



LISTOWEL MENNONITE CHURCH

May 4, 2025

Worship Bulletin

Vol. 62 No. 18



Christ is Risen!

May 4, 2025

LMC will meet at 10am for Sunday Worship, followed by coffee fellowship time and Sunday School for all ages.

The entire worship service will also be live streamed from the LMC sanctuary on YouTube from 10:00-11:15am. Click on www.lmchurch.ca a few minutes before 10am, and click on the "Livestream" button.

You can view the livestream afterwards by going to our website under the "Past Sermons" page.

<https://www.lmchurch.ca/past-services.html>

Usher-Mike Greeters - John and Shirley Coffee - Ernie & Esther AV- Sid & Elijah Desk Duty - Joanne S

GATHERING

Welcome & Announcements (Adam Cressman)

Lighting of the peace candle (Nancy Frey)

Call to Worship

Leader: Brothers and sisters, boys and girls—

All: Come and worship!

Leader: Even if you're tired and worn out—

All: Come and worship!

Leader: Lay down the heavy things you are carrying—

All: Come and worship!

Leader: Listen to what Jesus wants to tell you—

All: Come and worship!

Leader: See if you can discover how Jesus wants to use you—

All: Come and worship!

Leader: For Jesus is humble and gentle, and he will give us everything we need to follow him.

All: Come, let us worship in the presence of the Lord!

Opening Prayer

SINGING, PRAISING, THANKING

Led by Esther Snider

Easteride Theme Song: Who are These Who are Believers Now VT 360

Come Christians, Join to Sing VT 28

This is God's Wondrous World VT 180

Prayer of confession and words of assurance

Offertory Prayer

Moments for Children (Nancy Frey)

Scripture: Acts 6:1-7:2 NIV

6 In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews[a] among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. 2 So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. 3 Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them 4 and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

5 This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. 6 They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

7 So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

8 Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. 9 Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia—who began to argue with Stephen. 10 But they could not stand up against the wisdom the Spirit gave him as he spoke.

11 Then they secretly persuaded some men to say, "We have heard Stephen speak blasphemous words against Moses and against God."

12 So they stirred up the people and the elders and the teachers of the law. They seized Stephen and brought him before the Sanhedrin. 13 They produced false witnesses, who testified, "This fellow never stops speaking against this holy place and against the law. 14 For we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and change the customs Moses handed down to us."

15 All who were sitting in the Sanhedrin looked intently at Stephen, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

7:1 Then the high priest asked Stephen, "Are these charges true?"

7:2 To this he replied: "Brothers and fathers, listen to me! The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham while he was still in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Harran.

Stephen went on to retell the story of Israel, closing with...

51 "You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit! 52 Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who

predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him— 53 you who have received the law that was given through angels but have not obeyed it.”

54 When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. 55 But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 56 “Look,” he said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

57 At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, 58 dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

59 While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” 60 Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he fell asleep.

Sermon “Livin the resurrection life 2” by Mel Koch Nichol

Song of response: Just a Closer Walk With Thee VT 743

WITNESSING & PRAYING

Sharing Time

We will have “Open Mic Sharing” time. This will not be part of the livestream.

From MCEC

- Please pray for the **MCEC community of congregations**. This week we are praying for **Steinmann Mennonite Church**. Sara Erb, Ben Cassels and Louise Wideman provides pastoral leadership for community. Pray for this community in the Baden area which seeks to express God's love through service in their neighborhoods and around the world.
- Pray for **Laura Rodriguez-Reyes** as she prepares to represent MCEC at the MWC Global Youth Summit in Germany and Anabaptist 500 celebrations in Switzerland. Pray for eyes to see with peace and justice, good health and clarity of purpose as she steps into these gatherings. Pray that she might carry with her the voices of many and return with new wisdom, friendships and renewed strength.
- **Bruce Keown** will be installed at **The Church at Nairn** on May 4, 2025. Pray for Bruce and the congregation as they begin their ministry together. To share your encouragement and support with Bruce, you can reach him at watsupdock229@icloud.com.
- **In these days following the election**, Risen Christ, walk with us. Open our hearts to those with whom we disagree, and teach us to extend grace and hospitality. May our churches be places of healing, unity, and hope. Let us recognize your presence among us, even on uncertain roads.
- During the week that follows **the Lapu-Lapu mass casualty event in Vancouver** we pray, alongside MCBC, for the friends and families of victims harmed by the violence and deaths in Vancouver. We also pray for justice and ultimate healing for the one who acted against these lives. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers.

