

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

Web site: www.pgimf.org E-mail: Info@pgimf.org

February 22nd, 2015

Lent 1

Brent Siemens - Living with Other Creatures: A Biblical Ethic for the Treatment of Animals

Worship leader: Veronica Dyck
Accompanist: Kathi Suderman

Music: J. Evan Kreider
Usher: Edward Epp

Last Sunday Troy Terpstra (a former resident of the Menno Simons Centre and a student at Regent College) spoke about the Transfiguration story in Mark 9:2-9. The Trinitarian God in whose image we are made is in relationship (3-in-1), as our personhood is defined by our relationship to Christ and our neighbours. There was no comfortable victory available to Jesus; he gave up his life to redeem us, so that we can see the face of God in Christ and in "the least of these." [KH]

Listen to the message on your audio player at <http://pgimf.org/service/transfiguration-2015/>

PGIMF News

March 1	Tim Tse	Here Be Dragons
March 8	Glenn Sawatsky	Lectionary
March 15	John Klassen	Lectionary texts
March 22	Johann David Funk	Thy Kingdom Come

Snow Days You will see this weekly reminder to check your e-mail by 8:30 on Sunday mornings when snow is expected or has fallen, to find out if the service has been cancelled. The worship leader for each Sunday will be responsible for checking the conditions (walks shovelled, road conditions, etc.) in the area of the church with an appropriate person (residence coordinators or other church members in West Point Grey) and will "call off" the service as decided in their sole discretion.

 **Lenten Vespers with Abendmusik Choir** Come hear singing and spoken reflections for the Lenten season in Abbotsford at Emmanuel Free Reformed Church, 3386 Mt. Lehman Rd. (March 7th) and in Vancouver at St. Philip's Anglican Church, 3737 West 27th Avenue (March 8th). Please note the change of venue in Vancouver. Offerings to Menno Simons Centre.

Flute Recital You are all invited to a free flute recital to present the works of Hindemith, Reinecke, Enesco, Weisgarber, and Doppler by PGIMF attender Ryan Esau and fellow artist Athena this evening (Feb. 22nd) at 7pm in the Roy Barnet Recital Hall (6361 Memorial Road, UBC Music Building). Free admission.

Wider Church

Regent College presents the next in the series of **Free Public Lectures** on Wednesday, February 25th at 5:30PM when Preston Manning, Mary Margaret MacKinnon and Lisa Alexander give their perspectives on the roles of legislator, legal advocate and mediator in a discussion of The Role of Faith & the Rule of Law. The panel will address modern challenges to the rule of law from social licence, inclusivism and manipulation of the law by corporate interests. Registration is free but space is limited. Register by clicking on the link at <http://www.regent-college.edu/lifelong-learning/public-lectures>.

RECORDING THE SERVICE

Please note that we now record the response time after the sermon. You are encouraged to share your thoughts as fully as you feel led with the proviso that no privacy can be guaranteed. The response time will not be posted to the website. You are encouraged to bring forth private issues during the time of sharing and prayer, which will continue to be not recorded.

Moderator—Henry Neufeld (604-946-3961); *Worship*—J. Evan Kreider (604-228-1217);
Pastoral Care—Laura & Sven Eriksson (604-946-2345); *Recording Secretary*—Diane Ehling (604-904-1380);
Music—Ruth Enns (604-987-7430); *At Large*—Veronica Dyck (604-290-1627); Travis Martin (604-603-7843);
Congregational Co-ordinator (bulletins)—Andre Pekovich (604-879-0007)

Holding our World in Prayer - Ecumenical Lenten Prayer Service

Join the churches of West Point Grey for six weeks of prayer for ourselves, our neighbours and the world during Lent. Each service is held at a different church in West Point Grey on Wednesdays and begins at noon for 30 minutes. Bring your neighbours to this ecumenical time.

Prayer Vigil

- February 25 - WPG United Church, (4595 W. 8th Ave)
- March 4 - WPG Presbyterian Church (4397 W. 12th Ave)
- March 11 - WPG Baptist Church (4509 W. 11th Ave)
- March 18 - Point Grey InterMennonite Fellowship, 4000 W. 11th Ave)
- March 25 - St. Helen's Anglican Church, 4405 W. 8th Ave.

Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship at Mennonite world Conference How does your faith integrate with your studies and work in the healthcare field? Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship (MHF) invites all healthcare workers, past, present, and future, and from medical, mental health, and chaplaincy professions, to come, along with their families, to its Annual Gathering 2015, July 19-21, 2015, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Come to learn, fellowship, worship, network, and be encouraged in your Christian faith! The theme is "Walking Together for Healthy Communities." Grants available for students, volunteers, and those outside U.S./Canada. For more information, go to <http://www.mennohealth/gathering>, email info@mennohealth.org or call toll-free to 1-888-406-3643.

U Encounter David Goa and Greg Pennoyer invite you to explore the meaning of being human at the launch of an online exhibition entitled **U Encounter**. Through a series of images on the narrative of the life and parables of Jesus of Nazareth, this exhibition considers six themes that unveil for us what we didn't know we knew about ourselves, about our neighbour, and about our capacity to live together. The following link will take you directly to the encounter. <http://uencounter.org> Please feel free to distribute this link to all and whomever you think will find this a worthy experience.

