



## **Bulletin**

**April 5, 2020**

Hope Mennonite Church acknowledges our presence on the lands of the Cree, Ojibway, Dakota, and Metis nations, on Treaty lands, covenanted between Indigenous and settler peoples in 1871. We are grateful to our host nations.

### **Sunday, April 5 Palm Sunday**

Palm Sunday Service will **begin formally at 10:40**, but you are welcome to join for a chat, and to make sure you understand what you need to do, as early as 10:15. Brian will be hosting (in charge of the technology) while Lynell leads worship. Music by Vi S, Kevin K and Sasha FS. Judith D is speaking. Emma H is telling the children's story.

You are invited to place some plants in the background, in celebration of Palm Sunday.

After the service, please stay and join the **financial AGM**. Check the information sent out by Sandy a few days ago.

### **Before Sunday Worship**

Read: Mark 11 or Matthew 21 and Romans 12

You may want to listen to the following musical videos before Sunday:

- True evangelical faith [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yCoqhB\\_GU60](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yCoqhB_GU60)
- Leonard Cohen's Anthem [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c8-BT6y\\_wYg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c8-BT6y_wYg)

This is the Time to Be Slow

This is the time to be slow,  
Lie low to the wall  
Until the bitter weather passes.  
Try, as best you can, not to let  
The wire brush of doubt  
Scrape from your heart  
All sense of yourself  
And your hesitant light.

If you remain generous,  
Time will come good;  
And you will find your feet  
Again on fresh pastures of promise,  
Where the air will be kind  
And blushed with beginning.

John O'Donohue (1956-2008) was an Irish poet, author, priest, and philosopher, best known for popularizing Celtic spirituality.

## Zoom Instructions

### A few clues about making the whole Zoom experience work well:

- Practice the spiritual gifts of patience, generosity, and peace (Galatians 5:22-23) as the congregation learns together how to worship online.
- Commit to staying attentive, engaged, and focused on what is happening in the worship service and not distracted by what is in the home environment.
- Mind the microphone mute function in Zoom – keeping microphone muted except when providing leadership.
- Please stop live video if you move from one place to another in your house. Any movement on your part is distracting to everyone.

### Instructions for using Zoom

- If you click on the link in the email you will have received, you should be joining the service. You may have to install something if you have not used Zoom before, but if you have issues, connect with Jason H (204-775-1212) or Sandy KH (204-510-5920) for help.
- You will be asked whether you want to enable computer audio. Yes, you do.
- There is a button on the bottom left of your screen which invites you to “enable video”. If you want your face seen, click on that button. Otherwise, we will just see your name, which is also fine. If you are going to be moving around, please do not enable video, as it is distracting.
- Your microphone will be muted by Brian. Please leave it off, unless you have been asked to speak. Or if there is a place where everyone speaks.
- If your connection becomes unstable, please shut down your video, wait a few seconds, and try again.

## Covid-19 Resources

Here are some fantastic resources for children created by Karin N:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1iiMKRWU2OG1-56cs8dibPsZkQ97S3YCU>

Eric S's organization is providing free webinars, including one by an experienced therapist to support people feeling grounded and calmer in these times. The link is here

<https://ca.ctrinstitute.com/free-webinar/>

## Special Thanks to Hope Volunteers

**Crossways in Common:** Giving special thanks for those Hopers who've been volunteering at Crossways in Common these days, providing food and connecting with people. There may well be others, but I know of Mark O, Kirsten F, Rick Z, Barry S and Jonathan D.

**Food Drive for West Broadway Community Ministry:** many thanks to everyone who volunteered to drive and donate through online donations and food donations. West Broadway was very appreciative of our support.

## MC Manitoba and MC Canada

### MCM Update

Hello Friends, in these unique times, your MCM staff continue to work as possible. We are acknowledging potential layoffs and difficult times ahead, but continue to be heartened by how God is moving in the stories from our congregations.

Read the article on our website [here](#).

### April 5 Mennonite Church Canada On-Line Worship Service

Mennonite Church Saskatchewan provides Palm Sunday service for nationwide community of faith.

