

**WILMOT MENNONITE CHURCH**

2995 Bleams Rd.

New Hamburg, Ontario N3A 3J3

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**September 24, 2023**

**The Psalms  
Lament in a Time of Disorientation**

Pianist Sylvia Gallian

Welcome Nate Gingerich

Call to Worship

As we gather this day, each of us brings something to worship.

**We bring the burdens of the week.**

We bring prayers of hope, and prayers of anguish.

**We bring our voices, and our offerings, and our questions.**

We bring our faith, tattered or whole as it may be.

**We bring all this to each other and to God, whom we worship today.**

Opening Prayer

Great and loving God, we ask your Holy Spirit to bless our time together and to refresh us with your presence.

**We come carrying the concerns of our daily lives.**

We come holding our sorrow.

**We come sharing the grief and wounds of others.**

We come asking that you meet us here in our brokenness.

**We come to lament the ways in which we have failed.**

We come to confess our shortcomings and our missteps.

**We come seeking you.**

Guide us continually as we open ourselves to listen and lament.

**Fill us, O God, with the peace which passes understanding. Amen.**

Song VT 47 God of Our Strength

Psalm 88 Florence Sheerer

Song Lament  
Sung by Mark Miller

My heart is breaking, my fury shaking,  
my soul is tired, my breath is gone.  
I cry, "how long, Lord, this evil season?"  
unending pain and tears.

Use our anger to melt the swords of hate.  
Use our tears to water thirsty ground.  
Give us courage to love all you create.  
Come to us and turn your world around.  
Come to us and turn the world around.

Litany

Lord God, the maker and redeemer of all, as we come before you with honest hearts, we cry out for your comfort in moments of despair and doubt.

**Make us attentive to your presence in our lives.**

God of mercy, listen to our cries of grief, of pain, of confusion, of unbelief.

**Fill us with the hope that can only come through you.**

O Christ, Son of the living God, there are days when we are too cast down to pray. When we find it hard to trust in you. When we wonder where you are in our pain and grief.

**In the darkness of our doubts, when your love seems absent, draw near to us**

We look toward the one Jesus Christ, who gives us strength and shows us the way, as we pray the words he taught us:

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

Song VT 643 Come Ye Disconsolate

Sermon Susan Allison-Jones

Song VT 610 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Song VT 664 Be Still My Soul

Benediction

Fear not, for God has redeemed you. God calls you by name; you are God's. When you pass through the waters, God will be with you. When you walk through fire, you shall not be burned.

Go from this time of worship knowing you are deeply loved and cared for by the one who created you.

### **\*About the Song Lament**

"I composed this on Friday, May 29, 2020 in response to the murder of George Floyd. I owe a debt to our ancestors and the unknown bards who created what we today call the Negro Spirituals. I wanted to express the outpouring of heartbreak, anger, grief, and loss so many are experiencing right now. May we know Peace with Justice." Mark Miller  
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### **Worship Service**

- Oct 1st World Communion Sunday The Psalms: Trust in the Journey to Reorientation Psalm 86, 23, 77, 116, 44  
Susan Allison-Jones
- Oct 8 Thanksgiving Sunday The Psalms: Singing a New Song Psalm 40 (Luke 15 6-7,9-10, 22-24,32)  
Susan Allison-Jones
- Oct 15 Guest Speaker - Joe Mancini from the Working Center
- Oct 22 Rehoboth Kingdom Divided  
1 king 12:1-17, 25-29  
Susan Allison-Jones

### **Upcoming Events**

- Sept 24 Formation Hour & Coffee The Psalms: Orientation, Disorientation, and Reorientation
- Oct 1 Milestones Sunday followed by lunch
- Nov 11 "I Love You and It Hurts"  
At Hillcrest Mennonite Church (evening)
- Nov 12 Annual Meeting 11:00 am
- Dec 12 Christmas Lunch at Schmidtsville Restaurant

## Anniversaries

September 27 Nevin & Wanda Gingerich

## Congregational Notes:

Next Sunday's Service will include: Communion, as well as celebration of this year's milestones followed by a light lunch..

Reports for the Annual Report Book need to be sent to Edna by October 16.

Volunteers are needed to close the church on Sunday mornings. Please talk to John Good if you are available to help or want more information.

