

Waterloo North Mennonite Church
Sunday March 17, 2019, 10:45 a.m.
Lent 2: God gathers us together in safe shelter

Focus Statement: When dark fear overwhelms us, God gathers us together in safe shelter. We seek the light of God's face.

Gathering hymns:

HWB (blue) #4 Unto thy temple, Lord, we come

STJ (green) #97 The Lord is my light

Welcome, Announcements and Introductions

Silence

Call to Worship (based on Psalms 63 and 27)

Leader: O God, you are our God. We seek you.

**People: Our souls thirst for you
as in a dry and weary land
where there is no water.**

Leader: The Lord is our light and our salvation—
we shall not be afraid.

**People: We will wait for the Lord, and take courage,
for we will see God's goodness.**

**All: O God, you satisfy our souls as with a rich feast.
In the shadow of your wings, we sing for joy, and
you uphold us.**

Hymn: STJ (green) #118 Thy holy wings

Scripture reading: Psalm 27 *(see insert)*

Children's Time

Offering

Hymn: STS (purple) #49 I will come to you in the silence

Congregational Prayer

Scripture reading: Luke 4:31-35 *(see insert)*

Sermon “*Sheltered Lives*”

Hymn of Response: STS (purple) #58 O God, how we have...

Confession & Reconciliation

Leader: “Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me! ‘Come,’ my heart says, ‘seek God’s face!’ Your face, Lord, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!”
Who will seek the Lord today?

All: *We will seek the Lord today.*

Leader: We are all invited to seek the Lord today.
Let us bring ourselves to God in prayer.

All: *Sheltering God, we seek you, for you alone are our light and salvation. When darkness moves into our lives, we seek your face.*

Leader: When fears overcome us and paralyze us, we seek your face.
When our souls hunger for your shelter, we seek your face.

All: *In the morning and in the evening, we will seek the face of our God.*

Leader: Our generous God provides for us.

Benediction

Sending Hymn: HWB (blue) #430 God be with you

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): 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.

Psalm 27 (NRSV)

- ¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?
- ² When evildoers assail me
to devour my flesh—
my adversaries and foes—
they shall stumble and fall.
- ³ Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war rise up against me,
yet I will be confident.
- ⁴ One thing I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after:
to live in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the LORD,
and to inquire in his temple.
- ⁵ For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will set me high on a rock.
- ⁶ Now my head is lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.
- ⁷ Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud,
be gracious to me and answer me!
- ⁸ “Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!”
Your face, LORD, do I seek.
- ⁹ Do not hide your face from me.
Do not turn your servant away in anger,
you who have been my help.
Do not cast me off, do not forsake me,
O God of my salvation!
- ¹⁰ If my father and mother forsake me,
the LORD will take me up.



(Psalm 27 con't)

- ¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD,
and lead me on a level path
because of my enemies.
- ¹² Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,
for false witnesses have risen against me,
and they are breathing out violence.
- ¹³ I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living.
- ¹⁴ Wait for the LORD;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the LORD!

Luke 13:31-35 (NRSV)

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³² He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work.

³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ ³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”