

<u>This Week at MRMC</u>		
Wednesday	5:30 pm	PCRC Meeting
	6:30 pm	Youth
	7-8 pm	AA Meeting in Basement
Thursday	10:30 am	Boomers via Zoom
Sunday	9:30 am	Sunday Worship
	11:00 am	Zoom Gathering
	8:00 pm	Adult Ed via Zoom

### Thought for the week

In Ephesians "we see what we have never seen before. We thought we were looking for God. No, God is looking for us. We thought we were seeking God. No, God is seeking us. ... We start with God. If we start with ourselves, we wander farther into the dark woods. Snow-blind, we circle our own tracks on polar ice. We trek across Sahara sands setting our hopes on one mirage after another. Pick your metaphor."  
*[Eugene Peterson]*

### **Staff Schedule**

Gwen: Tues- Fri 8:00- 1:30  
 Garth and Claire: Tues- Thurs 8:30 – 3  
 Fri 8:30- 12:30

### Today's Service

Worship Leader: Eric O  
 Song Leader: Grace P  
 Pianist: Verna O  
 Powerpoint: RaeLynn H  
 Video: Wes E

## **Welcome to Mount Royal Mennonite Church**

Learning to live - through relationships with Jesus,  
 our neighbours and each other

Worship Service 9:30 am

**Vol. 58**

**April 25, 2021**

**No. 17**

Prelude  
 Announcements  
 Silence

### **Practice Resurrection**

#### **The Community in Praise**

Call to Worship  
 Gathering Prayer  
 Gathering Song *O Thou, in Whose Presence* VT #600  
 Story for All Ages

#### **The Community in the Word**

Psalm 31: 1-5 Elsie S  
 Offering  
 Jo-Anne Nickel  
 We Sing *O God in Heaven* VT #720  
 'Overwhelmed' Jack and Linus

#### **Scripture Ephesians 1: 3-14**

Sermon *Poetry of God's Blessing* Claire E F  
*Come Let Us All Unite to Sing* VT #7

#### **The Community in Prayer**

Hymn of Response *God is Working His Purpose Out* VT #770  
 Peace Lamp  
 Sharing our stories  
 Sharing our prayers

#### **The Community Sent**

Sending Song *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines On Me*  
 VT #429

Benediction

**Go now in peace to love and serve the Lord.**

**THANKS BE TO GOD! Amen**

Postlude

### Joys & Concerns

- **Pray for:** *Marg W, Alex and Joel S, Hedio B, Maureen G, Elsie S, Eric and Doris Q, Betty U, Nettie and Roy W, Ann E, Myrna W*
- **Families of the week:** *Roy and Nettie W, Bill H, Michelle R*
- We give thanks for last week's offering of \$1,385, given freely as we learn to live through relationships with Jesus, our neighbours and each other.

### MRMC Coming Events and Notes

- The MRMC Governing Board has asked the Personnel Committee to conduct a performance review of Garth Ewert Fisher, Pastor. We will also ask questions about Garth and Claire's co-pastoring since September 2020. This survey will come to your email on Monday, April 26, 2021. If you would like a paper copy of this survey or if you have any questions about this process please contact Shelley B, Kevin C, or Bernie W.
- **Summer job Opportunity:** *If you would like some outdoors exercise with a purpose, this might be a job opportunity for you.* The job entails lawn care services at the church for the months of May through September. The work involves mowing and edge trimming as needed - approximately 5 times per month. You may use your own mower or one provided by the church. Pay is monthly or per mowing. Please contact Len A at 306-374-4563 for details.
- "The PCRC Committee will be meeting on April 28 at 5:30. Please consider the following questions - Recently as a congregation we moved from 2 pastors to 3. How do you feel this transition has gone? What do you feel has gone well? Has something been overlooked? This is not a formal evaluation of any of our pastors. It is an informal starting point for discussion purposes only. If you any comments, suggestions, items of praise please pass them onto Trevor Siemens, Dave W, Maggie P or Raelynn H. Thank you for your input."
- **Project: Trash for Cash**  
As part of Earth day 2021, we're encouraging all to get involved, and keep our Church community a beautiful place to visit and to live. Please join us in picking up trash! For every filled trash bag, \$10 will be donated to the church budget.  
**Time frame:** Now until the end of April  
**Record your bags:** Email or call the church. Give your name and how many bags you've filled.  
**Church community area:** About 10 blocks around MRMC.  
**What to do with the trash bag upon filling:** Leave behind the church by the garbage can or, preferably, add to your own trash container.  
**Questions?** Contact Ray H from Missions and Service Ministries  
6 bags have already been filled.

