

A Prayer for First Mennonite, Calgary

Adapted from “A Liturgy for the Labors of Community” in *Every Moment Holy, vol. 1*

Prayed by Pastor Ryan Dueck, Lethbridge Mennonite Church. Joint MCA Worship March 20, 2022

We are gathered here because we believe
that we are called together into a work
we cannot yet know the fullness of.
Still, we trust the voice of
the One who has called us.

And so we offer to you, O God, these things:
The dreams, plans, and vision
of our sisters and brothers at First Mennonite, Calgary.
Shape them as you will.
May their moments and their gifts
be invested toward
bright, eternal ends.

Richly bless the work before them, O God.
Shepherd them well lest they grow enamoured
of their own accomplishment
or entrenched in old habit.
Instead, let them listen for Your voice.
Let them in true humility of
spirit remain ever ready to move at the
impulse of your love in paths of your design.

May their acts of service and creation,
be met and multiplied by Your Spirit
who weaves all things together
toward a redemption more good and glorious
than they have eyes to see,
or courage to hope for.

May their love and their labours
echo your love and your labours, O Lord.
May they indeed be a place of refuge

in the truest and deepest sense of the word.

Let all they do and all they are
flower in winsome and beautiful foretaste
of greater glories yet to come.

You alone, O God,
by your gracious and life-giving Spirit
have power to knit together imperfect hearts,
weaknesses and strengths,
stories and gifts, one to another.
So, unite Your people at First Mennonite, we pray.

Caleb Kowalko, Pastor First Mennonite Calgary continues...

*And unite also your people at Lethbridge Mennonite, and Springridge Mennonite,
at Trinity, Foothills, and Calgary Chin Christian,
At Bergthal, Holyrood, and Edmonton South Sudanese Mennonite,
At Bethel International Edmonton Oromo congregation, Edmonton Christian life Community
church, and Edmonton First Mennonite.*

*Unite, nourish and shape us us as congregations and a conference body
to encounter, embrace and embody Christ within this world you created.
Bless our meeting today, and each and every individual who is leading or participating today,
as we discuss and deliberate how to enter more fully into your mission in this world.
We pray all of this in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.*