LISTOWEL MENNONITE CHURCH
November 1, 2026 Worship Bulletin Vol. 63 No. 44

Eternity Sunday

November 1, 2026

LMC will meet at 10am for Sunday Worship, followed by coffee fellowship time
and inter-generational Sunday School.

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- Peggy Greeters-Don & Joanne Coffee-Phil C AV- Sid & Arlin

Welcome (Katherine Hallman)

Lighting of Peace candle
This morning we light a candle to remind ourselves that Jesus, the prince of peace, is in our midst. We lift our prayers for peace wherever there is an absence of peace today. (pause)

Call to worship
As we gather, we come together as people of the cross and resurrection.
We come as children of the Father
Reconciled by grace through the Son
And filled with God's love through the Spirit

Opening Prayer
Holy God, the Father of us all, we gather to worship you
and to reaffirm our shared relationship as children of God.
With fatherly care, God welcomes us to our shared
experiences of worship, fellowship, prayer and praise.

Renewing God, we gather to be re-invigorated in our worship,
and in the witness and relationships that flow from worship.
Together and individually, we will be cleansed and refreshed by
the holy winds of God's Spirit, as it blows around and within us.

The Lord our God gives new life and new blessings as we come
together in the unity of one purpose – to praise and glorify God.
Blessings, honour, glory and power belong to our God, the
Father of all humanity – who claims us all as beloved children. Amen.

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SINGING, PRAISING, THANKING
Led by Esther Reesor
VT 31 Come we that love the Lord
VT 47 God of Our Strength
VT 420 God of the Bible

Moments for Children (Nancy Frey)

Scripture 1 Corinthians 15:50-58
50 What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. 51 Look, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. 53 For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. 54 When this perishable body puts on imperishability and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled:

"Death has been swallowed up in victory."
55 "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"

56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58 Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Reflections - We grieve with hope (Nancy Frey)
Silent reflection (1 minute)

Act of remembrance as we build a monument of stones

Song - In the bulb there is a flower VT 670

Scripture: Psalm 130

A Song of Ascents.
1 Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.
2 Lord, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplications!

3 If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
4 But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you may be revered.

5 I wait for the Lord; my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;
6 my soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.

7 O Israel, hope in the Lord!
For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with him is great power to redeem.
8 It is he who will redeem Israel
from all its iniquities.

Prayer of confession
Out of the depths of despair, we cry to you, O God.
We are lost in a world of pain and suffering.
When we put our trust in weapons of war, we find no peace.
When we put our faith in our own resources, we feel the ache of our true needs.
When we put our hope in the health of our bodies, we suffer pain and find no healing.
Come to us, O God.
Forgive our doubts and fears. Heal our brokenness, that we may rejoice in your steadfast love. Amen.

— adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2009, © 2008 Abingdon Press. Posted on the Ministry Matters website. http://www.ministrymatters.com/

Words of Assurance
If God kept track of all our mistakes—the harmful things we say and do,
the callous way we sometimes treat the people around us,
the selfishness that puts our needs ahead of the needs of others—
if God kept track, what chance would we have?

But with unfailing love, God offers us forgiveness—
complete forgiveness that erases our sins completely,
and allows us to begin again.
So be at peace – your sins are forgiven!
Praise be to God!

~ Christine Longhurst, re:Worship

1 Corinthians 11:23-26
23 For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, 24 and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” 25 In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” 26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

Reflections: We remember (Nancy Frey)
Silent reflection (1 minute)

Celebration of communion (Nancy Frey)

Sharing of the bread and cup
Lord’s prayer

Song Will you let me be your servant v.1

Handwashing

Song Will you let me be your servant v. 2-6

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 hold **Hochma** in prayer. Daniel Perron and Lyne Renaud provide pastoral leadership to this community in Montréal, QC. God, bless the people of Hochma with wisdom, unity and a deep love for You, that they may be a faithful witness to Christ in their community.

- Pray for **Chip Bender and Wendy Janzen**, co-pastors at Erb Street Mennonite Church and Wendy also at Burning Bush Forest Church, upon the death of Chip's father, Delmer Bender, on October 26, 2026. Visitation will be held at Mark Jutzi Funeral Home in New Hamburg on Thursday, October 29, from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. A funeral service will be held at East Zorra Mennonite Church on Friday, October 30, at 2 p.m. Read more in Delmer's obituary. *As a community of congregations, one way we can care for our pastors is by holding them and their families in prayer during times of grief, asking God to surround them with comfort, strength and peace.*

- Give thanks for the **30 people who gathered at the MCEC/Together in Worship Intercultural Worship Workshop** at Grace Lao Mennonite Church in Kitchener this weekend to reflect on the worship needs and opportunities of diaspora congregations. May they return to their congregations inspired and equipped, helping communities grow in faithful worship, transformation and hope.