We have decided to remove the DVD's from our library. If you or someone you know would be interested in one or more of them they are on the table in the library.

## Beyond The Congregation:

### MCC Ontario Annual General Meeting

September 25, 2023 from 7:00-8:30 pm, Online

We deeply appreciate your support, and how you are impacting so many lives in Ontario and around the world. Join us on September 25 for our Annual General Meeting (AGM) as we share MCC Ontario's financial outcomes and a snapshot of our strategic plan progress. Official Congregational Representatives and Delegates who register as such are entitled to vote. Visit [mcc.org/AGM](http://mcc.org/AGM) for details

## Wilmot Family Resource Centre's 29th ANNUAL POOR BOYS LUNCHEON Thursday Sep 28, 2023

Tickets: single ticket \$10 or Family of Four \$35

Lunch: 11:30am to 1:30pm Dinner 4:30pm - 6:30pm

Tickets available at the door, cash or cheque only

New Hamburg Community Centre (251 Jacob St.)

## Seniors Fall Retreat at Hidden Acres on Monday October 2nd.

The theme is **Songs that Shape and Reshape Us**. Our resource person is Ingrid Loepp Thiessen. Doug Cressman will accompany the singing. Cost is \$50 per person, registration is limited. Call Hidden Acres to register or go [here](#).

**October 4 (Wed.) Morning & afternoon** - All women are invited to Steinmann Mennonite Church to knot comforters and/or quilt. Bring a bag lunch if staying for the afternoon. Drinks provided.

**Book Launch | *Eating Like A Mennonite: Food and Community Across Borders* by Marlene Epp. Thursday, October 5, 7:00 PM** | Celebrate the launch of Professor Emeritus Marlene Epp's new book exploring the meaning of Mennonite foodways, around the table and around the world. Hosted at Conrad Grebel University College in Waterloo. Books available. Reception to follow. Learn more at [grebel.ca/events](http://grebel.ca/events)

**Calling all male singers!** Jubilation Men's Choir is beginning rehearsals for their Christmas performance of sacred music in Waterloo. If you love singing, come join our enthusiastic group on Wednesdays at 7:30 pm at Waterloo Kitchener United Mennonite Church under the direction of Paul Saunders. Tenors especially welcome! Music is provided. Contact Lloyd Koch for more information. 519-589-4464 or [lekoch@hotmail.com](mailto:lekoch@hotmail.com)

**Save the date: Empty Bowls for Haiti**

Sat Oct 14 at 5 pm and 7 pm, Steinmann Mennonite Church. Plan to be at this year's Empty Bowls for Haiti event. Local potters donate hand-crafted bowls and local restaurants provide a wide variety of delicious soups. Funds raised strengthen communities in Haiti. Tickets are \$35 each. Go to [mcc.org/events](http://mcc.org/events) to buy your tickets today!

**Rockway ON PARADE!** Students of Rockway Mennonite Collegiate invite you to watch their THINK float in the KW Oktoberfest Parade on Monday, October 9. Their display will get you THINKing about single-use plastic.

**MCC Peace Conference** Nov. 18 at Rockway Mennonite Collegiate. The MCC Peace Conference is your chance to see, hear and experience first-hand how you and MCC are changing lives and communities through peacebuilding. This event will inspire and inform through general sessions, workshops and conversations with messengers of peace.

**Ministry Team Leaders:**

Ministry Coordinator & Facilities – John Good  
Worship and Formation – Lil Quanz  
Fellowship – Fern Good, Marcia Kastner, Susan Wagler  
Pastoral Care, Missions and Service - All members  
Member at Large (Ministry Team) - Ross Shantz

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Administrative Assistant: [WilmotMennoniteChurch@gmail.com](mailto:WilmotMennoniteChurch@gmail.com)

**To Book the Church** call the Church Office @ 519-634-5030.  
**Church Office Hours:** Edna will be in the office Tuesday and Thursday (5-9pm). Please have all bulletin announcements in no later than Wednesday..

**Protocols** We wish to create a safe environment for people to gather together in our building. We invite all to enter into this new way of being community together with gratitude to our God that we can adapt to new ways of being a faithful community. Please wear a mask if you are feeling vulnerable or if you have been in close vicinity of someone who was sick.