

# Preston Mennonite Church

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

[www.prestonmennonite.com](http://www.prestonmennonite.com)

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Worship Leader: Vickie Robinson

Song Leader: Laverne Martin    Accompanist: Dianne Winkler

Message: Muriel Bechtel

Youth Sharing: Faith & Grace Kinsie

## Thanksgiving Sunday

Willie Nelson: "When I started counting my blessings,  
my whole life turned around"

Prelude

Gathering for Worship

Welcome

Hymn: HWB #94 (Verses 1 & 2) Come Ye Thankful People, Come

Gathering (See back of bulletin)

Opening Prayer

Hearing God's Word

Psalm 96 1-3 & 9 – 13    HWB #820 (Responsive Reading)

Hymn: STJ #108 "Give Thanks for Life"

Faith and Grace sharing camp experiences / Children's Time

Deuteronomy 8: 7 – 18

## Prayer of Confession

One: Creator God, we confess that we do not always remember you.

**All: We forget that all we have and are comes from you.**

One: We forget that Earth is our mother – and we are made from the Earth.

**All: Whatever befalls Earth, befalls the children of Earth. We are part of Earth, and the earth is part of us.**

One: We forget that the rivers are our brothers.

**All: We forget that the perfumed flowers are our sisters.**

One: We forget that the air is precious, for all of us share the same breath.

**All: The wind gives our children the spirit of life.**

One: We forget Earth does not belong to us; we belong to the Earth.

**All: We forget that all things are connected, like the blood that unites one family.**

One: We forget that you are the same God whose compassion is equal for all.

**All: We forget that we did not weave the web of life; that we are merely a strand in it.**

One: Forgive us, O Creator, and help us to remember that whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves.

**All: Forgive us, and accept our thanks for your gift of life.**

Words of Affirmation

Luke 17:11-19

Hymn HWB #90 "For the Fruit of All Creation"

Message: From Thanksgiving to Thanks living

Hymn of Response: Praise #430 "Count your Blessings"

## Responding to God's Word

Prayer Time

Thanksgiving for Blessings of the Year

Hymn: "In the Lord I will be forever Thankful" (See insert)

Prayer Request

Hymn: STJ #32 "If You Believe and I Believe"

Lord's Prayer

Offering Hymn: HWB #388 – Grant us Lord the Grace of Living

Offering

## Blessing

Announcement

Sending Hymn: STJ #78 "We will walk with God"

Blessing:

Leader: Go in peace, remembering God's goodness.

**All: We will remember**

Leader: Remember God's healing presence

**All: We will remember**

Leader: Remember how God has provided for your every need

**All: We will remember**

Leader: Remember that God will be with you to sustain you and care for you, this day and always.

**All: We will remember. Amen**

*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!**

**Adult Discussion Class:** No class today. Next Sunday: Guest speaker Dorothy Patterson and her husband.

## **WIDER CHURCH & COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**Reading the Bible with Jesus,** an inspirational four-session bible study on Matthew with Bryan Moyer Suderman. Starting Tues Sept 26 till Oct 17, 7 to 9 pm. First two weeks at Elmira Mennonite Church, second two weeks at St. Jacobs. Pick up a brochure by bulletin board.

**Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario** Fall Meeting on Sat Oct 14 at 2 pm in the Community Room at MCC, 50 Kent Ave, Kit. “Celebrating a Century of Mennonite Sewing Circles in Ontario” The event is free, donations accepted.

**Empty Bowls for Haiti:** Local potters donate bowls, local restaurants donate soup, entertainment by local musicians. You pay \$30, eat the soup and take home a beautiful bowl. Help support sustainable change in Haiti. At Steinmann Mennonite Church on Sat Oct 14, seatings at 5 and 7 pm. Tickets: [emptybowlsforhaiti.eventbrite.ca](http://emptybowlsforhaiti.eventbrite.ca) or call MCC.

