

**Home Street Mennonite Church**  
**Welcome to Worship**  
**April 25, 2021**



**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**Focus Statement:** On this Sunday between Earth Day and Arbour Day we give thanks for trees and all creation, we lament the harms we have caused and commit ourselves to right relationships with the land and all life upon it.

**Gathering:**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (VT 864, adapted)

**We offer thanksgiving to our Creator,  
recalling that Christ is the center of creation  
and our lives as Christians.**

*... turn in 4 directions*

**We give thanks for love like the wings of the eagle.  
We dedicate our lives to you, our Creator and Saviour.  
As we walk on this earth,  
may we learn together  
and celebrate the way of peace, harmony, and tranquility.  
We give thanks to you, O God.**

Prayer

Song *Let All Things Now Living*

\* Earth Day Litany

Chris Polhill

Katherine Davis

Bob Haverluck

**Hearing**

Children's Story

Offertory Prayer

Song *I Saw a Tree* (vs 1, 3)

Scripture Reading: Colossians 1:15-20; John 9:1, 4-7

Reflections (with musical interludes)

Bob Haverluck

David Neufeld

Allegra Friesen Epp

Allegra Friesen Epp

VT 514

**Responding**

Song *Beauty for Brokenness* (vs 1, 2, 4)

A Prayer for the Earth

Song *God's Counting on Me*

VT 712

Pope Francis

Pete Seeger, Lorre Wyatt

**On Zoom:**

Congregational Sharing  
The Prayers of the People  
    The Lord's Prayer  
Benediction

**\* Earth Day Litany (Bob Haverluck)**

Hurrahs and Praise to You,  
    Thou Holy One, Thou Love, Thou Mystery.

**Christ Jesus our Brother, You become one with us  
and all the watery animally earth.**

You become one with wondrous Creation, wounded and wanting. You, baby born among the animals, begin us again.

**Oh Firstborn of the new creation and new creating,  
We behold You, Lamb of God, who "... takes away the World's-turning-away from Love and Freedom."**

No giant Cedar Tree, but a grape vine, You come,  
    little Tree of Life, as surely as grapes make wine.

**Surely as a grain of wheat Easters forth and becomes bread.**

Thou living Water, choosing to be of watery Earth, of Rivers, wetlands, oceans and whales, every creature's body.

**Thou Christ Jesus our brother, in you all creation is gathered: Thou Water, Tree, Lamb, Light, Shepherd, King  
and dirt path in the wilderness.**

You body forth the creaturely goodness of all the earth, calling us to see you in all... and to see all in you.  
**Holy Thou, we meet you in the waters of crucified creeks, rivers and oceans. Thou little tree of life, we meet  
you in crucified forests and farm fields mined and maimed.**

We meet you in peoples whose lives are so much tied to the waters, forests, earth.  
**May we who would follow you cause no creature to disbelieve in your love and goodness.**

Thou passion of Compassion, may River, Lake and shorelines, soon dance to you with Woodland Caribou and Herons; dance to you with healthy waters, Bees and Otters...and may their peoples dance you ...may children of river towns shadowed by hydro dams, tar sand tailing ponds, pulp mills, soon swim and play, knowing You as Deliverer

**May all your Peoples and all the earth sing and dance knowing You and those who praise you as Companion  
and Deliverer from violence and injustice.**

**All together: And may we be among them, O Christ Jesus  
Brother to River, Forest, Moose, Chickadee, all Creation.  
Amen**

*We acknowledge that we meet on the ancestral lands of several First Nations and the homeland of the Métis people. We commit ourselves to being Treaty People and to living in right relationship with one another as Indigenous and Non-Indigenous peoples.*

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## Worship Participants:

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Reflections: Bob H., David N., Allegra F.E.

Worship Leader: Carolyne E.F.

Musicians: Ruth T., Allegra F.E., Wayne G.

Children's Story: Sarah J.

Visual Display: Bob H., Michelle M., Peter F.

AV Technicians: David S., Michael V.

Prayers of the People on Zoom: Judith F.E.

Zoom Technician: Mackenzie N.

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## In Prayer

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As university and college students finish their semesters, many are moving, looking for work, or beginning summer jobs. Pray for them in this time of transition.

Continue to pray for those who struggle with health challenges. May they know God's deep, abiding presence in their lives.

