

# CHARLESWOOD MENNONITE CHURCH

September 15, 2024

Sunday Seminar 9:30 am ~ Sunday School 9:45 am ~ Worship Service 10:45 am

**Worship Leader:** Julia Thiessen

**Speaker:** Rachael Friesen

**Song Leader:** Alisa Wiebe

**Pianist:** Caroline Klassen

**Ushers:** Byron Neufeld & Andrea Goertzen

**Tech:** Kent Haase

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## GATHERING

Prelude

Song: VT 80 *We Sing to You, O God*

Welcome & Introductions

Call to Worship

God, you called us into being to care for your world.

**We come to share in your work.**

God, you gave us life and you gave it abundantly.

**We come to rejoice in your life-giving gifts.**

God, you set boundaries, guiding us away from the path of destruction.

**We come to practise letting go of that which leads to death.**

God, you breathed into the world in the beginning, just as you breathe into us today.

**We come to encounter your Spirit.**

## HEARING THE WORD

Prayer of Invocation, based on Romans 4 and Galatians 3

Song: VT 190 *The God of Sarah Praise*

Children's Time and Children's Offering

Scripture Reading: Genesis 15:1-6

Sermon: "Playing the Waiting Game: Faith in the Midst of Uncertainty"

## OFFERING OURSELVES IN RESPONSE

Prayer of Confession, *adapted from United Church of Christ's Worship Archive*

We hear the call to trust in God always,

But honestly, some days our stresses and doubts  
are even more real to us than God, and trust is elusive.

We remember how Abram dared to believe in God's promises,

But belief like that is hard to come by.

We are often inclined to think,

"God helps those who help themselves,"

instead of daring to rely on the word of our Creator.

When the world seems filled with dangers,

we can be quick to protect ourselves,

And we forget the wisdom of scripture,

which reminds us that we find traces of evil both

outside and inside of ourselves. *(over)*

With God's help, we confront our fears and struggles,  
and we call upon a power greater than our own to resist their pull.  
Hear us, Holy One, as we confess our frailty and failings.

*Silence*

Though fear should beset us;  
though danger cause us to close up our doors;  
though troubles assail and lead us away from the ways of grace;  
only one thing is necessary:  
just turn back to God's promise of grace.  
Remember that God is reaching out with loving arms,  
and let yourself be held.

Song: VT 419 *Great is Thy Faithfulness*

Silent Reflection on Offering, ending in VT 1017

Sharing & Prayer

Song: VT 794 *If the War Goes On*

## SENDING

Announcements

Song: VT 843 *May the Peace of Christ*

Benediction

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