

**Waterloo North Mennonite Church
Season after Pentecost Matins Order of Service
November 4, 2018**

For silent reflection in preparation for worship:

"How does the journey of two widowed, refugee women help us to understand (khesed) God's Steadfast Love?"

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.

Invocation:

Leader: We enter your presence, Eternal God, Creator of all that is,

People: We enter your presence Jesus Christ, our Lord and high priest,

Leader: Be present with us Holy Spirit, our comforter and guide.

**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) #46 I sing the mighty power of God

(rise)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

(remain risen)

Leader: O Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**People: We look to the vast heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars which you established.**

O Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**Human beings seem small and insignificant,
yet you care for us and all your creation in steadfast love,
therefore we respond with joy and gladness.**

(Ps 8:1ff)

O Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! Amen!

(Ps 104:14)

Hymn of Praise STJ (green) #10 Spirit, working in creation

(be seated after singing)

Leader: Let us join together in reading the Psalm.

Psalm 146

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

**People: I will praise the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God all my life long.**

Leader: Do not put your trust in princes,
in mortals, in whom there is no help.

**People: When their breath departs, they return to the earth;
on that very day their plans perish.**

Leader: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God,

**People: who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith forever;
who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.**

Leader: The Lord sets the prisoners free;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.
The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the righteous.

**People: The Lord watches over the strangers;
he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.**

Leader: The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.
Praise the Lord!

**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

LAMENT AND CONFESSION

Leader: Have mercy on us, O Lord!

**People: How long shall we cry for help, and you will not listen?
For we have had more than enough contempt
from those too proud for humility.** (Hab 1:1)
**How long must we suffer under the paradigm
of fearing and blaming “the other”?**
How long will people live as refugees, yet unwelcomed?
How long will people live without homes in their own land?
How long shall we cry for help and you will not listen? (Ps 123:3,4)

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

Hymn: HWB (blue) #144 Kyrie

(remain seated)

Words of Assurance

Leader: Magnify the Lord with me for the Lord has heard your cry!

(Ps 34:3,6)

Response to Assurance

People: Our Lord is a merciful God

**who has saved us and keeps our feet from stumbling
so that we can walk before the Lord
and sing praises our whole life long.**

(Ps 116:5,8,9)

(Ps 146:2)

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 *(Please speak loudly so that all can hear.)*

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 Ruth.

READ Ruth 1:1-18.

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 Hebrews.

READ Hebrews 9:11-14.

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 Mark.

Hymn to greet the Gospel HWB (blue) #101 Alleluia

(rise)

READ Mark 12:28-34.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ!

Silence

(be seated with the reader)

Homily

Silence

Hymn of Response STS (purple) #115 Beauty for brokenness

(rise)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Life of the Church: Announcements

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? (*Please speak loudly so that all can hear.*)

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: 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:

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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

People: We believe in God above us,
maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon,
of water and earth,
of all living things.

We believe in God beside us,
Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,
born of a woman, servant of the poor,
tortured and nailed to a tree.

A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.
He descended into the earth,
to the place of death.

On the third day he rose from the tomb.

He ascended into heaven

to be everywhere present,

and his kingdom will come on earth.

We believe in God with us,

the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,

life-giving Breath of the church

spirit of healing and forgiveness,

source of resurrection and eternal life. Amen.

(adapted, *Iona Abbey Worship Book*)

SENDING

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

Benediction

Leader: And now, may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you. Amen. (Cor 13:13)
(be seated)

Silence

Closing the Bible

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Abide in God's love, seek justice and go in peace. 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: Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17; Psalm 127; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44.

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.

Child care: The nursery is located next to the sanctuary. Infant change table is located in the washroom next to nursery. The nursery is unstaffed during Matins.

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

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.

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

in flowing style

Our Fa - ther, who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy
name, Thy King - domcome, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in
heav'n. Give us this 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 e - vil, for Thine is the
Kingdom, the Power, and the Glo - ry for o - ver, A - men.