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## Inside Our Doors

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1. Our regular **spring congregational meeting** will take place on **Wednesday, May 12 at 7:00 p.m.** via Zoom. Please get this date into your calendars. An agenda will be shared two weeks in advance.
2. The **Pandemic Guidance Group** continues to monitor public health orders and determine how they are implemented at Home Street. These are current updates.
  - In the future, anyone who speaks during worship may unmask for speaking. This includes the worship leader, storyteller and person offering the meditation. This new adaptation is to improve the sound quality for listeners.
  - Although churches are permitted open for in-person worship up to 25 percent capacity, we choose not to do so at this time because of the ongoing threat of infection, especially related to Covid variants. Persons who are unable to watch the livestream at home are welcome to come for worship in the building. Please call the office to make arrangements.
3. Mark your calendars! On **Wednesday May 5 at 7 PM, Adult Ed** will be showcasing 3 short podcasts made this semester by CMU students connected to Home Street. The three podcasts are "Seeking Elysium," by Marnie Klassen, "The Exiled Church" by Mackenzie Nicole, and "Everyday Relics" by Alexa Nicolle. Each podcast will be followed by a time for discussion. We hope to see you there!
4. **The Neighbourhood Clean Up has been rescheduled for Saturday, May 15, 1:00 – 3:00 pm.** Home Streeters will meet at the Daniel McIntyre/St Matthews Community Association (823 Ellice) at 1:00 pm to help clean up the streets around the church. Garbage bags and supplies will be provided, but you might want to bring your own gloves. Let's help build community and get to know our neighbours!

5. **Home Street volunteers at Camp Assiniboia: August 16-20.** For this week of day camp, Camps with Meaning needs volunteers in the kitchen, on maintenance, as camp pastor, and as health officer. We'd like to provide a team of Home Streeters to meet as many of these volunteer needs as possible. It's a great way to support our camping ministry, to meet campers and staff, and to enjoy volunteering together at beautiful Camp Assiniboia. Call the church office for more information or to sign up. We'd like to have our volunteer team in place by the end of April.
6. **Are you interested in an intentional community within walking distance of the church?** Several households, including one Mennonite, are seeking several other households to buy a large house together. Contact the church office for information.



### Climate Action Announcements for Earth Day

**Celebrating Arbor Day** - The Climate Action Team has applied to the city and has retained a professional arborist to plant a shade tree in front of the church. We will let you know when it is approved and when the planting is scheduled.

**Climate Action Incentive Payment** –please consider donating some or all of your Climate Action Incentive rebate to the Home Street Climate Action Fund. We have fully allocated our current fund to a series of priority actions to green 318 Home Street. The amount you receive from the federal government is based on the size of your household starting with \$360 for a single adult or the first adult in a couple. For more information <https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/news/2020/12/climate-action-incentive-payment-amounts-for-2021.html>.

The Climate Action Group has joined **For the Love of Creation**. It is a faith-in-action campaign that mobilizes people across Canada to reduce household greenhouse gas(GHG) emissions and demonstrate support for increased federal climate action. <https://fortheLoveofCreation.ca/> The campaign runs February 17 (Ash Wednesday)to October 4, 2021.

**Christian Peacemaker Teams** has provided resources for Love, Truth, and Action at <https://cptaction.org/love-truth-action/> It is in response to calls for support from Water Defenders at Line 3 in Minnesota.

7. **Finance Update:** As of the end of March, we have raised \$55,017 so far this year. To put this in context, this is just under 20% of our budgeted goal for the year and almost identical to where we were at the end of March 2020. So far this year, we have spent \$71,948 - about a quarter of our total budget (which is right on track since we are a quarter of the way through the year).

While we are in a deficit position so far, this is pretty common for our congregation at this time of year. Thank you to everyone for your generosity and continued contributions to the work of Home Street Mennonite Church!

**Donations** to Home Street Mennonite Church can be made in the following ways:

- Cheque mailed or dropped off at the church
- E-transfer made by your banking app to the email [donate@hsmc.ca](mailto:donate@hsmc.ca)
- Automatic deposit-contact the church office for a form to submit to the bank.
- Online via Canada Helps. See the website at <http://www.hsmc.ca/donate.html>

### Mennonite Church Manitoba

#### **Woven invites you to check this women's event out**

MCBC Women's Day – May 1, 2021 @ 10am to 1pm (PDT) - come fellowship with sisters in Christ. This year we are going virtual featuring Comedian Sara Weber and Chef Dez. Sara will present "Mother's in a Dangerous Time" looking at the lighter side of the Covid pandemic. Chef Dez will walk us through a cooking show where we create our own Zuppa Toscana (Chef Dez' take on the Olive Garden soup) and Rosemary Parmesan Biscuits.

Please register by email to [admin@mcbc.ca](mailto:admin@mcbc.ca) and e-transfer the \$10 registration fee to [admin@mcbc.ca](mailto:admin@mcbc.ca) OR Register at <https://mcbc.ca/womensday> by paying the registration fee online. Register as early as possible to allow you time to shop for the meal ingredients prior to May 1<sup>st</sup> (recipe will be emailed to you upon registration payment). For any further information please contact Janette Thiessen, 604-850-6658 or e-mail [admin@mcbc.ca](mailto:admin@mcbc.ca)

***Woven is the new name for Mennonite Women Manitoba.***

**Do you know a university student who is still deciding where to live in Winnipeg this summer or in the fall?** Then pass this on! Emmaus House has openings for summer/fall 2021. It is a place that immediately feels like home and where you'll find good food, friends, and lots of **laughter. Seriously, check it out at [www.emmaushousewinnipeg.ca](http://www.emmaushousewinnipeg.ca) or call 204-272-9191 and as for Rod or Susan.**

### Canadian Mennonite University

Be part of CMU's next **Virtual Open House** and take an online tour of the CMU campus, connect with Admissions Counsellors, faculty, and with current students. All students, parents, teachers, and school counsellors are invited to this open house, which is an excellent way to orient yourself to a CMU university experience. If you are unable to make it at the scheduled time, please sign up as an attendee to receive a recording of the tour. **Wednesday, April 28, 4:00 PM (CDT).** Register at [www.cmu.ca/virtualopenhouse](http://www.cmu.ca/virtualopenhouse).

