

NORTH STAR MENNONITE CHURCH

204 Francis Street, Drake, SK S0K 1H0

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Pastor's office hours: Tuesday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon

June 21, 2020

Father's Day Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Gathering in the Spirit...

Welcome and Call to Worship

Prayer of Invocation & Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Sharing the Good News...

Announcements

Invitation to the Offering

Scripture: Psalm 78:1-8; 1 Thessalonians 2:7-12

Meditation: "God – the Model Father"

Responding with our Whole Hearts...

Praise and Prayers

- Prayer requests
For the students graduating from LCHS (from Drake - Jeremy Bagtindon, Franziska Pfrieder, Jennalee Sealey and Renee Wolfe) from Drake School and from RJC (Kylee Warkentin)
- Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

God of compassion and courage, In our weakness you are strength. In our darkness you are light. In our sorrows you are comfort and peace. Embrace each situation we remember in our prayers this day with your steadfast love.

We thank you for moments of joy that still break into our lives, even in the strange times of pandemic and re-opening of our communities: for love given and received, for friends who furnish our life with meaning and happiness, and for family who embrace us with love and understanding. And we thank you for all caring and faithful fathers celebrated this day, remembering those whose fathers have died and praying for those fathers cut off from their families.

We know many parents, mothers and father, grandparents, aunts and uncles who have left home seeking employment so they can send their hard earnings home to sustain their families. Keep them safe

and help them to be prosperous and give them comfort as they are so far from loved ones.

And we pray for fathers, who we need to be good examples to help sustain, support and lead their families, children, communities and this world. They along with mothers and family units are who all societies depend on to nurture children and each other and their communities and countries. Jesus, help all of us do good. May your strength and blessing and example God, be with each of us so that your kingdom light and peace be that light on the hill for all to see. For those who are fathers, we ask for wisdom and humility in the face of the task of parenting. Give them the strength to do well by their children and by You. In Your Holy name, O God, we pray.

God of the nations, We pray for our country and countries around this world so deeply affected by COVID-19. Guide leaders to make wise decisions about reopening communities, and give patience and courage to those whose lives have been disrupted, especially those who fear what the future holds. Wherever injustice rules and misinformation confuses, protect the vulnerable and shine the light of your truth to reveal the path to justice and renewed hope.

God of compassion, We pray for peace to prevail in places torn by war, and ask that respect for human life will grow wherever people are abused or scorned. We pray for all those who are suffering and for all who mourn significant loss. Surround them with your love and support them with the strength of your Spirit. Open our eyes to see how we might bring comfort to those who are hurting.

We remember those who are refugees and displaced, even within their own nation. We seek and trust and ask for God's promise of abundant life, in a world where no human has to fear for their life or liberty. We thank you that we have been able over the years to sponsor refugees from all over the world to find peace, encouragement and stability in a new home. So this World Refugee Day, we are thankful for the congregations and groups across Canada and around the world who welcome and make refugee sponsorship possible. And may we be willing and able to continue to welcome those in need who are trying to find security and safety.

Eternal God, you hold the dead as well as the living in your tender care. We thank you for your people in every age who have entered into your heavenly presence, especially those dear to our own hearts. Keep us in communion with them and bring us to dwell with them at the last in your everlasting light.

Hear us as we offer prayers in silence for the concerns on our hearts
this day...
(Silence)

And now we pray together in the words St. Francis:
Lord make me an instrument of your peace,
Where there is hatred let me sow love.
Where there is injury, pardon.
Where there is doubt, faith.
Where there is despair, hope.
Where there is darkness, light.
And where there is sadness, joy.

O divine master grant that I may
Not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love
For it is in giving that we receive-
And it's in pardoning that we are pardoned.
And it's in dying that we are born to eternal life.
In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Going out to Serve...
Closing and Benediction

THIS SUNDAY

Meditation – Dan Graber Worship Leader – Irene Bartel

NEXT SUNDAY

Meditation – Rick Block, Canadian Foodgrains Bank

Please note that all events at North Star (worship, meetings, etc.) will be cancelled until further notice. We will continue to send weekly bulletins and information will also be posted on the church website. If you have any questions or comments please call or email the church.

