
*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.*



YES! LET IT BE!

Waterloo North Mennonite Church
Sunday, December 31, 2017
YES! LET IT BE NEW

Focus Statement: We marvel at the vastness of God's plan. We celebrate in exuberant praise what God has done and will continue to do.

PRAISING

Hymn: STS (Purple) #30 *Arise, your light is come!*

Hymn: HWB (Blue) #213 *Let all together praise our God*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: Yes!

We will give thanks and rejoice!

**All: We will praise the Lord from the heavens,
from the heights, and with the angels!**

Leader: We praise the Lord with the sun and moon!

We praise the Creator of the shining stars!

**All: Fire and hail! Snow and frost!
Mountains and hills! Fruit trees and cedars!**

Leader: Young men and women alike!

Children and the aged ones too!

Let us praise the name of the Lord.

All: Praise the Lord!

Leader: Yes! Let all things be new.

Hymn: HWB (Blue) #61 *Let all creation bless the Lord*

Children's Time

CONFESSING AND RESPONDING

Confession in unison

O God,

the waiting is over, the time has come:

you dwell among us!

We marvel at the mystery of your birth.

We are filled and guided by the Spirit

as you open our eyes, our hearts,

and our arms to receive you.

Yes, we say, and yet we confess that

instead of being drawn beyond our knowing,

into the call of your infinite light,

we examine your coming within the boundaries of our understanding.

We confess that

instead of marveling at the vastness of your mercy,

instead of rejoicing with Simeon and Anna,

instead of allowing your Spirit

to move within and among us,

we resist the mystery of your presence.

We confess our struggle to step forth

with vulnerability, honesty, courage,

dreams, hope, and celebration

emanating from the depth of our hearts.

Forgive us.

(pause for silence)

Words of Assurance in unison

O God, Emmanuel,

in Jesus, the Christ, you have come among us.

You have given us life, and we are restored.

Hymn: STJ (Green) #31 *He came down*

Offering*

LISTENING

Scripture readings: Isaiah 61:10–62:3; Luke 2:22–409

(see insert)

Sermon “Do Not Keep Silent”

Hymn: HWB (Blue) #118 *Praise God from whom*

Congregational Prayer

SENDING

Hymn: HWB (Blue) #204 *Gloria*

Benediction

**During the offering, donated mittens, hats and socks can be hung on the tree.*