Congregational Prayer

Sending Song: Lift Your Glad Voices VT 340

Benediction



LISTOWEL MENNONITE CHURCH

Announcements Sheet

Upcoming:

- Wed May 7, 1pm - Prayer Group in the Meeting Room. Next Prayer Group is May 21.
- Tue May 13, 7pm - Council Meeting
- Sun May 25 - Noon Potluck, Last day of Sunday school.

LMC Announcements:

- [A Quick Lenten Survey \(4 Questions\)](#) - If you used any of the Lenten materials, please fill out this survey to let Nancy know what you used and whether you would use it again. Here is the [link](#) . Paper copies can be found on the foyer table. Please place completed forms in Nancy's mailbox
- **Free books:** The library committee has removed some books from our church library. You will find them on the tables in the fellowship area. You are welcome to take as many books home as you wish. Any books remaining will be given to area thrift stores ~ Esther Snider & Library Committee
- **LMC Camping Update:** This year will plan to camp at **Wildwood Conservation Area** in the Stratford/St. Mary's area, August 15-17, 2025. More information to come! ~ Fraser & Caroline, Arlin & Penny
- **Missions Offering Project - April May June:** Missions Team is accepting donations during April, May and June to purchase **MCC Relief Kits**. Our goal is 50 kits or \$3200.00. We would like to plan an intergenerational event to go to New Hamburg to pack these kits later in the year. Please see the sample kit on the table in the foyer and also scan the QR code on the Missions bulletin board for more information. The Sunday School offerings for March, April and May are also a part of this venture. **\$1099 Collected so far! Way to go!** ~ Missions and Christian Ed
- **Men's Fishing Event:** Ernie has booked **Saturday July 5 at 1pm** for fishing on lake Ontario. There is room for 12, at the cost of \$175 per person. First come first serve. Sign up in the foyer or through Ernie Reesor.
- **You are invited! Brussels Mennonite Fellowship** is celebrating its **45th anniversary** this year! Join them for a special anniversary service on **Sunday, June 8, 2025** at 10:00 am, with a fellowship meal to follow. Their guest speaker will be Pastor Doug Zehr. Did you know that Brussels Mennonite is a daughter church of Listowel Mennonite? You are invited to come and celebrate!
- **In the week up to April 27, 2025, we offered \$ 11,012.15 in worship before God.**
General Fund \$ 1,410.00 MCC Ukraine Response \$25.00 MCC Relief kits (Sunday School) \$ 12.15
Solar Panel Fund \$2000.00 LMCWF \$ 60.00 Pre-Authorized Monthly Giving (PAR) \$ 7,505.00
 - Apr 27 attendance: 67
 - Apr 27 Sunday School: 39
 - Apr 27 livestream viewers on Sunday: 9 (views after one week: 31)

Community Announcements:

RED DRESS DAY - May 5 - is an opportunity for congregations to demonstrate compassion as Indigenous people of Canada mourn, remember and honour thousands of Indigenous women, girls and two-spirit people who have died or gone missing. [Click here for actions your congregation could take](#), including a suggestion to include it in your congregational prayer on May 4. – *from the MCEC Truth & Reconciliation Working Group who promotes awareness and education on specific issues and topics. The information and links are those of the Working Group and do not necessarily represent MCEC as a whole.*

Girls' Night Out - Friday May 9, 2025, 7pm at LEMC, Listowel. Featuring Tess Scott, author of *Listen Sister: Finding Hope in the Freakshow of Life*. Tickets are \$15 group, \$20 General. Visit funandfaith.com

Ramoth House - We are looking for adults or youth groups who would like to sand/repaint our picnic tables and playground. And people to spray down the outside of our buildings, and wash our outside windows. Contact us if you can help. 519-323-3751, office@ramoth.ca, www.ramoth.ca

Silver Lake Mennonite Camp (slmc.ca)

Summer Camp: Registration is ongoing for overnight camps and day camps! Visit slmc.ca/summer-camp to have a look at the 2025 schedule and program descriptions. Please spread the word and help us fill Sports Camp, CILT 1B and the Bronze Cross/Medallion Combo Lifesaving Course!

