

# CHARLESWOOD MENNONITE CHURCH

May 17, 2026

Worship Service 10:45 am

**Worship Planners:** Julie Derksen & Jonathan Neufeld **Song Leader:** Henry Kliewer  
**Psalm Reading/Prayers of the People:** Jonathan Neufeld **Pianist:** Velma Braun  
**Children's Story:** Janice Dueck **Technician:** Mark Wiehler  
**Ushers:** Charlotte Martens & Trevor De Ryck

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*A Liturgy for Spring: Inspired by the Iona Community*

## GATHERING

Prelude- Song: VT 495 *Morning Has Broken*

Call to Worship

Song: VT 130 *Beautiful Saviour*

Welcome and Introductions

Prayer of Confession (Leader, **People**)

O God of life,

You desire that our lives should blossom and be fruitful,

And sent your Son to die upon the cross

And be raised to life on the third day,

That new life might come to that which seemed dead.

**For all that we have done that hinders life**

**We ask for your forgiveness, Lord:**

Where the striving of creation to blossom and leaf is frustrated,  
Where the freedom to bring new things to birth is checked,  
Where creativity is hindered through oppression and injustice,  
Where new beginnings are prevented,  
Where that which is needed for growth is harmed or held back,  
Where beauty is scarred,  
Where poverty and injustice allow no hope of a bright new dawn.

**For all that we have done that hinders life**

**We ask for your forgiveness, Lord:**

For all that we have done to lessen the wonder of spring,  
For our sin which checks the renewing of life on earth,  
For negligence, carelessness and greed.

**For all that we have done that hinders love**

**We ask for your forgiveness, Lord:**

*Silence*

Lord, end our winter

And let your spring begin and grow in us.

## CELEBRATING

Song: VT 145 *Touch the Earth Lightly*

Psalm 104

Time for All God's Children

Song: VT 177 *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

Poem: "The peace of the wild things" by Wendell Berry

Song: VT 514 *I Saw a Tree by the Riverside*

Reflection

## SENDING

Offering Ourselves

Sharing (*livestream muted*) and Prayers of the People

Mennonite Church Canada Video Report: Camps with Meaning

- Jeremy Wiebe

Announcements

Song: VT 205 *Light Dawns on a Weary World*

Benediction (Leader, **People**)

As the sun rises higher in the sky

**So may the Lord be exalted in our lives**

As the spring flowers display their beauty

**So may the Lord be glorified in our lives.**

As the fresh green leaves on the trees announce the spring.

**So may the Lord be known in our lives.**

Creator God, whose faithfulness is seen  
In the coming and going of the seasons,  
Whose love is seen in the renewing of the earth,  
Guard and guide us,  
Keep and bless us  
Now and for evermore

**AMEN**

### Charleswood Mennonite Church Affirmation Statement (June 9, 2019)

Charleswood Mennonite Church is rooted in the Anabaptist Mennonite tradition as a community of faith committed to becoming the body of Christ.

We welcome all persons to worship and participate with us. We acknowledge the image of God in every person including those of every gender identity and sexual orientation. We invite all to participate in our congregation's practices such as baptism, church membership, church leadership, and marriage. We lament the prejudice and discrimination found in society and in the church, and we commit to holding each other accountable to the teachings and example of Jesus Christ.

We celebrate and affirm all persons worshipping with us. Together we seek to be a pilgrim community of mission, service, hospitality, grace, healing, justice, peace, and love.