**CMU is hiring a full-time Admissions Counsellor** responsible for recruiting students to CMU's undergraduate programs. If you have a passion for promoting the advantages of CMU, and want to be part of an energetic Enrolment team, check out more details at [www.cmu.ca/employment](http://www.cmu.ca/employment).

**Zoom Event at CMU:** We know that the climate crisis is pressing us all to act, and that it's easy to feel guilt for doing too little. Within this challenge, lament can help us claim that hopeful change *is* possible, as we deepen our faithfulness to the God of Creation. Join panelists Marta Bunnett Wiebe, Bob Haverluck, and Zoe Matties, and together explore what 'Ecological Grief' can mean in our lives. **Wednesday April 28th at 7:00 PM (CDT).** Register your interest at [www.arocha.ca/events](http://www.arocha.ca/events) to receive a zoom link prior to the event.

**CMU Fall Planning:** For the upcoming school year, starting September 2021, CMU is planning for primarily in-person classes, with some accommodation via hybrid/online formats where needed. As it has over the past 12 months, CMU is following all guidelines put forth by Manitoba Health. Check out more details on fall plans at [media.cmu.ca/news-release-fall-2021-plans](http://media.cmu.ca/news-release-fall-2021-plans).

## Westgate

Please save the date for Westgate's Virtual Spring Bursary Fundraiser on May 18th, 2021.

Every year we rely on donations from our generous community to raise funds for the bursaries. We have a number of events planned this year including a virtual program, an online prize raffle, torte raffle, and gourmet pick-up meal. Go to [westgatemennonite.ca](http://westgatemennonite.ca) to learn more about how to make a donation and help support our students and their families!

## Mennonite Central Committee

Your church can join a community of compassionate Manitobans working to end global hunger. Sponsor an acre of Manitoba farmland with **Grow Hope** and help provide food and agriculture training for people in places like Cambodia and DR Congo. Plus, every \$1 you give can grow up to \$5! Visit [mccmb.ca/GrowHope](http://mccmb.ca/GrowHope) or call Simone at 204-261-6381 to find out how to get started.

**Take the pledge, choose thrift first!** Care for our planet by making secondhand your first choice. For example, help reduce textile waste by checking out a thrift shop *before* you look at any new clothing for the rest of the year. Pledge your commitment at [choosethriftfirst.ca](http://choosethriftfirst.ca) or by [clicking here](#).



Mennonite  
Disaster  
Service

**The April edition of On the Level is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service.** In our current issue: MDS is celebrating National Volunteer Week, the Homes of Hope facility in Ephrata, Penn. is almost completed and a royal thank you to MDS volunteers.

Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/2OLOrAJ>

## INTERNATIONAL WITNESS



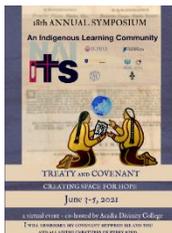
Mennonite  
Church  
Canada

### China Witness workers to return to Canada

After 30 years of service in Hong Kong, Macau and Mainland China, George and Tobia Veith will return to Canada this summer. Pray for them as they adjust to this shift in their lives and ministry. Pray for their family in Canada and colleagues in China and for the changes this will cause in their lives.

### Prayer for young adults during pandemic

The fall-out of the pandemic has been particularly difficult for young people just graduating and starting their work lives. Three of our Witness worker families have young adults living in Canada, while their parents serve internationally. Pray their children find the emotional and financial help that they need.



### Indigenous- Settler Relations

#### NAIITS symposium June 3-5, 2021

Mennonite Church Canada is sponsoring 20 friends from across our nationwide community, and the Unsettling the Word ([New Leaf Network](#)) Book Club, to attend this year's virtual NAIITS symposium — Treaty and Covenant: Creating Space for Hope, June 3 – 5, 2021. It will be a rich time of learning and relationship building. For more information and to register, visit <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/naiits-2021>.

### Home Street Mennonite Church

318 Home Street, Winnipeg MB R3G 1X4, Treaty 1 Territory

Ministers: The Entire Congregation

Co-Pastor: Judith Friesen Epp,

[judith.friesenep@hsmc.ca](mailto:judith.friesenep@hsmc.ca), 204-783-1721

Co-Pastor: Phil Campbell-Enns

[phil.campbellenns@hsmc.ca](mailto:phil.campbellenns@hsmc.ca), 204-783-1721

Office Administrator: Cindy Paetkau

[administrator@hsmc.ca](mailto:administrator@hsmc.ca), 204-783-1721

E-Transfers accepted at [donate@hsmc.ca](mailto:donate@hsmc.ca)

Website: [www.hsmc.ca](http://www.hsmc.ca)

