



Photo of Grace Sanctuary by Jackie Koop

Grace Mennonite Church

February 28, 2021

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

Pastors Mel Letkeman & Kyle Penner

www.gracesteinbach.ca 204 326 3707

Vol 60, No.9



Virtual Foyer via Zoom Link: 10:00 am
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8984736540>

Livestreaming Link: 10:15 am
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVeiuCTLu8JlklInRV782cA>

Prelude

Life of the Congregation

Call to Worship

Blessed Assurance Voices Together #435

Time with Children

Luke 13:1-9, 18-21

Repent?

God is so Good

[Luke 13:31-35](#) and Extinguishing of a Candle
(click on scripture)

Congregational Response

Prayer of Confession and Assurance

Deep Calls to Deep

Congregational Prayer

Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus HWB# 340

Benediction

Postlude

Worship Speaker:

Mel Letkeman

Worship Leader:

Tara Klassen

Time with the Children:

Kyle & Arianna and Zachary Penner

Musicians:

David Graham, Marlowe Heinrichs

Tech:

Tim Schmitt, Lloyd Funk

Usher:

Doug Kathler

Greeters:

Kiran & John Mahi

Digital Ushers:

Kyle Penner, Brenda Penner

Congregational Response

Identify who, and that to which,
you are most committed to in your life and living?
Might you want to commit yourself more fully to those?
Or is there something which you have wondered about
being more committed to,
some nudging you've felt to involve yourself,
a nudging coming from the Spirit perhaps?
What would you need to do explore that nudging to commitment?
Are you content with your commitment to be
loving,
gracious,
merciful,
kind and forgiving
a God has been with you in Christ?
How might you grow your commitment to who you are with others?
Or maybe you sense a lack of commitment to much these days
and that even bothers you?

In a prayer of Confession and Assurance we will
talk with God about going deeper into commitment.
After praying, continue to ponder that and let the visuals take you
'deep into the woods',
symbolizing being led deeper into your commitment to God,
others and our earth.
Pray to God for the Grace to be taken to that deeper commitment.



Sunday, March 7, 2021
Third Sunday of Lent
Worship Speaker: Kyle Penner
Please read [Luke 15:1-31](#)

In these three parables, which character do you identify with?

We Pray Together

Prayer for our Congregation:

Pray for **Irene Rempel** as she adjusts to her new home at the Resthaven Nursing Home.

Prayer for our Community:

Pray for Agape House, Soups On, Southeast Helping Hands, & Steinbach Community Outreach as they continue to work and support those in need, during these difficult days.

Prayer for this Week:

Lord, show me the life-giving goodness of Repentance.

Prayer for our World:

The army, and COVID rapid response team, have left Pauingassi. We give thanks for the work they did, and that the community is recovering well.

Condolences:

Our Condolences go out to **Les & Shannon, Scott and Ryan Kehler** on the passing of Les's brother, John Kehler, Friday, February 19 in Winnipeg. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Our Condolences go out to **Roger & Sharon Loewen** on the passing of their dear mother, **Helena Loewen**, Sunday February 21 in Vita. A family memorial service was held on Wednesday, February 24.

Our prayers are with you as you remember your dear loved ones, saying good bye and celebrating their lives during this difficult time.

Opportunities at Grace

2021 HAVENGROUP FOUNDATION Fundraiser:

Perogy & Farmer Sausage Drive thru Fundraiser. Place your order online at www.havengroup.ca or call the HavenGroup Admin Office @ 204 346 0126 by 4:00 pm, March 10, 2021. *You may drop off your donation when you pick up your meal. Please make cheques payable to HavenGroup Foundation. Receipts will be processed with the value of the meal deducted (meal value \$15). Pick up at 185 Woodhaven Ave., March 12. (confirm pickup time when placing your order).*

Grace Adult Formation on Is it Homophobia or Something Else?



Historically, the vast majority of Christians have condemned all forms of non-heterosexuality and non-binary gender, yet in the last two decades a growing minority of Christians have affirmed LGBTQ+ people instead of rebuking them, or even resisting them. What is the most accurate and respectful understanding of people who remain non-affirming of sexual diversity? What discernments might facilitate further dialogue and acceptance, instead of hindering it?

To join this Zoom session, click the following link on

Tuesday, March 2, at 7:30pm: <https://prov.zoom.us/j/92719266048> .

If you have any questions, contact Dennis Hiebert at dennis.hiebert@prov.ca

*Note: All Formation sessions will be recorded for those interested.
Recordings for previous sessions are available upon request.
Please contact Dennis or the church office for the links.*

This Lenten week at Grace: February 28 – March 6

- Sunday:** **Virtual Worship Service:**
Zoom at **10 am** *
Livestream at **10:15am**
Zoom following the service. *
Middle & High School Lenten MCM Worship, 8 pm
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2048961616>
- Monday:** Soup's On lunch program for HSD, 9:00 am
- Tuesday:** Soup's On Take out only, 5:00 pm
- Wednesday:** **Morning Prayers, 7:30 am, zoom** *
Evening Prayers, 9:30 pm, zoom *
Middle School Youth zoom, 7 pm *
- Thursday:** High School Youth Zoom, **8:00 pm** *
Stories with Seniors, zoom 10 am *
Sisters of Grace, Lenten Prayers, 7 pm, zoom
- Friday:** Soup's On Take out only, 5:00 pm
*<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8984736540>

Grace Lenten Practices

Lenten Prayer with Sisters of Grace

Thursdays during Lent, beginning Feb. 18 at 7 pm via Zoom.

Please contact either Brenda Penner (brenda.reimer.penner@gmail.com) or Enid Letkeman (meletkeman@gmail.com)

to join us for a Lenten Prayer Practice together. All are welcome!

