

Waterloo North Mennonite Church
Sunday, February 25, 2018
Lent 2
Me & You & the Generations after You

Focus Statement: God's covenants and promises are not just for our ancestors, or for us, but also for our descendants. Although God is able to fulfill what has been promised, our human ways sometimes get in the way. What might be coming between me (God) and You (the people), or between you and your descendants?

Gathering

Hymn: HWB (blue) #20 Come and see

Hymn: STJ (green) #2 Hamba nathi (Come, walk with us)

Welcome and Announcements

Chiming to Worship and Silent preparation

Call to Worship

Leader: Come, sons and daughters of Abraham and Sarah, nations born of barren lands, you who stand here because of promises fulfilled, come and worship your God.

**People: We were born through the faith of our ancestors, just as our faith will give life to future generations;
even as we hope against hope, we come to worship our God.**

Leader: Welcome home, children of God. Welcome to this house of God.

Invocation

Children's Time

Theme Song: "*Between Me & You*"

(see insert)

Confession

**God of our ancestors and our descendants,
promising Abraham and Sarah children at their age just seems mean.
For them to believe that promise sounds foolish —
almost as foolish as expecting the same faithfulness from us.
That was then, this is now.**

We are not used to waiting.

**If something we want takes too long, we itch to move on to the next thing,
even when waiting is important.**

Forgive us.

Forgive our impatience and refusal to believe in what we cannot see.

Build in us the willingness to hope against hope.

Help us to value and contribute to a future yet unseen.

Instill in us a faith to inspire future generations.

Words of Assurance

Leader: I will always keep the promise I have made to you and your descendants,
because I am your God and their God.

Offering

Hymn: HWB (blue) #162 The God of Abraham praise

Congregational Prayer

Hymn: HWB (blue) #161 We give thanks unto you

Scripture readings Psalm 22:23-31; Mark 8:31-38.

(see insert)

Homily "What Suffering Might Teach Us"

Hymn: HWB (blue) #349 Spirit of the living God

Prayers or Anointing for Healing

STJ (green) #14 Lord Jesus, you shall be my song

STJ (green) #31 He came down

STS (purple) #121 Nothing is lost on the breath of God

Benediction

We are people of God.

**We go in God's love
to extend God's love
and live God's promise.**

Lenten theme: Our theme is "Between Me & You." This is about relationships,
including covenants, between God, creation and each other.

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.

Headsets for hearing assistance are available from the ushers.

Childcare (infants to age 4): Staffed childcare is available in the nursery during the 10:45 Service. The nursery is located next to the sanctuary. Infant change table is located in washroom next to nursery. Ushers can direct you.

Children's Worship Binder, an instrument to help children through the worship service, is available by the sanctuary entrance.

Offering: Thank you to 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.

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

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 one of the ministers.

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.