



Grace Mennonite Church

March 14, 2021

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

Pastors Mel Letkeman & Kyle Penner

www.gracesteinbach.ca 204 326 3707

Vol 60, No.11



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

Oh Lord Most Holy

Time with Children

[Luke 16:19-31](#)

Canyons and Bridges

God of the Bible VT #420

[Luke 20:9-15a](#) and Extinguishing of a Candle

(click on scripture)

Congregational Response

Prayer of Confession and Assurance

O Healing River VT #706

Congregational Prayer

Healer of Our Every Ill VT #644

Benediction

Postlude

Worship Speaker:

Mel Letkeman

Worship Leader:

Jenn Kulpa

Time with the Children:

Kyle & Arianna Penner

Musicians:

Elbert & Lorraine Toews, Annalee Schellenberg, Ernie Klassen

Tech:

Tim Schmitt, Lloyd Funk

Ushers:

Elsie & Doug Kathler

Greeters:

Erin Unger, Evelyn Friesen

Digital Usher:

Brenda Penner

Sunday, March 21, 2021

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Worship Speaker: Kyle Penner

Please read [Luke 19:1-10](#)

Who do you identify with in this story?

Jesus? Zacchaeus? Or the crowd?

Congregational Response

Identify some situation in your life, some memory, some relationship or anything else with which you are struggling.

Don't think about it too much, name the first one that comes to mind. Maybe it feels like a wilderness or dark valley in which you might be walking.

Try to identify the healing that you would hope for or need as you walk it. And, if that isn't easily done, simply sit with the situation and all of the feelings which it conjures up.

In a prayer of Confession and Assurance we will talk with God about deep healing. Continue to ponder and pray as you let the visuals take you 'deeper into the wilderness', symbolizing being led to deep healing in the midst of your wilderness.

We Pray Together

Prayer for our Congregation: Pray for **Kalem Martens**. He has recently had surgery on one eye and has been recovering at home. He will also need surgery on his other eye.

Prayer for our Community: Pray a prayer of thanks that many seniors will be vaccinated in the weeks to come.

Prayer for this Week: Lord, make me aware of the Canyons which separate me from others.

Prayer for our World: Pray that **John & Karen Friesen** in Egypt, **Daniel & Damaris Loewen Rudgers** in Kenya and **Emma Martens** in Rwanda will be encouraged as they Worship in their local churches during Lent and Easter.

Opportunities at Grace

Grace Youth:

Given the new Covid restrictions, the youth are meeting outside for bonfires! If you have a picnic table/bench/church pew you could lend/donate, please let Kyle know!

Giving Project:

The youth are collecting **2021 rolls of toilet paper** for **Steinbach Community Outreach!** Please help them out by dropping off rolls of toilet paper at church by Easter morning.

Faith & Life Male Choir have recorded a song entitled, **Could it be that God is Singing**. You may listen to it here: <https://youtu.be/-ODs7mxuDOA>

May it bring warmth to your soul.

Leroy Penner

Please see the bulletin board for information:

-  Job Opportunity – Youth for Christ Steinbach Administrative Assistant
-  MCC, MCCanada, MCManitoba, CMU
-  An Evening of Hymns and Inspiration with Rosemary Siemens and Special Guest SaxAndViolin 7:00 pm March 14th, 2021 : visit www.steinbacharts.ca for the concert link and watch on your smart tv/computer/mobile device!

This Lenten week at Grace: March 14 – March 20

- 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 Bonfire at church –
The girls are invited this week! Dress for the weather,
6:30 – 7:30 pm *
- Thursday:** High School Youth Bonfire, **7:30 pm**
Dress for the weather
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](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8984736540)

Grace Mennonite Church
Worship Services in the Sanctuary,
Update & RSVP Process

We will welcome up to 100 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.

Grace Lenten Practices

Lenten Prayer with Sisters of Grace

Thursdays during Lent, 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, March 14, @ 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

Gather for a Service of Shadows in the Sanctuary at 7:30 pm

Good Friday Services, April 2nd:

Come together for an outdoor

Walking Worship Service at 10:00 am.

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, question 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.

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.

UNMUTE

Grace Mennonite church has partnered with MCC Manitoba, Theatre of the beat, and four other churches to present this live, only theatre experience

FOR FREE.

Friday, March 26, @ 7 pm

www.TheatreOfTheBeat.ca/Unmute

Unmute is a live online, interactive theatre production about the impact of a pandemic on gender based violence. An opportunity to gain skills and tools for recognizing and responding to violence.

Watch a trailer for the event at <http://ow.ly/dpUz50DPmv3>.

This show is available on 100 screens across Manitoba - our goal is to have 20 of those screens represented by Gracers.

RSVP: If you would like to attend, please email Jill Reimer at jill.reimer@gmail.com to sign up by March 14. (today)



Grace Contacts:

Pastor: **Mel Letkeman**

Associate Pastor: **Kyle Penner**

Administrative Office:

Administrative Assistant:

Cathy Barkman: Tuesday – Friday, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

mel@gracesteinbach.ca

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office@gracesteinbach.ca

cathy@gracesteinbach.ca