

Grace Mennonite Church

Fall Fellowship

Sunday, September 10th, 2023

10:00 am – Worship Service Under the Big Top!

Vol 62, No 37



Special Music

Welcome &
Call to Worship

To God Be the Glory VT 84

Special Music

Life of the Congregation

(Small Groups, Sister's of Grace, Women's Breakfast, Men's Breakfast)

Children's Story

Blessing of the Backpacks & School Kits

This Little Light of Mine

Special Music

Life of the Congregation

(Children's Church, Little Bits of Grace, Youth)

Special Music

Life of the Congregation

(Adult Formation, Young Adults, Senior's Coffee)

Congregational Prayer

Special Music

Christ Has No Body Here but Ours VT 568

Closing



Litany for School Kits

Leader: God, we circle a stack of school supplies, thankful for the ways in which this little mountain of abundance will go now to meet needs in an ocean of scarcity. We ask your blessing upon these school bags, sown with love and dedication...

All: As our hands have gathered and sent, may you care for the little hands who will receive and use.



Leader: We ask your blessing upon shiny new notebooks, crisp and ready to receive the hidden thoughts, the assigned essays, the figures and translations of lessons yet untaught...

All: As our hands have gathered and sent, may you care for the little hands who will receive and use.

Leader: We ask your blessing upon rulers and erasers, knowing an education's benefits cannot be measured and the gift of education may well be able to erase not all, but at least a few of the disadvantages poverty extorts...

All: As our hands have gathered and sent, may you care for the little hands who will receive and use.

Leader: We ask your blessing upon pencils - standard pencils that teach necessary realities and colored pencils that encourage the imagination to dream new possibilities...

All: As our hands have gathered and sent, may you care for the little hands who will receive and use.

Leader: We do not know the children who will receive these school kits, but we ask you to shelter and encourage these little lives and help us find creative ways to advance their cause. Though the need around our world is as fathomless as the ocean, we are thankful for this defiant little mountain of supplies that boldly seeks to meet some of those needs.

All: As we pack and prepare, bless the children who will use these supplies to learn and to live. In your loving name we pray, Amen.



To God Be the Glory VT 84

1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done:
so loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done.

2. Oh, perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God.
The vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. (refrain)
3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son,
but purer, and higher, and greater will be our wonder,
our transport, when Jesus we see. (refrain)



This Little Light Of Mine

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

The light that shines is the light of love
Lights the darkness from above
It shines on me and it shines on you
It shows what the power of love can do
I'm gonna shine my light both far and near
I'm gonna shine my light both bright and clear
Where there's a dark corner in this land
I'm gonna let my little light shine.

On Monday he gave me the gift of love
On Tuesday peace came from above
On Wednesday he told me to have more faith
On Thursday he gave me a little more grace
On Friday he told me to watch and pray
On Saturday he told me just what to say
On Sunday he gave me the power divine
Just to let my little light shine.

Christ Has No Body Here but Ours VT 568

1. Christ has no body here but ours;
no hands, no feet here on earth but ours.
Ours are the eyes through which he looks on this world
with kindness.

Through our touch, our smile, our list-'ning ear,
embodied in us, Jesus is living here.
So let us go now, filled with the Spirit, into this world
with kindness.

2. Ours are the hands through which he works,
ours are the feet on which he moves,
ours are the voices through which he speaks to this world
with kindness.

Through our touch, our smile, our list-'ning ear,
embodied in us, Jesus is living here.
So let us go now, filled with the Spirit, into this world
with kindness.

Worship Leader	Patrick Friesen
Technicians	Lloyd Funk, Tim Schmitt
Ushers	Ken Fehr, Marigold Peters
Musicians	THANK YOU to all of you who graciously participated in our service this morning!

We Pray Together

We pray for our international workers, **Daniel & Damaris Loewen-Rudgers** (Kenya).

Please pray for **Dennis & Judy Hiebert's** grandchildren who were born prematurely. They are doing well but will be in the hospital for 8 – 10 weeks.

A special thank you to all of the kind souls that took the time out of your busy days to pray for and to visit me. With heartfelt gratitude, ***Mary Doerksen***

This Week at Grace ❖ Sept 11 - 16

Monday	Soup's On - Lunch Program @ 9 am
Tuesday	Soup's On - Dine in lower auditorium, 5–6:15 pm Soup's On Gardening – 7:00 pm – weather permitting
Wednesday	Middle School Youth – 7–8:30 pm Meet at church for a bonfire and games! Dress for the weather.
Thursday	Senior's Coffee @ 2:30 pm – meet in the foyer High School Youth – 7:30-9 pm – Meet at church for a bonfire! Dress for the weather.
Friday	Soup's On - Dine in lower auditorium, 5–6:15 pm
Saturday	Men's Breakfast @ 9 am in the basement.

Men's Breakfast group:

We are having our next Men's Breakfast meeting on **Sept. 16th**, 9am in the basement of the church. Come and enjoy some good food and fellowship. Share some stories of how your summer went. Cost will be approx. \$5.00 to cover the cost of groceries. There is a sign-up sheet on the coffee bar counter. Any questions, contact Kurt Barz.

Gift Card Exchange

If you would like to **donate** gift cards please drop them off at the church office. Gift cards in denominations of \$100 or less from Walmart, Superstore, Shoppers Drug Mart, Giant Tiger, & Sobeys will be accepted.

We will assess this program on Nov. 12, 2023.

Interim Pastor Update:

We as Church Council have decided that Grace will hire an interim pastor for a minimum one-year term. Working with Mennonite Church Manitoba, Council has met with Kathy Koop and is inviting her to be our interim pastor. She was the pastor at First Mennonite Church in Winnipeg for 20 years. She has recently served a term as interim pastor at Bethel Mennonite in Winnipeg.

We will give the congregation a thorough introduction to Kathy on Sunday, October 22nd. We have invited her to come meet our congregation and speak on Sunday, November 5th, 2023. We look forward to having you meet her.

We invite any questions and/or comments you might have about our decision making process, or any other details. They can be directed to either Brenda Penner, Council Chair or Sjoerd Huese, Church Treasurer.

Thank you,

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Brenda Penner

Pastor: **Mel Letkeman**

Pastor: **Kyle Penner**

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Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday ❖ 9:00 am – 1:00 pm