- Pray for wisdom and clarity in preparation for a nationwide Mennonite Church Canada Youth Ministry Consultation, November 23-25 in Winnipeg. Pray for Marilyn Rudy-Froese, MCEC Leadership Minister, who will be attending.

- God, we come to you **troubled** by the increasing violence in our world, troubled by wars and threats of wars, troubled by hate and discrimination. We pray that your Spirit would **shape us into people of shalom**, recognizing our neighbours, pursuing justice, challenging violence and sustaining a hopeful witness of peace together. Lord, heal our land; hear our prayer. (From MC Canada/MC USA Binational Prayer, October 2026)

From MCC Ontario:

- As we begin ***Working Together for Peace,*** a peacebuilding initiative among diaspora groups, **please pray for the leaders, volunteers and participants** from the Congolese, Ethiopian, Eritrean and South Sudanese communities. Pray that God will strengthen and encourage them, deepen relationships of trust and belonging, and help them become peacemakers in their families and communities. **May every Conversation Circle be a place of listening, healing, understanding and hope and may God bring lasting fruit from this work for generations to come.**

Congregational Prayer

Announcements (opportunities to continue worship throughout the week)

Sending Song: VT 837 Lead Me Forth (2X)

Benediction
Having gathered around Christ's table, go now remembering His grace. As you have received freely, may you freely give love, mercy and forgiveness to others.

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Music Director: Tian Ip 778-883-1437 tianipmusic@gmail.com
Vision & Guidance Team: Ernie Reesor, Linda Weber, Jackie Hesselink, Ron Bauman, Arlin Martin
Ministers: Each Member of the Congregation

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

LISTOWEL MENNONITE CHURCH

Announcements Sheet

Upcoming:

- Sun Nov 1 - Communion and Eternity Sunday - remember to change your clocks
- Mon Nov 2 - Shuffleboard. Weekly 9:30am Women, 1:30pm Men. All are welcome.
- Wed Nov 4, 1-2pm - Prayer Group in the nursery. Next meeting will be Nov 18.
- Thu Nov 5, 6pm - Community Supper. Helpers needed from 2pm.
- Sun Nov 8, 10am - Mission Sunday with guest speaker from Canadian Foodgrains Bank followed by potluck; donations to Foodgrains bank
- Nov 20-21 - Catching the Spark bible study Friday evening & Saturday at Knox Presbyterian
- Sat Nov. 21, 7pm - Concert with Glen Soderholm; freewill offering food bank
- Sun Nov 22 - Guest Speaker: John Borthwick
- Fri Nov 27 6:30pm. - Adult Fellowship Christmas Banquet

Announcements

- **On Nov 1** we will celebrate both **Communion** and **Eternity Sunday** (when we remember those who have died)**. Remember to change your clocks** ("Fall back" 1 hour).

- **LMC Banquet Tickets on sale now:** The LMC Adult Fellowship Christmas Banquet is on Friday Nov 27 (6:30 punch, dinner at 7:00). Everyone is welcome! Tickets are $35 per person and are available from Mary Carter, Ginny Parkhouse, Mona VanDyke, and Marja Zuidema. E-transfers can be sent to Ginny

- **LMC Women's Fellowship** meets on **Tuesday, November 10** from 9:30 to 4:00. For lunch at 12:00 please bring a sack lunch and mug. Coffee and tea is provided. Devotions at 1:00. Everyone is welcome.

- **Survey for Pastoral Relations Team (PRT):** Pastor Nancy Frey's current contract as pastor for LMC ends Aug. 31, 2027. MCEC congregations typically have a review process when a pastor's term is nearing completion and 6 months prior to the contract ending, the congregation decides whether to renew.

  Nancy has expressed a desire for an additional two-year term. PRT is asking the congregation to **complete a survey** to provide feedback for Nancy in areas of leadership, preaching, teaching, and serving the needs of the congregation. It's an opportunity for the congregation to also reflect on its role in strengthening our pastor's ministry among us. **The survey is available online here or in printed form on the table in the foyer.** Hardcopy surveys can be **returned to Tim Martin or Jason Carter** in person or in the box on the foyer table.

