



*I am the vine  
you are the branches*

*John 15.5*

**Waterloo North Mennonite Church  
Sunday March 3, 2019, 10:45 a.m.  
Anabaptism: Community and Mutual Aid  
Receiving New Members  
Communion**

Abiding in the vine and bearing fruit: during the season of Epiphany, we will explore the spiritual legacy of the Anabaptists, forebears of the Mennonites, by exploring the themes of regeneration, scripture, discipleship, nonresistance, and community.

**Gathering hymns:**

**HWB (blue) #17 We gather together**

**HWB (blue) #41 Come, thou Almighty King**

Welcome and Announcements

**Call to Worship and Invocation HWB (blue) #661**

*(responsive reading)*

RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS \*

*(see insert)*

**Hymn: HWB (blue) #421 Bless'd be the tie that binds**

Children's time

**Hymn: STJ (green) #32 If you believe and I believe**

Offering

Congregational Prayer

Scripture Reading: Acts 2:44-47; Acts 4:32-35

*(see last page)*

**Hymn: HWB (blue) #306 In Christ there is no East or West**

Message: *"The Call to Community and Mutual Aid"*

**Hymn of Response: HWB (blue) #362 Help us to help...**

Communion\*\*

Sending Hymn: STJ (green) #76 The Lord bless you...

*\*After the service, please welcome new members.*

*\*\*We are not offering grapes with communion this morning as they are out of season and shipped a great distance.*

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*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.*

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**Headsets** for hearing assistance are available from the ushers.

**Childcare** (infants to age 4): 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.

**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.***

# Scripture Readings

## **Acts 2:44-47** (NRSV)

<sup>44</sup> All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup> they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds<sup>[a]</sup> to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup> Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home<sup>[b]</sup> and ate their food with glad and generous<sup>[c]</sup> hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

## **Acts 4:32-35** (NRSV)

<sup>32</sup> Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup> With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup> There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup> They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

# RECEIVING MEMBERS

## Introduction

### Litany For Receiving New Members

- Minister: You have previously made confession of your faith and have been a member of Christ's church. We rejoice in your decision to become a member of Waterloo North Mennonite Church, in full covenant relationship with those who worship and serve God here. Do you now re-affirm your faith in God and commitment to be a follower of Christ?  
(I do)
- Minister: As you willingly unite with this congregation, do you accept the covenant of this congregation?  
(I do)
- Minister: As part of being a member at Waterloo North, are you willing to give and receive counsel?  
(I am)
- Minister: You are supported by a cloud of witnesses. Hear the pledge of your family of faith.
- Congregation: As followers of Christ, trusting in God's grace, we rejoice with you. We will pray for you. And, we will walk with you in the way of Jesus.**
- Church Chair: On behalf of the church, I gladly welcome you as a member, and present you with this bowl. May it always remind you that we are being held together by the gracious love of God.