**“Calm in the Storm: Stress Management for Students”** Shalom Counselling is offering a group for high school aged youth on Tuesday evenings, 6-7:30 pm from Oct 17 to Dec 5. No cost to participants, generously supported by a grant from Shantz Mennonite Church. Register at 519-886-9690 or at [admin@shalomcounselling.org](mailto:admin@shalomcounselling.org) Poster on Bulletin board.

**Come, Slow Down, talk and walk with God:** a retreat at Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp on Thurs Oct 19 from 9am to 3pm. Cost is \$25, bring a bag lunch. Register at 226-220-2606.

**House of Friendship** fall fundraising dinner is Oct 21, featuring Sean McCann, from internationally renowned band Great Big Sea, sharing his story of recovery from addiction and abuse. If you would like to join a group to attend this event, contact Muriel or the church office. Tickets are \$75, with a discount for a group of 8.

**Encounter Desire *Living from the Inside Out*:** an intergenerational retreat focused on sacred listening and the spirituality of desire. Oct 20-22 at Crieff Hills Community, register by Oct 4 at [www.pastorsinexile.org](http://www.pastorsinexile.org)

**Langs Community Dinners!** From 5:30 to 7:30 pm on Oct 24, Nov 21, Dec 19, drop in for a free dinner!

**Six Miles Deep:** Indigenous and Settler history along the Grand River on Thurs Oct 26 at 7 pm in the Community Room at 50 Kent, Kit. Come for an evening of learning about the treaty and settlement history of the Grand River watershed, featuring Phil Monture, spokesperson and researcher from Six Nations of the Grand River. Presented by The Mennonite Story (St. Jacobs), and MCCO. This is a *Dancing Towards Reconciliation* event. [www.mcco.ca/six-miles-deep](http://www.mcco.ca/six-miles-deep)

**Fairview Centre for Health and Wellness** is offering free talks about healthy eating. Fri Oct 27 and Fri Nov 24 at 2 pm in the Centre Auditorium. See posters for more details.

**Conrad Grebel College** Installation of the College's 8<sup>th</sup> President, Marcus Shantz, at the Humanities Theatre, Hagey Hall, U of Waterloo, on Sun Oct 29 at 2 pm. Reception to follow at Conrad Grebel.

**“The People’s Song Set Free”** a concert marking the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation. Spiritus Ensemble performs works for choir and orchestra based on early hymns of the Reformation by Bach, Buxtehude, Mendelssohn and Brahms with soloists Sheila Dietrich, Jennifer Enns Modolo and Richard Hrytzak; Kenneth Hull, conductor. Sun Oct 29, 4-5 pm at The Church of St John the Evangelist, 23 Water St N, Kit. Tickets available online at [www.spiritusensemble.com](http://www.spiritusensemble.com) and at the door.

**Fraser Lake Camp Fundraiser**—enjoy an evening of live music and delicious desserts in support of repairing our climbing wall, Nov 4 from 7-9 pm at Breslau Mennonite Church. All ages welcome, by donation. Contact Kristen Berg to RSVP and for details [kberg@fraserlakecamp.com](mailto:kberg@fraserlakecamp.com)

**Menno Singers** presents its first concert with newly appointed Artistic Director Brandon Leis. “Come Evenings Rest— Evening, Eternity & Time,” will be held at Rockway Mennonite Church on Sat Nov 4 at 7:30 pm. Tickets \$20 (students \$5): [www.mennosingers.com](http://www.mennosingers.com) or at the door.

**Fairview Mennonite Home Handicraft Sale** on Sat Nov 18 from 9 am to 1 pm. Decorations, gifts, sweet shop, wreaths, knitting, woodworking, used books and so much more!

**Rockway Mennonite Collegiate** is seeking a *Food Services— Server/Dishwasher*. For more information, please see [www.rockway.ca/contact/employment-opportunities](http://www.rockway.ca/contact/employment-opportunities)

**Calling all Painters!** Silver Lake Mennonite Camp is looking for painters who would be keen to converge on the camp the week of Nov 6 to 10 to paint the kitchen, addition and vestibule. Accommodations and food supplied. Please call Dave Erb, 519-422-1401 or [fun@slmc.ca](mailto:fun@slmc.ca)