

Waterloo North Mennonite Church
Matins Season of Easter Order of Service
May 6 2018

For silent reflection in preparation for worship:

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.
(John 15:12)

GATHERING

Prelude

Opening the Bible

Welcome:

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.

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed!

Invocation:

Leader: We enter your presence, Eternal God, Creator.

People: We follow in your footsteps, Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

Leader: Be present with us Holy Spirit, our Comforter.

**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.**

Silence

PRAISE

Hymn of Praise HWB (blue) #278 Christ is Alive! *(rise)*

Prayer of Thanksgiving *(remain risen)*

Leader: God of life and death. Ruler of the universe!

**People: We praise you for Jesus Christ who shared our mortality
and has risen immortal from death!** *(Mk 16:6)*
As we abide in Christ, we celebrate the resurrection, *(Jn 15:4)*
live in Christ and anticipate the promise *(Rm 6:11)*
of the Spirit at Pentecost. Amen.

Hymn of Praise STJ (green) #62 Christ's is the world
(be seated after singing)

Leader: Let us join together in reading the Psalm.

Psalm 98

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm
have gotten him victory.

**People: The Lord has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.**

Leader: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.

**People: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

Leader: Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.

**People: With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.**

Leader: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.

**People: Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy
at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming
to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.**

**All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning,
is now and will be forever. Amen.**

Silence

CONFESSION

Leader: God, you are Righteousness and Love.

People: We have sinned against you and one another. *(adapted, Lk 15:21)*
We have held many personal concerns
and desires as gods before you. *(Ex 20:3)*
We have heaped up words of love
but have been stingy with deeds of love. *(1Jn 3:18)*

Leader: Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

People: Jesus, Bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Leader: Jesus, Redeemer of the world, give us peace. *(HWB #702)*

All: Amen.

Silence

Kyrie

Leonard Enns

Ky-rie e - lei - son, Ky-rie e - lei - son, Ky - ri - e e -

lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son, Chris - te e - lei - son,

Chris - te e - lei - son. Ky-rie e - lei - son,

Ky-rie e - lei - son, Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

Words of Assurance

Leader: See what love God has given us
that we should be called the children of God!

(1Jn 3:1)

Response to Assurance

**All: Goodness is stronger than evil.
Love is stronger than hate.
Light is stronger than darkness.
Life is stronger than death.
Victory is ours through him who loved us!**

(Bishop Desmond Tutu)

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles:
I leave you peace, my peace I give you.
Look not to our sins, but on the faith of your Church,
and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom
where you live forever and ever. Amen.

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Before we offer the peace of Christ to each other,
we welcome guests to Waterloo North today.

Introduction of Visitors

Leader: Let us offer each other the sign of Christ's peace.

Passing the Peace of Christ

(rise)

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Leader: As we prepare to listen to God's Word let us pray:
Gracious God

**All: Prepare our hearts to accept your Word.
Silence in us any voice but your own;
that hearing, we may be transformed
by the Good News of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Reader: Hear the word of the Lord from the book of Acts.

READ Acts 10:44-48.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Silence

Reader: Hear the word of the Lord from the Epistle of John.

READ 1 John 5:1-6.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Silence

Reader: Hear the word of the Lord from the Gospel of John.

Hymn to greet the Gospel STJ (green) #41 Alleluia

(rise)

READ John 15:9-17.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

Silence

(be seated with the reader)

COMING TO THE TABLE

Meditation

Hymn of Preparation HWB (blue) #420 Heart with loving heart united (rise)

Prayer of Preparation

Leader: God whose love is beyond our imagining,

**People: as we approach your table to remember
the equality in God that you let go of** (Phil 2:6)

in order to become fully human (Jn 15:13)

**and lay down that life for your friends,
grant us a vision as was given Simon Peter
to see the expansive bounds of your compassion
to see all that is clean and acceptable to you.**

**Send your Spirit upon us so that we may know
that all who eat and drink at your table in our congregation
and around the world are on body, one holy people. Amen.**

(excerpt, Carol Penner www.leadinginworship.com.)

Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: Let us pray,

**People: We thank you Lord Jesus for your demonstration
of God's love, even through your agonizing death.**

**May we be empowered by the Holy Spirit to keep
your commandment to love as you loved,** (Jn 15:12)

**for in this way we give witness to our citizenship
in God's Kingdom where you rule now and forever. Amen.**

Silence

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: As we enter our time of prayer this morning, let us share experiences of God's presence and lift our prayers of gratitude to God. These are some events for gratitude in the life of our congregation and our world ...

Leader: Lord for your goodness and mercy

People: We give you thanks.

Leader: What witness to God's presence or prayers of thanksgiving do you bring this morning?

People: audible sharing or sentence prayers (e.g. *I give thanks, I saw God..*)

Leader: Lord for your goodness and mercy

People: We give you thanks.

Leader: Jesus said: "Ask and it will be given you,

Search and you will find;

Knock and the door will be opened for you."

Leader: Let us lift our prayers of petition and intercession to God. These are some events and concerns for prayer in the life of our congregation and our world ...

Leader: Lord in your mercy

People: Hear our prayers.

Leader: What are the prayers of petition that you bring this morning?

People: audible sentence prayers (e.g. *"I hold in prayer ..."*)

Leader: Lord in your mercy

People: Hear our prayers.

Leader: By your death and resurrection you show us that love is stronger than hate. We pray for our torn and troubled world. May peace and unity grow where hatred and suffering now prevail.

Silent Prayer

Leader: Lord in your mercy

People: Hear our prayers.

Leader: By your words and life you invite us to seek your kingdom. We pray that the church in all places may be faithful to you and that we in this congregation may embody your mission to the world.

Silent Prayer

Leader: Lord in your mercy

People: Hear our prayers.

Leader: By your healing power you bring restoration, hope and comfort. We pray for ourselves and those dear to us who seek healing of body, mind, spirit or relationships.

Silent Prayer

Leader: Lord in your mercy

People: Hear our prayers.

Leader: We offer our prayers in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray:

All: Lord's Prayer (Note: a new setting by Len Enns) *(see last page)*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Leader: Let us speak the affirmation of our faith together:

**People: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only son of God,**

**eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

**by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

(Nicene Creed)

SENDING

Hymn of Benediction STJ (green) #106 Just a closer walk with thee (rise)

Benediction

Leader: May the God of peace who brought our Lord Jesus from the dead equip you with everything good so that you may do his will, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

(adapted Heb 13:20f)

(be seated)

Silence

Closing the Bible

Declaring the Mystery of Faith

Leader: Let us declare the mystery of our faith!

People: Christ has died!

Christ is risen!

Christ will come again!

Amen!

Offering: as an act of sharing with the world what you have received from God's bountiful hand you are invited to place your offering in the basket as you leave the sanctuary.

Scriptures for next week: Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 93; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53.

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.

Head sets for hearing assistance are available.

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.

The Lord's Prayer

Leonard Enns

Our Father who art in heav'n, haHow-ed be thy name. Thy king-dom come. Thy

will be done on earth, as it is in heav'n. Give us to-day our

dai-ly bread, and for-give us our tres-pas-ses, as we for-give those, who tres-pass-a-

gainst us, and lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from ev-il, for

thine is the king-dom, the pow'r, and the glo-ry for ev-er. A-men.