



**Waterloo North Mennonite Church
Sunday, March 1, 2020, 10:45 a.m.**

Lent 1

Show us your hiding place in the thick of temptation

Focus statement: God's boundaries are wise and protective. When we push through them, surrendering to temptation, our vulnerabilities are exposed. Show us, Jesus, through fasting and Scripture how we can grow stronger through temptation and remain true to the calling of God in our lives.

Gathering Hymns:

Hymn: HWB (blue) #16 God is here among us

Hymn: STJ (green) #106 Just a closer walk with thee

Welcome and Announcements

Chiming to Worship and Silent Reflection

Silence

Psalm Reading Psalm 32

(see insert)

Call to Worship

Leader: Eternal God, you call beloved daughters and sons.

**People: We praise you for creating us
and calling us to cultivate your life in
the world.**

Leader: Eternal God, you call our name in the garden

**People: We come to worship,
acknowledging our vulnerabilities
and temptations.**

Leader: Eternal God, you are our hiding place,
where forgiveness and mercy encircle us.

**All: *Thanks be to God for the radical grace
offered to us through Jesus Christ.***

Silence

Confession

Leader: God calls to us, "Where are you?"

People: **We, like Adam, hide in the garden,
hoping God does not come looking for us.**

Leader: God asks, "What have you done?"

People: **We, like Eve, say, "the devil made me do it," masking our shame.**

Leader: Our choices have consequences and yet God's grace abounds.

People: **I confess I have hidden and denied my sin.
When I refused to admit my wrongs,
I was miserable; even my bones felt brittle.
Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy.**

Silence

Assurance of Pardon *(from Psalm 32)*

Leader: How happy are the ones whose wrongs are forgiven.
How happy are the ones whose sin the Eternal God will not
take into account.
God has become our hiding place, our refuge from trouble.
God hears our prayers extending the arms of salvation and
songs of deliverance.

Hymn: HWB (blue) #570 We walk by faith

Children's Time

Offering

Congregational Prayer

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

Scripture Reading Matthew 4:1-11

(see insert)

Sermon *"Temptation"*

Hymn of Response: HWB (blue) #521 Come, thou fount

Ritual of Response – *Bringing our stones forward.*

Extinguishing the light and Benediction

Leader: May God remind you of your belovedness.
May Christ be by your side in times of struggle.
May the Spirit guide you back to the path when you are tempted.
Go now in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Our Lenten theme is "Show Us". May our hearts and minds be open when we engage these texts and declare, "Show us." We seek to better understand God, and Jesus lived and taught to show everyone the will and passion of God. As we petition the passages to "Show Us", may we also be receptive to the surprising love and grace of God.

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.

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 please ask anyone, visit our website www.waterloonorthmc.org or fill out the visitor information card, located at the Welcome Table in the foyer. If you wish, a minister will contact you.

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 Reading: Psalm 32 (NRSV)

- ¹ Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.
- ² Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
- ³ While I kept silence, my body wasted away
through my groaning all day long.
- ⁴ For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. *Selah*
- ⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not hide my iniquity;
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and you forgave the guilt of my sin. *Selah*
- ⁶ Therefore let all who are faithful
offer prayer to you;
at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters
shall not reach them.
- ⁷ You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. *Selah*
- ⁸ I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.
- ⁹ Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding,
whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle,
else it will not stay near you.
- ¹⁰ Many are the torments of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.
- ¹¹ Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

Scripture Reading: Matthew 4:1-11 (NRSV)

⁴ Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³ The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” ⁴ But he answered, “It is written,

‘One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,’
and ‘On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

⁷ Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; ⁹ and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.’”

¹¹ Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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.
