

ERB STREET MENNONITE CHURCH
Sunday, September 7, 2025

Welcome Sunday

Prelude

Welcome

Territorial Acknowledgement

Call to Worship

VT 853

Leader: If you are delighted to be here,
and if you are tired or troubled,

People: you are welcome.

Leader: If your faith is strong,
And if your faith is battered or frail,

People: you are welcome.

Leader: If you are eager to praise God,
and if you need to be quiet,

People: you are welcome.

**All: *God welcomes us all
to worship today
and promises to meet us here. Amen.***

Opening Prayer

Gathering Hymn *Holy Spirit, Come with Fire*

VT 57

Story Circle

Litany of Welcome for Chip Bender and Wendy Janzen

Hymn *Let's Walk Together*

VT 6

Offertory Prayer*

Silent Prayer of Attention

Scripture Readings Psalm 139:1-8, 13-16; Jeremiah 18:1-6

Sung Scripture Response *God Welcomes All*

VT 32

Sermon *God's Hands*

Hymn of Response *Spirit of the Living God*

VT 740

Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Hymn of Sending *Together*

VT 389

Benediction

Postlude

*Coffee and visiting in the Fellowship Hall
followed by Welcome Lunch.*

PARTICIPANTS

Worship Leader: Elaine Ranney

Accompanist: Joanne Bender

Song Leader: Karin Bileski

Territorial Acknowledgement: Nina Bailey-Dick

Story Circle: Elaine Ranney, Chip Bender, Wendy Janzen

Scripture Readers: Wendy Janzen (English)

Freddy Dukundamata (Kinyarwanda)

Sermon: Chip Bender

Congregational Prayer: Ardith Frey

Sound: Eric Wildfong

Tech Host: Akio Saito

Ushers: Robert & Nancy Mann

Greeters: Kim Boettger and Jeff Martin

Marg Hull

* Offering may be placed in the 'church' box in the foyer
behind the sanctuary or by other means as listed in the
bulletin.

Litany of Welcome for Chip Bender and Wendy Janzen

Leader:

Today we welcome with joy the arrival of Pastors Chip and Wendy.

Chip & Wendy, we look forward to having you join us in the ministry that God continues to call our congregation to engage in.

We rejoice in the gifts and experiences you bring to our setting and we are excited about the ways we will strengthen each other and grow in our faith together.

Pastors:

We pledge with you
to seek first the reign of God
 and discern the leading of the Holy Spirit,
to follow the way of Jesus
 and grow into the mind of Christ,
to love God
 and love our neighbours,
to study the scriptures prayerfully
 and give thanks through all things
 for the steadfast love and mercy of God.

Congregation:

We promise
to receive your wisdom
 and offer you counsel for the benefit of our lives
 together,
to respect you as leaders in this community of faith
 and endure with you in times of disagreement,
to support your leadership with prayer and resources
 and bless you in gratitude, grace, and hope
 for the ministry we share.

All: Amen.