

Waterloo North Mennonite Church
Sunday, March 18, 2018
Lent 5
Me & You & Covenant New

Focus Statement: In the new covenant there are no betweens and no go-betweeners. We no longer have need of a go-between mediator; however, like the disciples, we may serve as go-betweeners by pointing people directly to Christ. The promise is extended beyond the direct descendants, drawing all people to a relationship between ME (God) and You (the people).

Gathering

Hymn: HWB (blue) #483 O God, who gives us life

Hymn: STJ (green) #3 Jesus calls us here to meet him

Welcome and Announcements

Chiming to Worship and Silent preparation

Call to Worship

Leader: I see you, familiar faces, visitors, and guests.
What brings you here?

People: We want to see Jesus.

Leader: I see you, all who are here for the first time, and all who have returned. What brings you here?

People: We want to see Jesus.

Leader: I see you and know that each one of you has been invited by God to this house of worship. Thank you for coming. Open your eyes and your hearts, for together we are here with Jesus. Praise the Lord.

Invocation

Children's time

Theme Song: "Between Me & You" (by Bryan Moyer Suderman) *(see insert)*

Confession

Beloved Protector and Teacher, we need guidance, and sometimes we remember to ask for it.

But even as we reach for your hand, we rush off in our own direction. We barely listen to the rules we break.

We like to remind ourselves, wherever we are, that you are with us.

We forget the proper response: that to serve you, we must follow you.

We put conditions on your love,

because we don't want to go to the uncomfortable places where we see ourselves in the other.

Forgive us.

Hold us close and teach us again to truly live as you love.

Words of Assurance

Leader: Thus says the Lord God, "I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."

Offering

Hymn: HWB (blue) #407 We are people of God's peace

Congregational Prayer

Scripture Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34; John 12:20-33 (see insert)

Hymn: HWB (blue) #389 Take my life

Sermon "The Scenic View"

Hymn: HWB (blue) #114 In thee is gladness

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.