### Conference and Community Events

- a) **April 29, 7pm: Join us for the launch Elaine Enns & Ched Myers' new book, *Healing Haunted Histories: A Settler Discipleship of Decolonization*.** This important work looks at issues of Indigenous justice and settler "response-ability" through the lens of Elaine's Mennonite family narrative, tracing "Landlines, Bloodlines, and Songlines" like a braided river. [Click here to register](#)
- b) **May 1, 2021: MCBC invites all women from across Canada to their Women's Day –@ 10am to 1pm (PDT) - come fellowship with sisters in Christ.** This year we are going virtual featuring **Comedian Sara Weber** and **Chef Dez**. Sara will present "Mother's in a Dangerous Time" looking at the lighter side of the Covid pandemic. Chef Dez will walk us through a cooking show where we create our own Zuppa Toscana (Chef Dez' take on the Olive Garden soup) and Rosemary Parmesan Biscuits. Cost is \$10. Details and registration available at <https://mcbc.ca/womensday>. Register early to get shopping list for cooking segment.
- c) **One week Spring Intensive Course Options!** CMU is offering great intensive (one week!) course options through the spring including, *Christian Worship: Patterns and Practices*; *New Testament Letters in 1st Century and Middle Eastern Perspective*; *Refugees and Displacement: Learning to Extend Hospitality*; *Creation and Community in Biblical and Indigenous Perspective* and *Community-Based Research and Peacebuilding*. **All courses are available in hybrid format** – both in person and online. Consider taking one of these courses for credit or audit! Go to [www.cmu.ca/intensivecourses](http://www.cmu.ca/intensivecourses) for more information and to register.
- d) **A word of thanks from RJC High School:** We are deeply grateful for the kind words, messages and prayers we have received this past week as we continue to navigate the presence of COVID-19 on our school campus. We are grateful to have the support of our church constituents, alumni, and friends during this time. We wish for speedy recoveries and God's presence to be with the students and their families affected.
- e) Spring is coming, and Shekinah is looking for "weekend at the cabin / lake" items. In particular, we are looking for BBQs in good working order, outdoor Adirondack style chairs (wood or composite / resin), and counter depth fridges. We also wouldn't say no to composting toilets. Have other ideas about what we might need? Contact Ron at [ron@shekinah.ca](mailto:ron@shekinah.ca)

## O Thou, in Whose Presence VT 600

Text: Joseph Swain (England), *Sacred Poetry: Comprising an Entire System of Divine Truth*, 1790, alt.

Music: *Christian Lyre* (USA), 1831; harm. J. Harold Moyer (USA), 1965, *The Mennonite Hymnal*, © 1969 Faith & Life Press/Mennonite Publishing House  
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O thou, in whose presence my soul takes delight,  
on whom in affliction I call,  
my comfort by day, and my song in the night,  
my hope, my salvation, my all:  
where dost thou, dear Shepherd,  
resort with thy sheep  
to feed in the pastures of love?  
Say, why in the valley of Death should I weep  
or lone in the wilderness rove?

Oh, why should I wander an alien from thee  
or cry in the desert for bread?  
Thy foes will rejoice when my sorrows they see  
and smile at the tears I have shed.  
Yet speak and ten thousands of angels rejoice;  
thy soul-cheering wisdom impart.  
Eternity echoes the sound of thy voice  
that reaches my desolate heart.