Grace Youth

Sunday, February 28, @ 8:00 pm

Every Sunday in Lent

Middle School & High School Lenten MCM Worship – Sunday @ 8pm.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2048961616>

Stories with Seniors:

Join us for **Stories with Seniors** every **Thursday, 10 am on Zoom.**

Grab your device, a coffee and join us to enjoy interaction with each other and different parts of the Passion Story.

Lenten Prayers:

Join us on Zoom, Wednesday's, at **7:30 am** for morning and **9:00 pm** for, evening prayers during Lent. They will be short times of prayer to begin and end our days. This will begin on **Feb 24th.**

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday Service, April 1st

You will have an opportunity to join a taped Communion Service with other Gracers via Zoom.

The video link will be sent to you for that evening Worship Service.

Good Friday Services, April 2nd:

Come together for an outdoor

Walking Worship Service at 10:00 am.

Gather for a **Service of Shadows**

in the sanctuary at **7:30 pm**



Together in Lent

Grace Lenten Practices Continued

Sad Saturday, April 3rd:

Join us on Zoom at **7:00 pm** for liturgies and a time of Wondering and Questioning.

The disciples **'knew'** it was all over after Jesus' death on Friday. So, all they'd believed about Jesus had also ended. While we know the ending of the story, the day in between is still an opportunity to act as if we didn't. What are deepest doubts, questions and wonderings? We'll share some of those which Biblical Characters reveal, but spend most of our time sharing ours.

Easter Morning, April 4th:

Gather for Easter Morning Worship in the Sanctuary at **10:00 am**

There might possibly be an outdoor Easter Morning Worship as well.

Stay tuned for details.



Note: We will keep you updated regarding the Holy Week Services. Given unknowns about both indoor and outdoor gatherings all of our planning will need to be flexible.

Grace Lenten Practices

Lent is the 40 day period before Easter.

It's meant to symbolize the 40 years the Israelites spent wandering in the desert, and also the 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness.

Traditionally, it has been a time where people have "given up" something: Sugar, coffee, alcohol, social media, etc. Other people choose to take something on: Praying, giving, exercise, contemplation, etc.

"Lent is not really about sacrifice and deprivation, it is about freedom and transformation. This is not a time to wallow in our sins and shout woe is me, though it is a time to acknowledge our brokenness, repent of our sins and journey towards wholeness. It is a time to acknowledge the deep longing of our hearts for a more intimate walk with God and consider ways that we might accomplish that." – Christine Sine

In talking about what Lent looks like during a pandemic, we noted that we already given up so much this year and have all lived through both little sufferings and big sufferings over the past 12 months. And so rather than suggest traditional Lenten disciplines, we wanted to encourage some different practices, with the word "**Intentional**" being our guiding word.

1. If you'd like to intentionally spend more time in **prayer**, we recommend two apps: *Lectio 365* and *Pray As You Go*. Both offer 10 minutes of guided daily prayers to listen to, perfect for praying at home, on your commute, or on a daily walk.
2. At times life in a pandemic can seem so overwhelming, so we're encouraging you intentionally **celebrate** once a week. Think of something that brings you life, or something your family loves to do, and put it in the calendar. Have ice cream, tell jokes, play board games, read a book in the sunlight, go tobogganing, dance while making supper, sing karaoke, write a snail-mail letter, etc. Whatever makes you come alive, trust that doing it is part of the journey towards wholeness.
3. **Love your neighbours** – Your actual next door neighbours. Most of us don't know the people down the street, so pick 6 houses near you and intentionally make a plan to be a good neighbour. Some ideas could be to drop off cookies, baking or other food, leave a nice handwritten note at their door, shovel their driveway, invite them to a backyard bonfire, etc.



Our hope and prayer is that by **intentionally praying, celebrating, and loving your neighbour** this Lent, we are opening ourselves up to some of the freedom and transformation that God seeks for us.

Grace Contacts:

Pastor: **Mel Letkeman**

Associate Pastor: **Kyle Penner**

Administrative Office:

Administrative Assistant's:

Cathy Barkman *Tuesday & Wednesday 9:30-1:30*

Audrey Frey *Thursday & Friday 9:30-1:30 (working from home)*

mel@gracesteinbach.ca

kyle@gracesteinbach.ca

office@gracesteinbach.ca

cathy@gracesteinbach.ca

audrey@gracesteinbach.ca

Grace Mennonite Church
Worship Services in the Sanctuary,
RSVP Process

We will welcome up to 43 registrations for each Sunday morning.

Please email office@gracesteinbach.ca if you plan to attend. Your email should list the first and last name of each person attending the service. If you are unable to email the church, you may call the church Tuesday - Friday mornings.

We are confirming RSVPs from Tuesday to Friday at noon. The office staff will not be able available to confirm RSVPs after Friday noon.

All worship participants and their families will also need to email the church to register to attend.

Live Streaming and Audio options

For those not able to be in attendance Sunday mornings we will continue to provide the live streaming services. An audio recording of the service will also be available on our website following the service.

Zoom Sessions

We will continue to offer Zoom Sessions Sunday mornings. Details will be sent as usual.

Self-Assessment

- 1) Congregants, staff and volunteers are reminded to stay home if they are feeling unwell, even if their symptoms are mild.
- 2) All congregants, staff and volunteers should screen themselves for symptoms of Covid-19 or exposures prior to entering the facility. Click here for the latest self-assessment tool: <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/screening-tool/>

Grace Mennonite Covid Guidelines

Click here to see the [Grace Mennonite Covid Guidelines](#) posted on our website.

Please contact the office if you have any questions.

Pastors are in the office: Tuesday – Friday, 9:00 – 12:30

***If you need to get into the building for something,
please contact the office via email, first.***