

This Week at MRMC
 Wednesday 7-8 pm AA Meeting in Mezzanine
 Thursday 9:30 am Forever in Motion
 Sunday 10:00 am Worship Service

Welcome to Mount Royal Mennonite Church

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

Worship Service 10:00 am

Vol. 57 **August 2, 2020** **No. 31**

Prelude
 Announcements
 Silence

Parables: The Arrows of God

Call to Worship
 We Sing *Here in this place* HWB #6
 Unison Prayer
 We Sing *To God be the Glory* HWB #102
 Psalm 14 Monica D

Silence and Meditation
 Story for all ages Val R
 We Sing *Halle, halle, hallelujah* StJ #17

A Story from our Community
 Prayer of Confession
 Assurance of Pardon
 We Sing *Longing for light* StJ #54
 Gospel Reading Luke 15: 1-3, 8-10
 Sermon *'Gather us in and make us your own'*

Hymn of Response *My soul cries out* Garth E F
 StS #124

Peace Lamp
 Sharing our stories
 Sharing our prayers
 Sending song *We will walk with God* StJ #78

Sending words
 Go now in peace to love and serve the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD!

Postlude

Thought for the week

“Never despise homeless people who are stretched out on the ground as if they merit no respect. Ask who they are and discover their worth. They bear the image of our Savior. The Lord in his goodness has given them his own image in order that his image might cause the hard-hearted to blush with shame.”

[Gregory of Nyssa]

Today's Service

Worship Leader: Gord and Marianne S
 Song Leader: Val R
 Pianist: Monica D
 Video: Darrell B

Joys & Concerns

- **Pray for: Kelly and Pam J, Nettie and Roy W, Marg W, Edwine L, Maureen G**
- **Families of the week: Peter and Marjorie T, Eileen K, Maureen G**
- We give thanks for last week's offering of \$4,215, given freely as we learn to live through relationships with Jesus, our neighbours and each other.
- Our condolences to the Funk family on the passing of Joan Funk after a three-month battle with cancer. Joan was the grandmother of Alexandra F S (Joel). A private funeral service for family and close friends was held on Monday, July 27 at Laird.
- We're happy to say that Hugo & Carmen V had their baby on Thursday, July 23rd. His name is Cruz Lobo V. He was 7 lbs., 14 oz and 22" long. They are all home and doing well.

MRMC Coming Events and Notes

- Friends, if you are still wanting to get a mask Heather has some available but won't be making more. Please contact Heather for further information.
- Calling all Forever in Motion friends! It's time for us to get together again - maybe not to exercise, but to check in and see how we are all navigating the heat of summer and the Covid 19 pause. This coming **Thursday, August 6 at 9:30** we are all invited to sit together in the cool of the church foyer and share a bit of life. Hope to see you then.

Conference and Community Events

- a) **Help match Mennonite Church Canada's donation to Mennonite World Conference's COVID-19 relief fund!** This spring [Mennonite Church Canada donated \\$50,000 to MWC's Global Church Sharing Fund](#) to help our sister churches around the world who are struggling to meet basic needs due to pandemic-response measures in their countries. Now Mennonite Church Canada is asking its congregations to **match this donation** so that we collectively raise \$100,000. **Donations will go through regional churches.**

- b) **September 19, 2020:** We are holding our Move-A-Thon (formerly known as Shekinah Bike-A-Thon. It will be a virtual event and all instructions are on our website. Please visit <https://shekinah.ca/events/2020/move-a-thon> to register and take time to view the "inspirational" videos updated weekly which highlight examples of how you can MOVE!
- c) Shekinah Retreat Centre thanks you for your amazing support of our Mission Possible summer fundraiser. To date, we have raised \$35,000 and are moving towards our summer goal of \$40,000. In related news, Ron Schellenberg has shaved his head. To support the work of Shekinah, and see Ron getting his head shaved, you can still be part of the event by going to <https://shekinah.ca/events/2020/mission-possible>.
- d) **SAVE THE DATE: International Witness Sunday on October 18, 2020** Mennonite Church Canada International Witness invites congregations across our nationwide community of faith to celebrate International Witness Sunday on October 18, 2020. Come prepared to give, learn and get involved with International Witness ministries. To help church leadership prepare for this day, promotional material and worship resources, such as readings, prayers and music, will be made available in August. For more information contact the IW Communications committee via jhanson@mennonitechurch.ca or go to <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/international-witness>.
- e) **SAVE THE DATE: Table Talk: Does the Church have Legs? Mennonite Church Canada Study Conference, October 24, 2020** Join our nationwide community of faith as we gather virtually for "Table Talk: Does the Church Still have Legs?", a virtual study conference on the nature and identity of the church and the role of worship. Plenary speakers from Mennonite Church Canada-affiliated universities and colleges will present on themes of ecclesiology and worship. For more information, visit <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tabletalk2020>.
- f) Nutana Park Mennonite Church is starting a Peace Club this fall. Please go to <https://mcsask.ca/event/9284-2020-09-18-peace-club> for details and a poster

Here in this place

Here in this place, new light is streaming,
now is the darkness, vanished away,
See, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in the lost and forsaken,
Gather us in the blind and the lame,
Call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,
we are the old who yearn for your face,
We have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in the rich and the haughty,
Gather us in the proud and the strong,
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion.
Give us to eat the bread that is you;
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion,
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away,
but here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the Kingdom now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever.
Gather us in and make us your own;
Gather us in all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, 1981, *Gather*, 1988
Music: Marty Haugen, 1981, *Gather*, 1988

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To God be the glory

1. To God be the glory, great things he has done,
so loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the lifegate that all may go in.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory great things he hath done.

2. Oh, perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God.
The vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory great things he hath done.

3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son,
but purer and higher, and greater will be our wonder,
our transport, when Jesus we see.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory great things he hath done.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, *Brightest and Best*, 1875

Music: William H. Doane, *Brightest and Best*, 1875

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah! x3
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Text: Caribbean traditional

Music: Caribbean traditional, arranged by John L. Bell

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Longing for light

1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

3. Longing for food, many are hungry.
longing for water many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

4. Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

5. Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

Text: Bernadette Farrell

Music: Bernadette Farrell

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My Soul Cries Out

My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.

Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn!

Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past
to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame,
and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight,
for the world is about to turn.

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn!

Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
this saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound,
'til the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn!

Text: Rory Cooney, based on Luke 1:46-58

Music: Irish traditional; arranged by Rory Cooney

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**Sizohamba naye
(We will walk with God)**

Sizohamba naye, wo wo wo, sizohamba naye.
Sizohamba naye, wo wo wo, sizohamba naye.
Ngomhla wenjabula sizohamba naye.
Ngomhla wenjabula sizohamba naye.

We will walk with God, my brothers, we will walk with God.
We will walk with God, my sisters, we will walk with God.
We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.
We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.

Text: Swaziland traditional' transcribed by the Swedish Youth Exchange project "Meeting Swaziland"

Music: Swaziland traditional; translated by John L. Bell

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