  PRT is asking for completion of the survey **by Nov. 1**. Survey responses will be reviewed by a team consisting of Jason Carter and Tim Martin from PRT, Adam Cressman (Council Executive) and Arlin Martin (Vision & Guidance). We plan to have a **congregational vote on Dec. 6** in a meeting immediately following the worship service to decide if the congregation supports a recommendation to call Nancy to another 2-year term.

- **Christmas Banquet for the Woolwich-Grey Mennonite Cluster Seniors -** Sat. Nov. 28-12 noon at Floradale Mennonite Church. Full course turkey dinner. Guest presenter is Henry Winter. Through music and storytelling, Henry brings together beloved carols, sacred Christmas songs, and seasonal favourites to explore the wonder of Christ's birth and the enduring themes of hope, peace, love, and joy. **Tickets are $30/person and are available from Don and Joanne Matthews.**

- **Help wanted:** The Women's Fellowship **events planning team** is looking for 1 or 2 new members. Start date will be January 2027. Positions are confirmed annually. If you like planning various events please speak to Linda Weber or Joanne Matthews in the next couple of weeks for more information.

- **Christian Ed** is looking for **1 more Sunday School teacher** to help teach **grades 1-3 (**one month on one month off). Curriculum is supplied. If you are willing to help teach, please let Ruth Cressman or Nancy Frey know.

- **Catching the Spark: A Dynamic Bible Study Weekend Nov 20-21 at Knox Presbyterian**
  Looking for a fresh way to engage Scripture? Join Ministry Forum and Dr. Derek Suderman for Catching the Spark, a weekend interactive Bible study event exploring the Book of Ruth while introducing practical approaches to reading the Bible with greater curiosity, insight, and confidence. Cost: $25 (Free for Students) Learn more and register: ministryforum.ca/bible-study

- **Saturday, Nov 21 7pm concert** - Join us at Listowel Mennonite Church for an evening of live music with Rev. Dr. Glen Soderholm! Glen is a Guelph-based musician, songwriter and longtime Presbyterian minister who has released six albums of music. With more than 40 years of ministry experience, he continues to share his love of music through concerts and worship gatherings. Admission is free, and everyone is welcome! A freewill offering will be collected in support of Salvation Army Community & Family Services.

- **In the week up to October 25, 2026, we offered $ 10,890.00 in worship before God.**
  General Fund $ 3325.00 PAR (Pre-Auth Monthly Giving) $ 7455.00
  Salv. Army Hats, Mitts & Hoodies $ 110.00
  - Oct 25 attendance: 49 (worship at 11am)
  - Oct 25 Livestream viewers on Sunday: 26 est. (views after one week: 28)
  - Community Supper Oct 29: 137

Community Announcements

MCEC Job Posting: A calling to serve youth and young adults! MCEC seeks a Regional Minister who is passionate about helping congregations nurture the faith, gifts and leadership of youth and young adults. This role will equip and encourage ministry leaders across MCEC. This is a .50 FTE position and is based in Kitchener, ON. More information at mcec.ca/careers.

Saturday, Nov 14, 11am - 2pm - Christmas Bazaar at St Joseph's Parish Centre, Listowel. Lunch, door prizes, draws, bake sale, evergreen arrangements, handmade cards and more.

Young Adult Game Night! I would like to invite all the young adults in your congregations, families and community to come out and have some fun! For the evening we'll be bringing out the **board, card and video games** for a great night of fun and fellowship! The event will be held on **Sat**. **Nov. 21, 2026 from 6 to 10pm, downstairs at the Durham Presbyterian Church, ages 18 to 35 are welcome. It's $10 per person**, and if there is a game anyone would like to play during the event, they are welcome to bring it for everyone to enjoy! My personal mission is to bring young adults together from within and outside the church, and create a community of peers and friends that we all need. More info from Peter Osborne, tlrosborne171@gmail.com

CPT (Christian Peacemaker Teams) Online Workshop: We want to be a support to all peacemakers, no matter their experience. So we have put together a public online training to prepare people to hit the streets. On **November 14th, at 12PM join us in a 2-hour online training called "*Let's Hit the Streets*!"**. This workshop will cover the anatomy of a protest, what to wear, and also provide a module to do a deep dive on our values of nonviolence. Feel free to share this invitation with your family and friends who may be wrestling with ways to show up at a protest. There are limited spots so register today! The suggested donation is $50, but pay what you can. If you can't pay, drop us an email and come anyway. All are welcome. We look forward to seeing you.