

NORTH STAR MENNONITE CHURCH

204 Francis Street, Drake, SK S0K 1H0

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Pastor: Dan Graber Phone: (306) 363-0011

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

May 17, 2020

Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Gathering in the Spirit...

Welcome and Call to Worship

Prayer of Invocation, Adoration & Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Sharing the Good News...

Scripture: Hebrews 11 (The Message)

Offering Reminder and Announcements

Meditation: "Finding God's Grace in the Wilderness – Part One"

Responding with our Whole Hearts...

Praise and Prayer

- For Asian Americans in the United States, Africans in China, (Chinese in the US) and other people all over the world subjected to COVID-related racism: God, confront this evil with your swift justice, and deliver our brothers and sisters from cruelty.
- For everyone anxious about the economic future—how they'll pay for housing, food, and essential medicines: God, connect them to sources of help through the church, the government, (international organizations,) and their (own) communities. Enable them to look toward you for provision.
- For small churches without cash reserves: God, keep their doors open, and urge your people to give generously.
- For educators, forced to adapt curricula to online learning, and for students, forced to exercise more autonomy: God, make homes a place of curiosity, inquiry, and study. Give special help to children without regular access to the internet and other digital tools.
- For those disappointed by the cancellation of milestone celebrations like graduations, weddings, or baby showers: God, comfort them in their disappointments, and make it possible for them to gather again with friends and family.
- Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession:

Loving God,

We thank you for calling us into a relationship with you, and setting us in the world you love. Through our prayers, we bring to you our doubts and fears, our joys and our concerns, and our deepest longings for your world.

Reconciling God,

We pray for our family and friends, those far away and those close by, any who are estranged from us and those whom we depend upon daily. Where our relationships are strained, bring understanding and new possibility. Bless and protect relationships that are joyful and life-giving.

Guiding God,

We pray for public officials, politicians and all who serve the public good day by day. Guide each one to uphold standards of good service above personal gain. Where they experience tension between their faith and their public roles, give them wisdom to make faithful decisions and courage when those decisions are unpopular.

Caring God,

We pray for the people we encounter every day, both those who are shining lights in our communities and those whose lights have yet to be discovered. Help us be respectful of every neighbour, and treat each person we meet with kindness.

Healing God,

We pray for those who are suffering from illness or chronic conditions, for those in grief or loneliness, and for any who feel frustrated or overwhelmed by what they face. Move in their lives with your healing grace and show them signs of your presence and compassion in life-giving ways.

Faithful God,

Your Spirit has worked in the world throughout all generations. We thank you that we belong to you in this generation. We pray for life-long believers and for those whose faith is new. May your church benefit from the wisdom of the experienced and the vibrancy of those beginning their journey. Help us work together in hope, so that our witness to your purposes and promises will invite others to discover life in you.

Any prayers out of the weeks news.

We pray all these things in the name of Jesus, our Risen Christ, who taught us to pray together... The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, let Your name remain holy.

Bring about Your kingdom.

Manifest Your will here on earth, as it is manifest in heaven.

Give us each day that day's bread—no more, no less—

And forgive us our debts as we forgive those who owe us something.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

But let Your kingdom be, and let it be powerful and glorious forever.

Amen.

Going out to Serve...

Closing and Benediction

THIS SUNDAY

Meditation – Dan Graber Worship Leader – Peter Nicholson

NEXT SUNDAY

Meditation – Dan Graber

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.

COMING EVENTS AT NORTH STAR:

June 7

Outdoor worship service. Details to follow.

August 17-20

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)
- The Deacons/Advisory met last Tuesday and talked about the current life of the church. We are encouraged that everyone has biological and church family persons helping each other. And we looked ahead. So to invite you to prepare for/consider/and volunteer for: here are a few ideas we talked about:
 1. Would people be interested in a Zoom meeting? Within your small group or on Sunday morning as a Sunday School time? This could focus on what you want but could include a social time as well as a devotional - or more focused input.
 2. Anyone interested in participating in a mentoring program for our oldest young people? Are the young people interested?
 3. There is the slight possibility of sponsoring another refugee family - in the distant future. We know of a need/request from a family who would like to sponsor their daughter and family who are currently in Jordan. If you have questions and/or are interested in helping out with these ideas - please contact any of the Deacons, including Dan or Lisa.
- Please help me put together a Musing by answering these questions: How will life change as we get through Coronavirus? Any predictions or guesses? Any wishes? What are the top three aspects of life you have enjoyed with the quarantine? What are the top three aspects of life you dislike? How will the larger society change but we will not here in Drake? Any other comments or observations? Thanks, Dan.

BEYOND NORTH STAR:

Sunday, May 24

7:00 p.m. – RJC Spring Showcase (Spring Concert): Join us online on for a showcase of RJC student and staff music, art, and activities. This event will be held on our YouTube channel. Visit rjc.sk.ca for more information.

MINUTE FOR MISSIONS

Praying for Each Other: Pray for our pastors and faith leaders. In this time of crisis and stress they are the ones many of us turn to for comforting words and support. Pray for guidance, renewed strength and peace as they minister to us.