Grand Paddle & Hike (May 9-11): More teams needed! Join us for Silver Lake's annual fundraiser! Visit our webpage to create a team or to make a donation... slmc.ca/retreats/paddle-the-grand

The Right to Stay: A Charity Jazz Night Sunday June 1, 6:30pm doors open, 7:30pm show starts, at The Jazz Room 59 King St N, Waterloo. \$39 + per ticket. Your ticket helps Ukrainian Families stay in Canada.

www.WRGrassrootsResponse.ca Live music, delicious food for purchase, and a raffle!

MCEC On the Journey is a space to share stories and learn from each other as we reflect on our responses to the *Truth and Reconciliation 94 Calls to Action*. **Submit your stories or questions to MCEC Truth & Reconciliation Working Group** at trwg@mcec.ca.

Lunch Hour with the MCEC Executive Minister, May 16, noon to 1 p.m. Online. Join us on Zoom for a midday conversation with Anthony Siegrist! This is a space to bring your questions, share your voice and energize one another for the work of God's reconciling ministry. This session Professor Drew Strait from AMBS will explore the timely and challenging topic of Christian nationalism. [More information and to register.](#)

MC Canada Gathering 2025 July 2 - 5, 2025, Kitchener-Waterloo, ON. MCEC is hosting this year's MC Canada Gathering. Three exciting "tracks" for registration: Gathering 2025; U30 Gathering 2025 and Youth Gathering 2025. [More information and to register for this exciting nationwide event!](#) Don't miss *Spirit Acts* by Arlyn Friesen Epp coming soon to *Gathering 2025*. Here is a preview: <https://youtu.be/CgTuYV5CtSM>

Climate Action and Indigenous Relations Workshop - What does the Lord require of us? - July 2, 2025, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Stirling Avenue Mennonite Church, Kitchener. How might we link arms as an intercultural church in our shared ministries of restoration? Explore the biblical and spiritual call to collectively "love mercy, do justice and walk humbly with our God." [More information and to register for this MC Canada Pre-Gathering Event.](#)

MC Canada Gathering Leadership Day - July 2, 2025, 9am - 3:30 pm, Waterloo North Mennonite Church - Join David Boshart (president, AMBS) and Shana Peachy Boshart (Shine Everywhere Project) to explore how to navigate the evolving landscape of congregational ministry. How can we lead effectively in these fluid and chaotic times? Connect with leaders from across our nationwide community of faith. [More information.](#)

MCEC Weekly Devotional: Receive weekly encouragement from MCEC pastors! [Sign up for MCEC Connect](#) to get a new devotional in your inbox each week.

Listowel Mennonite Church

465 Maitland Ave S Listowel, ON, N4W 2M7

www.lmchurch.ca

Office: 519-291-2350

Pastor: Nancy Frey cell 226-622-3487 pastor@lmchurch.ca

Administrative Assistant: *Dorothy Tymchyshyn cell: 519-731-1978 office@lmchurch.ca *

Treasurer: Robert Sider 519-418-1624 treasurer@lmchurch.ca

Please send **e-transfer offerings** to the treasurer.

Church Council Chair: Adam Cressman 519-498-1214 chair@lmchurch.ca (New)

Music Director: Tian Ip 778-883-1437 tianipmusic@gmail.com

Vision & Guidance Team: Ernie Reesor, John Ellison, Linda Weber, Jackie Hesselink

Ministers: Each Member of the Congregation

*If you would like to **receive this bulletin by email**, please contact Dorothy T. (above)