

## **NORTH STAR MENNONITE CHURCH**

204 Francis Street, Drake, SK S0K 1H0

Phone: 363-2125 Fax: 363-2120 FM station 90.1 Website: northstarmc.ca

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

E-mail: [pastor@northstarmc.ca](mailto:pastor@northstarmc.ca) or E-mail: [admin@northstarmc.ca](mailto:admin@northstarmc.ca)

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

September 20, 2020

Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

### **Gathering in the Spirit...**

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord.

**All: We will call on God's name and make known God's wonderful works.**

Leader: Seek the Lord continually.

**All: We will watch and listen for sign of God's grace.**

Leader: Together let us worship God!

**All: Let us rejoice in God's presence and praise God's holy name.**

*Praise with joy the world's Creator STJ #16*

Prayer of Invocation and Confession

**Leader:** Loving God, compassionate Son, healing Spirit, You meet us in so many places and in so many different ways, when our need is deep and we long for you, and when we think we can manage on our own. You draw near to us in kindness, regardless of our state or condition. You turn weeping into laughter, sorrow into joy, death into life. You speak a word of challenge and a word of comfort to draw us to you. In gratitude, we come before you this day, to seek your word for us, and to enjoy your gift of life in its fullness. Receive our praise and our prayers this day offered in the name of Christ, our Lord.

**All: God, you are the giver of all good gifts, yet we confess that our own generosity is limited. We share what we have, but often reluctantly. We complain about our lot. We compare ourselves to others and see what they have that we lack. We fear running short of things rather than trusting your attention to our needs. Forgive us our worries about tomorrow and give us generous hearts that trust in you.**

Assurance of Pardon

### **Sharing the Good News...**

Announcements

Offering

Meditation: "Restoration to God's Image"

Romans 8:12-17; 1 John 4:10; John 14:12; 2 Timothy 1:8-14;

1 Corinthians 10:13; John 14:27; John 15:1-17

### **Responding with our Whole Hearts...**

Praise and Prayers

- North Star Praise and Prayers.
- Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

### **God of Hope,**

When the world is bleak and dim, you pierce the shadows with light. You help us see new paths and possibilities. For hope in times of despair, for clarity when we felt confused, for a way forward when we thought all was lost, we give you thanks. We pray today for those who feel hopeless; for those who are sick or dying; for those who mourn; and for those weighed down by heavy burdens. May each of us know and share your gift of hope.

### **God of Peace,**

All around us there is conflict: in our world, our communities, our families, even our closest relationships. We thank you for steps toward reconciliation in our lives, our communities, and among peoples of different cultures and histories. We pray today for places where pain, violence and cruelty seem to have the upper hand. May each of us know and share your gift of peace.

### **God of Joy,**

We give you thanks for moments of delight and occasions of celebration; for happy gatherings, gentle solitude, pleasure given and received; for laughter, friendship, and love. We remember those who do not taste such joy; those who are lonely or bitter, hurt, or difficult to love. May each of us know and share your gift of joy.

### **God of Love,**

In Jesus Christ, your love was born in a human life. Jesus was rooted in a particular family, yet his love stretched far beyond to include outsiders and those rejected by others. We are so grateful to be part of his circle. We pray for our families, those closest to us or and anyone estranged. We pray for friends and for acquaintances, strangers, for those very different from ourselves, and even for our enemies. Help us draw our circles of affection wider, seeing our kinship with all people. May each of us know and share your gift of love.

Hear us now as we pray in silence for those who have come to mind this day.

And now, in one voice, we pray this prayer together:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,

Where there is offence, let me sow love;

Where there is discord, let me sow union;

Where there is doubt, let me sow truth;

Where there is despair, let me sow hope;

Where there is darkness, let me bring your light;

Where there is sadness, let me bring 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;

It is in self-forgetting that we find;

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

In Jesus' Name, Amen

### **Going out to Serve...**

Closing and Benediction

*Heart with loving heart united*

*HWB #420*

Meditation – Dan Graber                  Worship Leader – Floyd Bartel  
Song Leader – John Bartel              Pianist – Esther Laskowski  
Ushers – Myrven Kline, Ken Friesen

**LAST SUNDAY**

Offering - \$8770.00 (\$7000.00 budget)      Attendance - 50

**NEXT SUNDAY**

Meditation – Dan Graber      Worship Leader – Jim Ewert

**COMING EVENTS AT NORTH STAR:**

Friday, October 23

7:30 p.m. – The Klassens (Paraguayan folk harp & keyboard) in Concert at North Star.

**NORTH STAR NOTES:**

- Please don't forget to financially support MC Sask. We are within their "umbrella." Plus their work provides, directly and indirectly a variety of services for us, such as a connection with missionaries. So the conference, camps, and the restorative justice ministries should have our help. Thanks. Dan
- Please email any photos of church activities suitable for the church website to the church as soon as possible.
- Please look over these questions this week as you ask yourself, are you maturing, sprouting, learning, becoming more Christlike, growing wiser and being restored into the Creator's image? You may want to ask yourself other questions that focus more on you.

*Is your relationship with God bearing fruit? Are you replacing yourself in this church? Are you maturing? Each year are you losing one bad habit? Is God taking a destructive attitude you have and throwing it into the sea? Are you allowing Jesus to make you a new creation? A new holy person? How are you changing as the months go by? Are you having more love for people? Even the difficult people? Do people around you notice that you are different? As you graft tighter and tighter to the vine is your purpose in life clearer? Do you find that you have more power to live the Christian life? Are you at peace more minutes of each day? Is your life full of joy even when things aren't going well?*

**BEYOND NORTH STAR:**

Sunday, September 27

2:00 p.m. – Help RJC start off the school year by joining us virtually for our opening program. The event will feature music, reflections from RJC parents & students, and an invitation for your ongoing support for the school year. Information on how to watch the event can be found at [rjc.sk.ca](http://rjc.sk.ca).

**MINUTE FOR MISSIONS**

**Praying for Each Other:** This week please pray for Zion Mennonite Church in Swift Current and their pastor Lois Bukar as they juggle the balance of on-line and in-person worship services, with their various needs and expectations.

**MCC Connects:** With harvest in full swing across the province, we invite you to extend the table with Grow Hope Saskatchewan. We still have a number of acres available to sponsor and we need your help! To find out more, or to sponsor your acre, please visit [www.growhopesk.ca](http://www.growhopesk.ca)