adoring (*responsive--see back page*)

Hymn: HWB 89 "For the Beauty of the Earth"

RECEIVING LAVERNE MARTIN INTO MEMBERSHIP

Words of reception

Congregational response: HWB 777 (*read together*)

The right hand of fellowship

Hymn: HWB 420 "Heart with loving heart united"

SHARING AND PRAYING

Sharing from the Women of MCEC Spring Meeting in St Jacobs on Saturday

Prayer of Compassion (by St. Basil the Great, 330-379)

Sharing our joys and sorrows and prayer requests

Prayer of the people

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's band STJ 24 "Creation is a song"

Reading from the Epistles: 1 Peter 1:3-4

Reading from the Epistles: 2 Corinthians 5:14-20a

Ministry of reconciliation

Message: "Creation cries; will we, as God's ambassadors of reconciliation, hear!"

RESPONDING

"Beatitudes for Stewards of Earth"

Invitation to offering

Offering prayer (*see back page*)

SENDING

Announcements

"Litany of the Six Directions"

Hymn: STJ 77

"The peace of the earth be with you"

Sending

(see back page)

POSTLUDE

CREDITS: Call to worship, Opening prayer, Children's prayer for the earth, Prayer of compassion—Sustainable Sanctuary Coalition at ssckc.org;
Butterfly quote from Malcolm Muggeridge, "Impending Resurrection."

Welcome to our visitors! We hope our time of worship has been an encouragement to you. Please sign our guest book in the front foyer! God bless you and we hope to see you again!

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP in the foyer-- ALL WELCOME!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children: Classes (ages 3—5 and Primary) will follow the children's time and will last until the service ends. (10:55)

Adult Christian Formation: "Living as Easter people" What difference does the Easter gospel make in the way we live today?

MISSIONS

Wilmot Mennonite Church has asked us to save clean milk bags for making mats. Put in envelope in upper foyer.

WIDER CHURCH & COMMUNITY EVENTS

Spring Hymn Sing on Sun Apr 23 at 6:30 pm at King St Baptist Church, featuring musical selections by the William G. Davis School Choir. Refreshments to follow! Admission is free.

Pilgrimage for Indigenous Rights: April 23 to May 14, a 600 km Pilgrimage from K-W to Ottawa. Opening Ceremony Celebration on Sun Apr 23 at 1:30 pm at Stirling Mennonite Church. A First Nations elder will be sending a blessing. To follow the progress of the Pilgrimage:

www.facebook.com/pfirCanada/

Cambridge Stop for Pilgrimage—April 23, St. Peter's Lutheran will be hosting the meal for the first day of the pilgrimage in partnership with Wanner and Preston Mennonite Churches. There will also be a talking and learning circle after supper, which you are invited to attend to learn more about indigenous history and rights. If you would like to share your gifts of food preparation and hospitality, they would be very thankful. Supper will be potluck style, and breakfast will be continental style (breads, yogurts, hard-boiled eggs, fruit cheese, and juices). For more information on helping with supper and/or breakfast, or to join us for the sleep over, please contact Claire.

Rockway Information Night is Tues Apr 25 at 7 pm, an opportunity for future students and families to explore a Christian education at Rockway.

Rockway Visual Arts Night is Tues Apr 25 at 7 pm, there will be a fair trade café and the opportunity to see the amazing work of the students.

The Amish Project, a fictional exploration of the Nickel Mines schoolhouse shooting in an Amish community and the path of forgiveness and compassion forged in its wake. At St. Jacobs Schoolhouse Theatre on Apr 26-30. For more info or to purchase tickets call 519-957-2693 or go to www.mcco.ca/the-amish-project

MCEC Annual Church Gathering, April 28 & 29 at The Meeting House in Oakville. Theme: The Great ReCommission. Everyone is welcome to attend a free concert on Fri night. *Rescue Junction* will play from 7-8pm. ReLearning Community participants will share moving stories of how God is changing lives. David Martin, MCEC Executive Minister, says, "ReLearning Community has been a powerful initiative within MCEC and I'm encouraged by the stories from those involved. It's exciting for us to share this experience more broadly."

Spring Seniors' Retreat at Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp, on May 1 or May 2. Resource persons are Robert J & Irene Suderman and the theme is "Dancing in the Wind: The Vocation of the Church in Society." More info and to register: www.hiddenacres.ca by Apr 25.

Shalom Counselling Services Fundraising Breakfast on Sat May 6, 8:30 to 11 am, Stirling Ave Mennonite Church. Tickets are \$30 (receipts for \$15) by calling 519-886-9690 or online at www.shalomcounselling.org See poster.

Grace Lao Mennonite Church Egg Roll Sale is Sat May 6. See bulletin board to order before May 2.

House of Friendship Trek 4 Kids 12th Annual Hike & Bike on Sat May 6, 2 pm. Run, walk or bike the Iron Horse Trail starting and finishing at 50 Kent. See poster for details.

Hawkesville Mennonite Church Homecoming Sunday: Come home and see people from days gone by on Sun May 7. Fellowship 10 am, muffins & coffee, Worship 11 am. More info email office@hawkesvillemennonite.ca

Addison Women's Choir Spring Concert: *Something To Sing About!*, on Sun May 7 at 2pm here at PMC. Birthday cake will be served following the concert. Tickets \$15 adults, \$10 children, available from choir members or at the door.

Inter-Mennonite Children's Choir 50th Anniversary Concert is on Sun May 7 at 3 pm at St. Matthews Lutheran Church in Kitchener. Tickets \$10 adults, \$5 children.

Menno Youth Singers Spring Concert & Annual Fundraiser on Fri May 12, 7 pm at Breslau Mennonite Church. Free admission, donations gratefully accepted. See poster.

Paddle the Grand Fundraiser for Silver Lake Mennonite Camp, Sat May 13, a 1.5 hour late afternoon paddle from Inverhaugh to West Montrose. Funds raised help support camp program. To register or donate call 519-422-1201 or visit www.slmc.ca

Annual General Meeting for Silver Lake Mennonite Camp on Sat May 13 at 5:30 pm in Letson Park West Montrose. More info call 519-422-1201 or visit www.slmc.ca

Menno Singers presents *Honegger's King David*, a farewell concert for Peter Nikiforuk on Sat May 13 at 7:30 pm at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Kitchener. Tickets \$25 available at the door or online at www.mennosingers.com

22nd Annual Rockway Golf Classic is Wed May 17, a fun four person Scramble tournament at Willow Valley Golf Course. Golfers sign up then fundraise, proceeds benefit Tuition Assistance, helping students attend Rockway.

Cambridge Right to Life's Annual Coffee & Dessert Evening on Thurs May 18 at the Pines. Dessert will be served at 7 pm. More info at info@cambridgerighttolife.ca

New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale Plant Tent is looking for donations of plants (perennials, house plants, shrubs, annuals) More details to follow.

10th Annual Run for Relief, Sat May 27 at 8 am, at the New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale. The event includes a 5K Run and a 2K Run/Walk. Register online at www.nhmrs.com

Rockway's Spring Concert is Thurs June 8 at 6:45 pm, join us at Rockway for this night of vocal and orchestral music.

Mennonite Men Retreat on Fri June 9—Sat June 10 at Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp. Scott Brubaker-Zehr and Bryan Moyer Suderman will lead. More info: www.eventbrite.ca

Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp is seeking a *Facilities and Environmental Stewardship Director*, starting Fall 2017. More info at www.hiddenacres.ca/site/opportunities/employment