## O God in Heaven VT 720

Text: Elena Maquiso (Philippines) trans. D> T. Niles (Sri Lanka), alt. © 1964  
Christian Conference of Asia

Music: Filipino traditional; adapt. Elena G. Maquiso © 1962 Elena G. Maquiso  
arr. *Cantate Domino*, © 1980 World Council of Churches  
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O God in heaven, grant to your children  
mercy and blessing, songs never ceasing,  
grace to invite us, peace to unite us –  
O God in heaven, author of love.

Jesus, redeemer, help us remember

your pain and passion, your resurrection,  
your call to follow, your love tomorrow -  
Jesus, redeemer, savior and friend.

Spirit unending, give us your blessing:  
strength for the weary, help for the needy,  
hope for the scornful, peace for the mournful -  
Spirit unending, comfort and guide.

## Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing VT 7

Text: anon. ca. 1812, *Millennial Praises* (USA) 1812

Music: Edmond S. Lorenz (USA), *Notes of Triumph: For the Sunday School*,  
1886

1. Come, let us all unite to sing,  
God is love.  
Let heav'n and earth their praises bring,  
God is love.  
Let ev'ry soul from sin awake,  
let ev'ry heart sweet music make,  
and sing with us for Jesus' sake,  
for God is love.

Refrain  
God is love!  
God is love!  
Come, let us all unite to sing that God is love.

2. O tell to earth's remotest bound,  
God is love.  
In Christ we have redemption found,  
God is love.  
His blood has washed our sins away,  
His Spirit turned our night to day,  
And now we can rejoice to say that God is love.

Refrain  
God is love!  
God is love!  
Come, let us all unite to sing that God is love.

3. What though our mortal flesh shall fail,  
God is love!  
Through Christ we shall o'er death prevail,  
God is love!  
While endless ages roll along,  
we'll triumph with the heav'nly throng,  
and this shall be our sweetest song,  
that God is love!

Refrain  
God is love!  
God is love!  
Come, let us all unite to sing that God is love.

4. How happy is our portion here,  
God is love.  
These promises our spirits cheer,  
God is love.  
God is our sun and shield by day,  
our help, our hope, our strength and stay;  
and will be with us all the way:  
our God is love.

Refrain  
God is love!  
God is love!  
Come, let us all unite to sing that God is love.

### **God Is Working His Purpose Out VT 770**

Text: Arthur C. Ainger (England), 1894, *Church Missionary Hymn Book* 1899, alt.  
Music: Martin Shaw (England), *Enlarged Songs of Praise*, 1931, © Oxford University Press  
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God is working his purpose out,  
as year succeeds to year;  
God is working this purpose out,  
and the time is drawing near;  
Nearer and nearer draws the time,  
the time that shall surely be:  
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God

as the waters cover the sea.

From utmost east to utmost west,  
where human feet have trod,  
by the mouth of many messengers  
goes forth the voice of God:  
“Give ear to me, ye continents,  
ye isles, give ear to me,  
that the earth may be filled with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea.”

Let us go forth in the strength of God,  
with the banner of Christ unfurled,  
that the light of the glorious gospel of truth  
may shine throughout the world.  
Let us all fight with sorrow and sin  
to set the captives free,  
that the earth may be filled with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea.

All we can do is nothing worth  
unless God blesses the deed.  
Vainly we hope for the harvest-tide  
till God gives life to the seed.  
Yet nearer and nearer draws the time,  
the time that shall surely be,  
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea.

### **Glory to God Whose Goodness Shines on Me VT 429**

Text: Early Christian doxology “Gloria Patri” (Latin, Rome); adapt. Paul Vasile (USA)  
Music: Paul M. Vasile © 2008 Paul M. Vasile  
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Glory to God,  
whose goodness shines on me,  
And to the Son,  
whose grace has pardoned me,  
And to the Spirit,  
whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning,

is now and ever shall be, Amen.

World without end,  
without end, Amen.

World without end,  
without end, Amen.

World without end,  
without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be, Amen.