



March 21, 2021 9:30 am  
Lent 5 – Called to Deep Growth

Worship Leader: Vickie Robinson      Song Leader: Marg Martin  
Accompanist: Jack Wyndham      A/V Technician: Brandon Pace  
Speaker: KyongJung Kim

## **Preston Mennonite Church**

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

791 Concession Road, Cambridge – 519-653-5171

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

Pastor: Danielle Raimbault      519-502-9262

[danielle.pwchurches@gmail.com](mailto:danielle.pwchurches@gmail.com)

Pastor: KyongJung Kim      519-589-9080

[kyongjung.pwchurches@gmail.com](mailto:kyongjung.pwchurches@gmail.com)

Administrative Assistant: Cindy Snyder

[preston.mennonite.church@gmail.com](mailto:preston.mennonite.church@gmail.com)

We acknowledge that our church is located on the traditional lands of the Neutral, the Anishinaabe, and the Haudenosaunee peoples.

## **GATHERING TO WORSHIP – BEGINNING WITH GOD!**

Prelude

Welcome

Gathering Hymn: VT #120 For the Beauty of the Earth

Call to Worship

Leader: The days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with Israel. I will be their God, and they will be my people.

**People: God, teach us wisdom in our secret hearts. Put a new and right spirit within us. Restore to us the joy of salvation, and sustain in us a willing spirit.**

Leader: We trust you, God, to forgive our iniquities and remember our sin no more.

**People: There is a time for everything, and sometimes, the hour is upon us.**

Leader: Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, knowing that those who love their life will lose it.

**People: “The hour has come. Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.”**

***All: We call out to you, as you call us to deeper growth.***

Opening Prayer

Psalm 51

Hymn: VT #612 Hold On

Prayer of Confession and Assurance

**People: Deep calls to deep. We call to you from the depths of our hearts.**

Leader: We confess our resistance to being planted into your aching earth, into the way of your covenant. We confess our need for you to plant within us the joy of your salvation, a willing spirit. (*Silence.*)

Deep calls to deep. You call to us from the depth of your love.

**People: Calling us to deep growth. We come to you, God.**

***WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO ME?***

Bible Reading: Mark 10:35-52

Message: Cup and Cross

***WHAT AM I GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?***

Hymn of Response: VT #131 Praise, I will Praise You Lord

Prayer Time

***SENDING***

Announcements

Sending Hymn: VT #588 We Walk by Faith

Blessing:

Only when a seed “lets go” does new life arise from it. And here is the secret planted deep within the earth—this change happens not once for us but many times over. Go into this week aware of the times of letting go that have allowed for new life to come. Go, aware of the deep growth stirring within you. Amen.

Postlude

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**Covid Update:** Attending the Sunday morning service will be by invitation only. Contact Barb Duncan by 9pm Sat evening or to be added to the list for future Sundays.

## ADULT DISCUSSION

Link to 11am Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86005369574>

## MEETINGS & EVENTS

Wed Mar 24	9:30am	Pastoral Care work meeting
Thu Mar 25	1pm	Prayer meeting
Thu Mar 25	7pm	Worship Commission meeting
Sar Mar 27	1pm	Meeting with Living Bridge Assembly
Apr 2	9:30	Good Friday <i>Ways of the Cross</i>

If you would still like to borrow a copy of the new hymnal “**Voices Together**” please contact Cindy in the church office. If you would like to purchase your personal copy, you may “pay what you can” to the cost (\$38.79 per copy, including shipping). Please send an e-transfer or cheque to the Treasurer indicating that your payment is for a hymnal.

**Good Friday Worship** this year will be a Contemplative Walk-Through *Way of the Cross*, based on Joan Chittister’s *Way of the Cross: Gateway to Resurrection*. It will take place in two locations.

- **Outdoor Guided Walk-Through** in Preston church parking lot April 2, Good Friday, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm. This walk is wheelchair accessible and will have assistance for those who need help with mobility or reading the signs.
- **Contemplative Outdoor Nature Walk-Through** at Wanner church from Friday morning and for several weeks after. This walk is not wheelchair accessible and will not have assistance.

We hope that these worship experiences will add deep meaning to your Holy Week observance this year.

**April 8 @ 7pm:** Please come to a community online zoom session hosted by Preston and Wanner churches. Guest speaker Natalie Appleyard of Citizens for Public Justice will share information about “Just Recovery for All” 6 Principles. Consider possibilities for a post pandemic new normal where the needs of people and communities are prioritized. Information [here](#).

## "This Is My Story Initiative"

Are you interested in hearing personal stories from others? Each story offers memories that connect the person from their past and enriches our present relationships with them. **Your** story is valuable, and there will be some who know you well, but others need to learn more about you. As we share our stories, we will have the opportunity to better understand how God has worked in our lives and how we relate with others. We want to encourage you to **pray** about this opportunity and let us know when you would like to share your story. We are willing to help in whatever way we can. - TMS Taskforce team (Jeanette, Moreau, Evelyn Wake, and KyongJung Kim).

- Storyteller #1 - Jeanette Moreau
  - When - 7 PM on Sunday, April 11
  - Where - Virtual space on Zoom (Link will be sent later)
  - Audience - PMC church family and anyone else interested
- Please see the further details in the **attachment**.





## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

On Wed March 24, a day of prayer and fasting for prisoners struggling against Covid-19 inside institutions. Take a look at the Facebook event page [here](#). We will be joined by prisoners from institutions in Ontario, activists, faith leaders and also a delegate from the occupied territory of Palestine.

**COVID VACCINE:** Pre-registration is available to receive the covid vaccine however you must be in the eligible PRIORITY GROUPS.

The site to find the Priority groups and to register is [here](#).

**Hidden Acres Seniors' Retreat** went virtual this spring. The theme was "The Transforming Power of Grief," facilitated by Marian Wiens, Marriage and Family Therapist and Spiritual Director. In these unprecedented times, we are all dealing with many daily griefs and losses as well as the larger losses some of us have experienced. Hidden Acres has made the recordings of both sessions available for viewing until April 30.

<https://hiddenacres.ca/programs/virtualseniorsretreatvideo>

Scroll across to listen to the morning session first.

For those who may be interested, the day began with the following:

- Psalm 90:10-17 and Romans 5:1-5.
- Holy Spirit, come with power (HWB 26, VT 57)

You are welcome to share the videos with others.

**"Lectio Divina Prayer Meeting"** at 1:00 pm every Thursday. Please let KyongJung know if you want to join. All are welcome! The link is [here](#). Meeting ID: 881 4196 7186 Passcode: 085669

### **OFFERING**

There are now **three** ways to give, even though we are not meeting on Sunday mornings:

- Cheque, either mailed to the church or dropped in the church mailbox beside the main entrance.
- Setting up automatic giving by arranging with Dave Rorke
- E-transfer to [treasurer.pmc791@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.pmc791@gmail.com)

It has been confirmed with Fairview that residents are able to come to the church property to drop off their offering.

