



Waterloo North Mennonite Church

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Sunday, July 16, 2017 9:30AM

Gathering Hymns:

HWB (blue) #26 *Holy Spirt, come with power*

StS (purple) #39 *Will you come and follow me*

Welcome, Introduction, Announcements

Call to Worship:

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Invocation:

Leader: We enter your presence Eternal God, Creator of all life.

People: We enter your presence Jesus Christ, the Way of Abundant Life.

Leader: Be present with us Holy Spirit, inspire our daily living.

**All: To the one true God, eternally three in one,
be praise in all times and places,
through the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Confession:

Leader: God of boundless Eternity, God of graceful New Beginnings
God who lived with us in Jesus,

People: Our faith is uncertain, our conviction is weak. (HWB #703)

**But our fears are constant,
our anxieties have strong hold on us.**

We are anxious about the future of the earth,

We are anxious about the future of our children.

We fear for our security; we fear "the Other".

We fear the loss of the good things in this life we have built.

(see Lk 12:18-19)

We go through life fearing its end in death.

Save us O God! Help our unbelief!

(Mk 9:24)

Silence

Words of Assurance:

Leader: God says "I will heal your disloyalty and love you freely. *(Hos 14:4)*

Jesus said "Take heart, it is I. Do not be afraid." *(Mt 14:27)*

Response to Assurance:

People: Therefore, if God is for us who can assail against us? *(Rm 8:31)*

**In Christ we have been given new hope and new life, and to this
newness of life we commit ourselves. Amen. *(WNMC Covenant)***

Hymn HWB (blue) #324 *Seek ye first the kingdom of God*

Congregational Prayer

Hymn HWB (blue) #229 *Lord, you have come to the lakeshore*

Offering

Children’s time

Hymn of Response *Fruit of the Spirit* (see next page)

Scripture reading Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Sermon “The parable of the sower: soil conditioner for the soul”

Hymn HWB (blue) #401 *This little light of mine*

Benediction

Leading Us in Worship

Pianist	Reuben Janzen-Martin
Song Leader	Lloyd Koch
Worship Leader	Peggy Snyder
Congregational Prayer	Lorrie Shantz
Children’s Time	Peggy Snyder
Guitarist	Daniel Kramer
Scripture Reader	Dita Leiningner
Preacher	Elinor Snell
Ushers	Ryan Lebold
Sound	Matthew Janzen-Martin

With gratitude and respect, we recognize that we are worshipping on the traditional land that once belonged to the Haudenosaunee and Anishnaabe peoples. We regret the lack of respect given to the Indigenous people in the past, and pledge to work for justice and reconciliation.

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Fruit of the Spirit

The *fruit of the Spirit's* not a _____
(children to name the fruit)

The *fruit of the Spirit's* not a _____

If you want to be a _____

You might as well hear it.

You can't be a *fruit of the Spirit*.

Cause the fruit is:

Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness,
Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-Control.

Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness,
Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-Control.

Sermon Questions

1. Are you a true disciple of Jesus, willing to put in the hard work needed to understand his stories and follow him?
2. When were you in a situation when God's word was presented to you and you didn't understand it or try to understand it?
3. What has kept you in the Church?
4. What makes you different than a non-Christian with whom you share values?
5. When was a time in your life when it was hard to be a Christian?
6. What would you do if you might be killed for being Christian?
7. When in your life have your roots been shallow, when you were in rocky soil and it didn't take much for the sun of trouble to wither you?
8. What was the sun in your life?
9. How could you have deepened your roots?
10. What things have you put before God in your life? (Which riches? Which pleasures?)
11. How could you change that around and put God first?
12. When in your life have you been the good and fertile soil?
13. What were the circumstances that allowed this to happen? What have you done to make yourself rich and fertile soil?
14. Who or what has been your compost/fertilizer?
15. What was the fruit that you bore/bear?
16. Who has gotten the seed sown in them because of you?
17. How did you do that?
18. When in your life have your words done harm?
19. When in your life did you let your words do good in the world?

(over)

20. When have you borne the fruits of the spirit?

- a. love
- b. joy
- c. peace
- d. patience
- e. kindness
- f. goodness
- g. faithfulness
- h. gentleness
- i. self-control

21. When has it been difficult to bear these fruits? Why?

22. What gives you hope that you can become a better soil?

Head sets are available, from the ushers, for hearing assistance.

Information Sheets with church news and activities are available on table in foyer for those who do not receive them electronically.

Offering. For those who contribute electronically, offering cards are available or use loose change/cash so that you can participate in the giving of offering worship experience.

Waterloo North Mennonite Church

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MINISTRY TEAM

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Custodian (Daniel Kramer) daniel.kramer@rogers.com Cell # 226-808-5405

Welcome Visitors: We are glad you are worshipping with us this morning. If you would like to learn more about our church and our ministries, including our care groups, education opportunities, seniors group or youth groups, and if you'd like to be added to our email list, please contact the church office or Gordon.

At Waterloo North Mennonite Church we welcome all people to participate fully in our Christian community of faith with all its expectations, responsibilities, and opportunities regardless of personal characteristics such as race, ethnic background, age, gender and gender identity, sexual orientation, income, or education.

Matthew 13:1-9 Good News Translation (GNT)

¹ That same day Jesus left the house and went to the lakeside, where he sat down to teach. ² The crowd that gathered around him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it, while the crowd stood on the shore. ³ He used parables to tell them many things.

“Once there was a man who went out to sow grain. ⁴ As he scattered the seed in the field, some of it fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵ Some of it fell on rocky ground, where there was little soil. The seeds soon sprouted, because the soil wasn't deep. ⁶ But when the sun came up, it burned the young plants; and because the roots had not grown deep enough, the plants soon dried up. ⁷ Some of the seed fell among thorn bushes, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸ But some seeds fell in good soil, and the plants bore grain: some had one hundred grains, others sixty, and others thirty.”

⁹ And Jesus concluded, “Listen, then, if you have ears!”

Matthew 13:18-23 Good News Translation (GNT)

¹⁸ “Listen, then, and learn what the parable of the sower means.

¹⁹ Those who hear the message about the Kingdom but do not understand it are like the seeds that fell along the path. The Evil One comes and snatches away what was sown in them. ²⁰ The seeds that fell on rocky ground stand for those who receive the message gladly as soon as they hear it. ²¹ But it does not sink deep into them, and they don't last long. So when trouble or persecution comes because of the message, they give up at once. ²² The seeds that fell among thorn bushes stand for those who hear the message; but the worries about this life and the love for riches choke the message, and they don't bear fruit. ²³ And the seeds sown in the good soil stand for those who hear the message and understand it: they bear fruit, some as much as one hundred, others sixty, and others thirty.”