TODAY: RJC Graduation Exercises. A virtual baccalaureate service will be held at 11:00 a.m., followed by a virtual graduation ceremony at 2:00 p.m. Decade grads are encouraged to connect with their classes virtually or in a way that adheres to provincial physical distancing rules. Visit rjc.sk.ca for links, information, and updates. Please pray for Kylee as she participates in these graduation ceremonies.

THIS WEEK AT NORTH STAR:

Monday, June 22

8:00 p.m. – Council of Boards Meeting at church.

COMING EVENTS AT NORTH STAR:

Monday, August 17-Thursday, August 20

VBS at North Star (depending on COVID-19 restrictions)

NORTH STAR NOTES:

- To see the video of the sermon, please click on the sermon title on the North Star web site (northstarmc.ca)
- We are looking for pictures for our church website. These could include worship, church activities, Sunday School, clubs, etc. Please email any suitable photos to the church as soon as possible.

BEYOND NORTH STAR:

Saturday, June 27

11:00 a.m. – Mennonite Church Canada AGM, via Zoom. If you are interested in attending, please e-mail mcsask@mcsask.ca to register. Once registered, you will receive the Zoom meeting link as well as a link to the financial documents.

Sunday, June 28

Friends of Shekinah (Virtual) Fundraiser. Under the unusual circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic, Shekinah Retreat Centre needs extra help. There will be updates on our financial situation, what's currently happening, and our plans for the future. There will also be "meet your board members", interviews on how Shekinah has impacted people's lives, music and songs, and the annual State-Of-Shekinah address. If certain fundraising goals are met, someone may also lose their head ... or, at least, their hair. Please check out www.shekinahretreatcentre.org for more information.

MINUTE FOR MISSIONS

Praying for each other: Please pray for peace in Palestine and Israel in the coming days. Israel's government has announced it will begin annexing significant parts of the Palestinian territory of the West Bank. The Palestinian people, including Christian partners of Mennonite organizations, are concerned that this violation of international law will further deepen dire human rights abuses, land expropriation and economic injustice they have experienced under Israeli military occupation since 1967. Pray for Palestinians, Israelis and advocates around the world who are promoting a durable and just peace, with equal rights and dignity for Israelis and Palestinians alike, using what Palestinian Christians call "the logic of love."

MCC Connects: Although we were not able to gather together at the MCC Saskatchewan Relief Sale this year, there are still opportunities for you to support the work of MCC. Thanks to the creativity of our Relief Sale Committee we were able to move our plant sale online! Available plants can be viewed at <https://bit.ly/2URkpug> and pre-orders can be made by calling Phyllis Goertz at 306-242-8367. Plants will be ready for pick-up on June 27th at Wildwood Mennonite Church between 1-5pm.

CMU Connects: CMU continues to accept applications for September learning that will feature a unique combination of in-person, on-campus and online learning. Discover more about CMU by taking a Virtual Campus Tour! enrolment.cmu.ca/register/virtual_tour

Go Outside, Play Golf, Support CMU. The CMU Golf Classic: COVID Cup Edition, invites golfers anywhere in Canada (and beyond!) to register a round of golf in support of CMU at a course and time they choose this summer. Watch the video invitation at cmu.ca/golf!

Sarah Deckert, a student in CMU's Graduate School of Theology and Ministry, has been awarded a significant scholarship supporting her research focused on 'healing the wounds of colonialism'. Read about Sarah and this important recognition at media.cmu.ca/story-sarahdeckertsshrc.

If you missed Dr. William Cavanaugh's Canadian School of Peacebuilding Lecture entitled The Myth of Religious Violence you can still view it! This lecture by a renowned scholar, known for his work in political theology and Christian ethics, is available for viewing at media.cmu.ca/events/lectures#csop.