

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

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November 25, 2018

Janet Boldt - Pilgrimage in a GPS Era

Worship Leader: Travis Martin
Accompanist: Curtis Funk

Music Worship: Angela Ruthven
Usher: Diane Ehling

Last Sunday Dr. Veronica Dyck (Ph.D., Religious Social Ethics) spoke on the story of Hannah, who prayed so fervently for a son that the priest Eli mistook her for being intoxicated. Her bargain with God was that if she bore a male child, he would become a nazirite in the Lord's service. After enduring taunting for barrenness from her co-wife Peninnah with husband Elkanah, Hannah gave birth to Samuel, who would go on to lead the Hebrew people through the transition to rule by kings. Hannah's song in 1 Samuel 2 expressed praise to God for communal and personal blessings. Like other barren matriarch stories in the Bible, this counter-testimony shows us a way to praise God for faithfulness in the midst of pain. [KH]

The message can be heard in your favourite browser at <https://pgimf.org/service/and-hannah-had-no-children/>

Today's Scriptures

2 Samuel 23:1-7
Revelation 1:4b-8
Psalm 93
John 18:33-37

PGIMF News - Upcoming Services

December 2	Rosie Perera	Watching & Waiting
December 9	Sing-along Messiah	Advent II
December 16	Laura Eriksson	TBA - Advent III
December 23	Songs, prayers and scriptures for Advent	Advent IV

Advent devotions PGIMF has received 10 copies of a booklet, "As We Wait: Advent Devotions". There are 26 daily readings, starting on Sunday, December 2. A supporter of the MB Seminary has financed these to be sent to all MB congregations in Canada. The daily readings are written by persons from across Canada. Feel free to pick up a copy from the table below the mailboxes.

Membership Sunday Those of you who have attended for some time and demonstrate your commitment to the fellowship in a variety of ways each Sunday but are not yet members, are encouraged to seriously consider membership with any member of the PGIMF church board. January 6th will be an opportunity to welcome those desiring membership into the fellowship.

Donations Since there will be no worship service on December 30th, there are only four Sundays left to donate to PGIMF. You may donate on-line at www.pgimf.org as well right until December 31st, and you may also donate by Vancity transfer - see the Treasurer for details. You may also wish to consider giving to the Refugee Food Bank at Sherbrooke Church through PGIMF - mark your cheque to PGIMF with the direction "Refugee Food Bank" at the bottom of your cheque.

Snow days Please check your e-mail by 8:30 on Sunday mornings when snow is expected or has fallen, to find out if the service is 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.

RECORDING THE SERVICE

Please note that we 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 not be recorded.

Moderator—Veronica Dyck (604-290-1627); *Worship*—J. Evan Kreider (604-228-1217);
Congregational Care— Lois Funk (604-992-8213); **Recording Secretary**--- Andre Pekovich (604-879-0007);
Music—Ruth Enns (604-987-7430); **At Large**— Travis Martin (604-603-7843); Chan Yang (778-681-1475);
Finance — Doug Medley (604-328-2980); *Congregational Co-ordinator* — Janice Kreider (604-228-1217)

Advent Vespers You are all invited to partake of an hour of choral music for the advent season in the atmosphere of reflection and light. December 1st at Emmanuel Free Reformed Church(3386 Mount Lehman Rd. Abbotsford) and December 2nd at St. Philip's Anglican Church (3737 West 27th Ave. Vancouver. Services begin at 7:30 pm. Offerings go to support the work of the Menno Simons Centre.

Church List There is a new church list available for PGIMF attenders on the website at www.pgimf.org under Serve > Members and Attenders and when prompted, enter the password to access the members page - if you need prompting, think of the first Anabaptist's name and baptismal year. (Or see Andre or Janice.) A certain number of printed copies will be available at the back of the church.

Wider Church

Sherbrooke Food Bank The food bank at the Sherbrooke Church needs plastic carry bags such as you get at stores to take home your groceries. If you have an excess of them, give them to Janice or Hannelore.

Vancouver Cantata Singers Join the Singers for one or both of two concerts in the 16th annual Christmas Reprise, an hour of traditional carols and more modern compositions in beautiful sacred spaces. The matinee performance takes place December 22nd at 2:00 pm at Holy Rosary Cathedral (646 Richards St. Vancouver), and the evening one at 7:30 pm at Queens Avenue United Church (529 Queens Ave., New Westminster). Tickets (\$10-35) at <http://vancouvercantatasingers.com/concerts/>

Regent College Evolutionary biology and Protestant theology have challenged each other for centuries, and David Robinson mediates between them in the final Interface lecture series on faith and science. Wednesday November 28th at 7:30 pm in the Big Room at Regent College - or watch the live stream on the Youtube page at <https://www.youtube.com/user/underthegreenroof/>.

Pacific Theatre Pacific Theatre presents its annual Christmas Special presentation of C.S. Lewis's The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, a modern story imbued with Christmas spirit. Runs November 30 - December 29 at Pacific Theatre (1440 W. 12th Ave, Vancouver) and tickets (\$15 - \$36.50) are available at the box office at 604-731-5518 or on-line at www.pacifictheatre.org

Call To Worship

Leader: O God, whose holiness is not limited to grand cathedrals or saintly persons, spectacular mountains or mountain-moving leaders;

People: O God, whose holiness is often discovered in simple everyday places and simple everyday folks, plant Your holiness in this place, in us now.

Leader: Grow us this hour, that we might flower, right where we are, with the beauty of Your holiness.

All: Through Jesus we pray. Amen

Psalm 93

¹ The Lord is king, he is robed in majesty;
the Lord is robed, he is girded with strength.
He has established the world; it shall never be moved;

² your throne is established from of old;
you are from everlasting.

³ The floods have lifted up, O Lord,
the floods have lifted up their voice;

the floods lift up their roaring.
⁴ More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters,
more majestic than the waves of the sea,
majestic on high is the Lord!

⁵ Your decrees are very sure;
holiness befits your house,
O Lord, for evermore.

[NRSV]

John 18:33-37

³³ Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' ³⁴ Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' ³⁵ Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?' ³⁶ Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world,

my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.' ³⁷ Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.' [NRSV]

2 Samuel 23:1-7

¹ Now these are the last words of David:
The oracle of David, son of Jesse,
the oracle of the man whom God exalted,
the anointed of the God of Jacob,
the favourite of the Strong One of Israel:

² The spirit of the Lord speaks through me,
his word is upon my tongue.

³ The God of Israel has spoken,
the Rock of Israel has said to me:
One who rules over people justly,
ruling in the fear of God,⁴ is like the light of morning,
like the sun rising on a cloudless morning,

gleaming from the rain on the grassy land.

⁵ Is not my house like this with God?
For he has made with me an everlasting covenant,
ordered in all things and secure.

Will he not cause to prosper
all my help and my desire?

⁶ But the godless are all like thorns that are thrown
away;

⁷ for they cannot be picked up with the hand;
to touch them one uses an iron bar
or the shaft of a spear.

And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot.

Revelation 1:4b-8

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne,
⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood,
⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.
⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.
So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ 'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.
[NRSV]

