

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

February 28, 2021

Lent 2 Worship Service 9:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Deep in the woods: Called to deep commitment

Gathering in the Spirit...

Welcome

Call to Worship:

One: God, you ask us to set our minds on you, to walk before you and be blameless. You teach us what matters, and you do not hide your face from us.

Many: With each step along the path, we are transformed into who you made and called us to be.

One: God, you teach us that when we lose our life, we save it.

Many: With each step along the path, we hope against hope in your promises.

One: God, you say you will make us exceedingly fruitful, that you will bless us.

Many: With each step along the path, we take up our cross and follow you.

All: We believe your everlasting covenant is to be God to us, and that we will live forever. We call out to you, as you call us deeper into this covenant.

Scripture: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Calm me, Lord STS #45

Prayer of Confession and Assurance

Many: Deep calls to deep. We call to you from the depths of our hearts.

One: We confess when we have stayed on the edges. Not listening to each other. Not taking the path you show. We confess when we have strayed from the way. Silencing suffering. Forfeiting life.

(Silence. Or Name the forces that keep us from deep commitment.)

Deep calls to deep. You call to us from the depth of your love.

Many: Calling us to deep commitment. We come to you, God.

Sharing the Good News...

Announcements

Invitation to the Offering & Offering Prayer

Children's Time: "Deep in the Woods"

Let the children come to me STS #47

Scripture: Mark 8:27-38; Romans 4:13-25

Meditation: "Deep in the Woods: Called to deep commitment"

Responding with our Whole Hearts...

Where He Leads I'll Follow

Scripture Responsive Reading: Psalm 22:23-31

One: You who revere the Eternal, praise Him—descendants of Jacob, worship Him; be struck with wonder before Him, all you children of Israel.

Many: He's not put off by the suffering of the suffering one; He doesn't pretend He hasn't seen him; when he pleaded for help, He listened.

One: You stir my praise in the great assembly; I will fulfill my vows before those who humble their hearts before Him.

Many: Those who are suffering will eat and be nourished; those who seek Him will praise the Eternal. May your hearts beat strong forever!

One: Those from the farthest reaches of the earth will remember and turn back to look for the Eternal; All the families of the nations will worship You.

Many: The Eternal owns the world; He exercises His gentle rule over all the nations. All the wealthy of the world will eat and worship; all those who fall in the dust will bow before Him, even the life that is headed to the grave.

All: Our children will serve Him, future generations will hear the story of how the Lord rescued us. They will tell the generations to come of the righteousness of the Lord of what He has done.

North Star Praise and Prayers:

Going out to Serve...

Go my children

Closing and Benediction

Meditation – Dan Graber

Worship Leader – Joanne K. Bergen

Song Leader – Leona Ewert

Children's Time – Lois Ewert & Teresa Friesen

Sound – Kyle Toporchak

Visuals – Steven Lehr

Ushers – Vicky Toporchak, Emery Laskowski

LAST SUNDAY

Offering – \$1620.00

Attendance (9:45) 30 (11:00) 30

NEXT SUNDAY

Meditation – Dan Graber

Worship Leader – Floyd Bartel

NORTH STAR NOTES:

- Our sympathy is extended to Khem Boupaphanh and her family and friends on the passing of her husband, Sam, on Wednesday, Feb. 24.
- Call for RJC alumni & friends to join virtual choirs: We invite anyone interested to join one or both of the virtual alumni & friends choirs that Richard Janzen is putting together for RJC's upcoming Virtual Choirs & Cakes fundraiser event on **March 14**. There will be a mass choir (alumni, friends, greater community, & RJC students) and an alumni & friends choir. All are welcome. If you are interested in singing, email richard@rjc.sk.ca.

BEYOND NORTH STAR:

Saturday, March 13

2021 MC Sask Annual Delegate Sessions will be held virtually. We will ask the question: Where is God calling MC Sask? God is speaking to us here--in our neighborhoods, our small towns, our snow-covered fields. Our family of congregations is beginning a season seeking to hear what our God is saying: What is God inviting us into? How is God speaking hope, to us and all our neighbors, here were we live? Registration and report book are available at www.mcsask.ca We are allowed 4 delegates to participate on Zoom for this session. This could be done at church if not available on your home computer. Contact the office if interested in being a delegate.

Sunday, March 14

7:00 p.m. – RJC Virtual Choirs & Cakes fundraiser: Join us online for our annual fundraising concert and dessert auction. Enjoy an evening of good music and entertainment by the students, staff, alumni, and friends of RJC. Watch the event and participate in the auction at rjc.sk.ca/cakes.

Saturday, March 27

MC Sask Virtual Youth Retreat. Who's Right/Wrong? Fact, Friction, and Friendship. In two interactive sessions, speaker Tracey Mitchell will help youth learn to navigate difficult conversations where answers aren't just black and white. Using the online platform Gather, the retreat will be a time of worship, conversation, games, and more. Cost: \$15/person. Additional information and registration available at www.mcsask.ca, or contact Kirsten Hamm-Epp, youthminister@mcsask.ca.

MINUTE FOR MISSIONS

MC Sask Connects: MC Sk is preparing three worship services based on the 2021 Annual Delegate Session theme Called to Hear. The second service, led by Josh & Cindy, is now available at <https://mcsask.ca/mcsaskworshipservices>

MCC Connects: Podcast alert! If you haven't had a chance to listen to MCC Canada's "Relief Development And Podcast" – tune in today! The most recent episode features MCC Canada's Executive Director Rick Cober Bauman discussing the challenges and successes of 2020 and what he's looking forward to in 2021. Podcast is available on your podcast platform of choice.

CMU Connects: Wednesday Webinar: Music at CMU - Be part of this Webinar and explore the options and possibilities that music studies at CMU afford. Wednesday, March 3, 4:00 PM (CST). Register at www.cmu.ca/webinar

Last chance to enrol in CMU's Xplore 55+ Enrichment program! Eight online courses begin on Wednesday mornings starting on March 3 and ending on April 7. Explore dimensions of the Christian faith, our world, and life in it – all without assignments or exams! Among others, courses include Worship as the People's Work, Hearing Old Testament Prophets Today, Theological Resistance in Troubled Times: The Compelling Witness of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and Indigenous Spiritualities and Christianities. Go to www.cmu.ca/xplore for information and to register.

Social Justice Fair - Menno Simons College is a Program Centre of CMU affiliated with the University of Winnipeg. Be part of the Menno Simons College's Social Justice Fair and learn about important local social justice causes and initiatives. Interact with leaders and volunteers of community organizations doing really important work. Wed., March 10, 11-2:00 PM (CST). Email msc.studentservices@uwinnipeg.ca for more info.