
Rosthern Mennonite Church

Claire Ewert Fisher, Pastor
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Worship Service March 15, 2020, Number 11

Worship Leader & Pianist Brenda Epp

Prelude

WE GATHER

Call to Worship

Leader: Come, let's sing out loud to the Lord!
People: Let's raise a joyful shout to the Rock of our Salvation!
Leader: Come, you who are thirsty and can find no water in the desert.
People: We bring our questions, our complaints, to the Rock of our Salvation.
Leader: Come and see the One who speaks to us of living water.
People: Show us who you are and who we are, O Jesus.
All: Let's raise a joyful shout to the Rock of our Salvation!

Hymn of Gathering O come, loud anthems let us sing **HWB #68**

Opening Prayer

Hymn of Praise We worship God the Rock **StJ #28**

Announcements

Tithes and offerings

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Congregational Prayer

Hymn I hunger and I thirst **HWB #474**

Children leave for Sunday School

WE LISTEN

Scripture Reading Exodus 17:1-7 Pew Bible p. 52
John 4:5-15 Pew Bible p. 752

Message "Show us the Rock of our Salvation" **Jim Epp**

WE RESPOND

Hymn I heard the voice of Jesus say **HWB #493**

Faith Story "What is conservation agriculture?"

MCC Video

Confession

All: God of living waters, we confess that we have often turned from you and wandered in our own wildernesses of fear and doubt. Our thirst mounts daily, and we turn to many things we believe will satisfy us. In the silence of this moment we name those things.

(Silence)

Words of Assurance

Sending Blessing

Sending Hymn The peace of the earth be with you **StJ #77**

PRAISE AND CONCERNS:

In March, the Rosthern Ministerial Association asks us to pray for the Rivers Christian Ministry, and for all who seek sanctuary.

Prayer requests from Mennonite Church Saskatchewan:

MC Canada Executive Minister Doug Klassen sent out this message to all churches, regarding the spread of the novel coronavirus. "At this time, we pray for those who are sick and for their loved ones who worry and care for them while trying not to spread the virus. We pray for a calm and steadfast spirit within our congregations as we prepare to meet the needs of those affected by this disease and join in efforts to contain it, wherever we are."

THIS WEEK:

Today – Following the service, all are welcome in the lower auditorium for coffee and fellowship time.

Please note: Games and fasha is postponed to next Sunday.

7:00 p.m. – Choirs and Cakes at RJC is **postponed**, due to concerns over the coronavirus. They hope to reschedule at a later date.

Tuesday, 12:00 p.m. – Prairie Meadow Place St. Patrick's Day lunch, all are welcome, cost is \$10/plate. Please RSVP to hfta@sasktel.net, or 306-232-4822 by Mar. 9, if you plan to attend.

Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. – Good Samaritans will meet in the common room at Avera Prairie Place.

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday – Our church will be in use for the Sask Valley Music Festival

Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Blanket-making

2:00 p.m. – Good Neighbours Food Centre meeting to review the financial reports, at the Centre

8:15 – 9:00 p.m. – Lenten prayer time

Next Sunday, 9:15 a.m. – Prayer time

10:00 a.m. – Worship service, 4th Sunday in Lent

11:00 a.m. – Tianna and her mom will be serving lunch – all are welcome. If you wish to make a donation to Tianna's upcoming ALSO trip to Guatemala, you may do so at the lunch.

3:00 – 5:00 p.m. – Games and fasma – please note this change of date

Lent is often thought of as a dry, desert experience, when our doubts, laments, admissions of failure are more welcome and given the chance to be expressed. Sand, rocks, bare branches, burlap, and the absence of flowers help to show the feeling of the emptiness of this season of the church year. We begin with six purple candles, for the six Sundays of Lent, scattered among a few bare branches. Purple is the liturgical color of repentance. Each week one more candle will be extinguished to the darkness of Good Friday.

In John 12 Jesus speaks of how new life comes from the death of a seed. Seeds planted in baskets among the rocks represent the hope that will spring forth with new life, the resurrection to come. Seeds, like us, nurtured by God's loving warmth for growth. Seeds, like us, nurtured to produce fruit.

Welcome to:

Rosthern Mennonite Church

Followers of Jesus Christ

Called by God

Empowered by the Spirit

To Grow as a Community of Grace, Joy and Peace

So that God's Healing and Hope Flow through Us to the World

Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School 11:15 a.m.

Office Hours Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m.- Noon

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Rosthern Ministerial has arranged for Rev Dr. Trisha McCarthy from Emmanuel St. Chad to present a two-part educational event for volunteer hospital visitors. This is not just for deacons, but for anyone who has occasion to visit friends or family in the hospital. The seminars will be on April 27 and May 4 from 7-9 p.m. The cost of the course is covered by the Rosthern Ministerial Association. See Larry Epp if you are interested.

The Rosthern Clothes Basket is currently accepting applications until March 23rd for a part-time Shop Assistant. Go to <https://mcccanada.ca/get-involved/serve/openings/shop-assistant-rcb> to view a full job description, and apply. Contact Erica Baerwald at MCC Saskatchewan for further details ericabaerwald@mccsk.ca or (306) 665-2555.

The Good Samaritan Club has challenged the congregation to fill school kits for MCC. See the list of needed items in your church newsletter, or the back of your March calendar. You may also donate money, and supplies will be purchased. All donations should be in by March 22, and kits will be assembled on March 29.

Good Neighbours Food Centre continues to seek community support to assist people in need. You may place your donations in the cart in the foyer; we will see they are delivered.

MCC Connects: Calling all artisans! If you are an artisan and would like to showcase and sell your creative pieces, we invite you to be a part of this year's Relief Sale at Prairieland Park on June 12 & 13. Artisans have the opportunity to purchase a table for \$100 (which will be directed to MCC's fundraising efforts) and showcase/sell your work to over 1,000 people! Call the office at 306.665.2555 or e-mail mccreliefsalesk@gmail.com for info.

COMING EVENTS:

Mar. 26, 7:00 p.m. – Good Neighbours Food Centre annual general meeting, at the Centre. Jill & Stewart Mitchell will share about their Foodgrains Bank Learning Tour to India.

Mar, 28, 7:00 p.m. - **Coro Nova Spring Concert** at Knox United Church. Growing from choral experiences in RJC, Sonrisa, and A Buncha Guys this new choir continues to sing in community. Come for an evening of song!

Mar. 31, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. – Youth Farm Bible Camp annual vereniki supper, here at RMC, admission by donation, and all are welcome.

Apr. 9, 7:00 p.m. – Maundy Thursday service of communion

Apr. 10, 9:30 a.m. – Good Friday ecumenical ‘Cross Walk,’ beginning and ending here at RMC

10:00 a.m. – ‘Stations of the Cross’ service, here at RMC

10:30 a.m. – Good Friday ecumenical service – “The Seven Last Words of Jesus” – here at RMC

Apr. 12, 9:00 a.m. – Easter brunch, all are welcome, please bring fruit and/or baking. Beverages and cheese will be supplied

10:00 a.m. – Easter worship service

Apr. 15, 11:00 a.m. - MCC is excited to introduce a Centennial webinar for donors and supporters. This is a great opportunity to ‘meet’ (virtually) with reps from three of our key Centennial project locations: Lebanon, DR Congo and Chad. Don’t miss out on this unique opportunity to join other supporters from across the country! Stay tuned for more information or call the office to learn more at 306.665.2555.