Book Launch Gareth Brandt invites PGIMF to the book launch of his new book Spirituality With Clothes On: Examining What Makes Us Who We Are at the House of James (2743 Emerson St. Off S. Fraser Way, Abbotsford) on Thursday February 26th at 7:00pm. Gareth will read selections from his new book and tell a bit of the story behind it. Gareth insists "We are what we wear: we cannot separate ourselves from our gender, personality, developmental stage, family, historical background, culture, or the difficult experiences of our lives. We need to acknowledge all these things, reflect on them--and sometimes even embrace them--in order to truly become ourselves." Enjoy carrot cake, coffee and live music too.

Art & Spirit - A Speaker Series St. Anselm's Church (5210 University Blvd, Vancouver) invites you to a series of free/donations-welcome lectures exploring the spirit of creativity from non-religious perspectives. Five major BC figures in the arts today tell about their creative experience of being human and being spirited. All events on Wednesday evenings beginning at 7:30 pm.

- February 25th Karen Jamieson: Dance
- March 4th Landon Mackenzie: Painting
- March 11th Christopher Gaze: Theatre
- March 18th Jane Coop: Piano
- March 25th Kate Braid: Writing

Pacific Theatre presents The Whipping Man by Matthew Lopez, telling the tale of a critically wounded Confederate soldier returning to his ruined home, where two family slaves wait, and the three men must sort through the sordid legacy of slavery on the eve of Passover after the Civil War. Runs Wednesday to Sunday Feb 27-Mar 21 at Pacific Theatre, (1440 W 12th Ave Vancouver). Tickets \$20-30, with special pricing available by phone at 604-731-5518 or on the website at www.pacifictheatre.org.

1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an account of the hope that is in you; ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death

in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

[NRSV]

Mark 1:9-15

⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

¹² And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³ He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵ and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.' [NRSV]

Psalms 104: 1-2, 10-24

¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul.
O Lord my God, you are very great.
You are clothed with honour and majesty,
² wrapped in light as with a garment.
You stretch out the heavens like a tent,
³ you set the beams of your chambers on the waters,
you make the clouds your chariot,
you ride on the wings of the wind,
⁴ you make the winds your messengers,
fire and flame your ministers.

¹⁰ You make springs gush forth in the valleys;
they flow between the hills,
¹¹ giving drink to every wild animal;

the wild asses quench their thirst.
¹² By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation;
they sing among the branches.
¹³ From your lofty abode you water the mountains;
the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.

¹⁴ You cause the grass to grow for the cattle,
and plants for people to use,
to bring forth food from the earth,
¹⁵ and wine to gladden the human heart,
oil to make the face shine,
and bread to strengthen the human heart.
¹⁶ The trees of the Lord are watered abundantly,
the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.

¹⁷ In them the birds build their nests;
the stork has its home in the fir trees.
¹⁸ The high mountains are for the wild goats;
the rocks are a refuge for the coney.
¹⁹ You have made the moon to mark the seasons;
the sun knows its time for setting.
²⁰ You make darkness, and it is night,
when all the animals of the forest come creeping
out.
²¹ The young lions roar for their prey,

seeking their food from God.
²² When the sun rises, they withdraw
and lie down in their dens.
²³ People go out to their work
and to their labour until the evening.
²⁴ O Lord, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures. [NRSV]

Genesis 9:8 - 17

⁸ Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him,
⁹As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you
and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every
living creature that is with you, the birds, the
domestic animals, and every animal of the earth
with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I
establish my covenant with you, that never again
shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood,
and never again shall there be a flood to destroy
the earth. ¹²God said, 'This is the sign of the
covenant that I make between me and you and
every living creature that is with you, for all future
generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and

it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and
the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and
the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my
covenant that is between me and you and every
living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall
never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.
¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and
remember the everlasting covenant between God
and every living creature of all flesh that is on the
earth.' ¹⁷God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the
covenant that I have established between me and
all flesh that is on the earth.' [NRSV]

Call to worship

One: Jesus invites us to a way of celebration,
meeting and feasting with the humble and poor.
All: Let us walk his way with joy.
One: Jesus beckons us to a way of risk,
letting go of our security.
All: Let us walk his way with joy.
One: Jesus challenges us to listen to the voices
of those who have nothing to lose.
All: Let us walk his way with joy.
One: Jesus points us to a way of self-giving,
where power and status are overturned.
All: Let us walk his way with joy.
One: Jesus calls us to follow the way of the cross,
where despair is transformed
by the promise of new life.
All: Let us walk his way with joy.

Prayer of confession

Before I take the body of the Lord,
before I share his life in bread and wine,
I recognize the sorry things within:
These I lay down.
(silent prayer)

The words of hope I often failed to give,
the prayers of kindness buried in my pride,
the signs of care I argued out of sight:
these I lay down.
(silent prayer)

The narrowness of vision and mind,
the need for other folk to serve my will,
and every word and silence meant to hurt:
these I lay down.
(silent prayer)

Of those around in whom I meet m Lord,
I ask their pardon and I grant them mine,
that every contradiction to Christ's peace might be laid down.
(silent prayer)