As part of Mennonite Church Canada's weekly sharing of worship services, Eigenheim Mennonite Church, together with Mennonite Church Saskatchewan, will collaborate this week to bring a service to our nationwide community of faith for Palm Sunday on April 5. Ryan Siemens, Executive Minister for MC Sask, will focus on Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem (Matthew 21:1-11) and help prepare us to walk with Christ to the cross. Go to <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/worshipservices> to view the video this weekend.

### MCM and MC Canada Pandemic Responses

For a list of how congregations are responding in worship, visit the MCM page here: [www.mennochurch.mb.ca/virusresponse](http://www.mennochurch.mb.ca/virusresponse)

For a curated list of resources with Nationwide applicability, visit the MC Canada page here: [www.mennonitechurch.ca/outbreakresources](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/outbreakresources)

### MennoMedia free resources

Our publisher, MennoMedia, is offering numerous free resources, including releasing a timely prayer and song for free use, from the forthcoming hymnal, Voices Together.

Read the update here.

### Mennonite Church Canada

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## Mennonite Central Committee

*Below are a number of new and recurring bulletin announcements from MCC. These announcements can be copied and pasted directly into your bulletin, spoken aloud during announcement time, or shared in whatever way best suits the needs of your congregation. The images have been formatted to fit a power point slide. We greatly appreciate you sharing these updates with your congregation!*

**Each week until Easter, we will share a Lenten resource with you; a prayer, reading or reflection connected to the season of Lent.**

### **6th Sunday of Lent: Palm Sunday - Matthew 21:9**

The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

The word "hosanna" translates "Save us!" When I hear this word, I'm often taken by the honesty it evokes. "Help us!" "Save us!" As we enter holy week this year, may we find comfort and see the hope of Christ before us even as we hear our own voice among the many calling out for help.

The lectionary readings will also take us to Phillipians 2:1-11. This passage begins,

*"In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness."*

I've been pondering this passage in the light of our current situation. Jesus, being God, did not cling to privilege but became vulnerable – became human. Laying down our privilege for the sake of the health of those around us is what we've all been called to do through this pandemic. I pray that as we do this, we'd have a deep sense of how such action unites us in Christlike love.

### **For all churches:**

Easter is almost here! Try this printable colouring page. At Easter, many Ukrainians decorate eggs to give to friends and family as a symbol of new life. Visit [mcccanada.ca/stories/colour-your-own-easter-egg](https://mcccanada.ca/stories/colour-your-own-easter-egg), for an afternoon of fun.

In a time of uncertainty and social distancing, we want to offer you a selection of educational and engaging resources. From prayers to recipes and cooking videos, from colouring pages to stories that give you a glimpse of life across the world, we hope you can find something just for you. Visit [mcccanada.ca/resources-time-uncertainty-covid-19](https://mcccanada.ca/resources-time-uncertainty-covid-19).

We are offering a recorded version of Maxym Oliferovski's presentation. Maxym is the director of New Hope Center in Ukraine, a local partner of MCC. If you would like to receive a copy, please sign up at [mcccanada.ca/forms/sign-receive-maxyms-video-presentation-here](http://mcccanada.ca/forms/sign-receive-maxyms-video-presentation-here) or contact Jessica Williams at 204.261.6381 or [jessicawilliams@mccmb.ca](mailto:jessicawilliams@mccmb.ca).

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**Steering Committee:**  
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Adam Klassen Bartel  
Anna Schaefer  
Daniel Epp

## Thoughts on Worship

Because we live most of the time in a culture preoccupied with the ego and the small self, we all need to be reminded of how the culture of Christian faith is different. Each week, we need to hear once again why we have come. We need words that are direct and concrete to usher us into an alternative time and space.

In worship we come not to succeed and be noticed, not to achieve or to prove ourselves. We come rather to lose ourselves. We come to die to all our petty concerns and fears and to be submerged once again into the being and the story of God, so that we may rise to new life in Christ. We come to return to the source of true joy and sustenance.

Christian worship is a counter-cultural activity, and it requires clear signals and rituals if it is to draw us out of the culture of narcissism. Preparing ourselves for worship requires disciplined work. To the outsider, it may seem a strange and unnecessary activity. But when we finally arrive and settle in, we will surely remember why we have come.

*Scott Brubaker-Zehr, from "Receiving before Responding" Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology, Fall 2005, Vol 6, No 2*