

ERB STREET MENNONITE CHURCH
Sunday, September 20, 2026

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: We come to worship, seeking God.

All: We come to pray, seeking guidance.

One: When wickedness abounds and hope feels out of reach,

All: We yearn for signs of God's presence.

One: When the ways of the world lead to destruction, not shalom,

All: We long to know God's will.

One: Together, let us turn and open ourselves to the healing embrace of our creator.

All: Together, let us seek God's shalom.

Opening Prayer

Gathering Hymn *Life-Giver, Maker, God of All* **VT 38**

Story Circle

Coin Offering *I Saw a Tree by the Riverside* **VT 514**

Offertory Prayer*

Confession

One: Creator, at times we feel abandoned. Come, see our common home, your dwelling place. See how poorly it has been treated!

All: We ask, how could this happen, God? Who would do this? But we confess that these wounds are also from our own actions.

One: Creator, we name the ecological harms that we have witnessed with our own eyes.

Assurance

One: God who works salvation in the womb of the earth, you hold power over the waters. Day and night belong to you; you created the foundations of the earth and the seasons of the year. You receive our concerns and know the prayers of our hearts.

All: We turn again toward you, knowing that your compassion is greater than our despair. Even in our grief, we seek you, God, whose mercy is wider than our ways. Teach us your harmonies and rhythms, that we may rise as a choir to join creation's song of renewal.

Silent Prayer of Attention

Scripture Readings Yesaya/Isaiah 55:6-9

Sung Scripture Response **VT 405**

Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken

Sermon *God's Plans*

Hymn of Response *Beyond a Dying Sun* **VT 416**

Blessing for Sunday School Teachers

Community: Empowering God, with your people throughout the ages, we call members of the church to develop gifts and skills for your service. Thank you for raising up these teachers among us. Fill them with the love of Christ and the church. Empower them with your Holy Spirit. Bless them with joy in the work of ministry.

Commissioned: We pray for wisdom, patience, and hope in this calling. May we use the authority entrusted to us

*with confidence and humility. May we grow into the
mind and spirit of Christ through our service.*

***All: For the gifts that the Spirit nurtures within us
and the ministries to which we are each called,
thanks be to God! Amen.***

Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Hymn of Sending *All Praise to Thee, My God* **VT 505**

Benediction

Postlude

*Coffee and visiting in the Fellowship Hall
followed by Christian Education for all ages.*

PARTICIPANTS

Worship Leader:	Elaine R
Accompanist:	Erika B
Song Leader:	Marg H
Story Circle:	Elaine R
Scripture Readers:	Glory Ki (Kinyarwanda) Maia H (English)
Sermon:	Chip B
Congregational Prayer:	Wendy J
Sound:	Joe W
Tech Host:	Eric W
Ushers:	Robert & Nancy M
Greeters:	Mabel & Merrill H Joanne B