

## Waterloo North Mennonite Church

Sunday, July 23, 2017 9:30AM

### Gathering Hymns:

StJ (green) #44 *The love of God*  
StS (purple) #124 *My soul cries out*

Welcome, Introduction, Announcements

### Call to Worship:

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 life.

**People: We enter your presence Jesus Christ, the Way of Abundant Life.**

Leader: Be present with us Holy Spirit, inspire our daily living.

**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.**

### Confession:

Leader: God of boundless Eternity, God of graceful New Beginnings  
God who lived with us in Jesus,

**People: Our faith is uncertain, our conviction is weak. (HWB #703)**

**But our fears are constant,  
our anxieties have strong hold on us.**

**We are anxious about the future of the earth.**

**We are anxious about the future of our children.**

**We fear for our security; we fear "the Other".**

**We fear the loss of the good things  
in this life we have built.**

(see Lk 12:18-19)

**We go through life fearing its end in death.**

**Save us O God! Help our unbelief!**

(Mk 9:24)

### Silence

### Words of Assurance:

Leader: God says "I will heal your disloyalty and love you freely. (Hos 14:4)

Jesus said "Take heart, it is I. Do not be afraid." (Mt 14:27)

### Response to Assurance:

**People: Therefore, if God is for us who can assail against us? (Rm 8:31)**

**In Christ we have been given new hope and new life, and to this  
newness of life we commit ourselves. Amen. (WNMC Covenant)**

**Hymn** StJ (green) #47 *Oh, Lord have mercy*

Children's time

Congregational Prayer

Offering

Scripture readings *Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 86:11-17*

**Hymn** HWB (blue) #487 *Teach me, O Lord*

Scripture readings *Romans 8:12-16; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43*

Sermon "What about the weeds?"

**Hymn** HWB (blue) #145 *There's a wideness in God's mercy*

Benediction

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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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**Head sets** are available, from the ushers, for hearing assistance.

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

**Offering.** For 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 Gordon.

***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.***

### **Matthew 13:24-30 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

<sup>24</sup> He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; <sup>25</sup> but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. <sup>26</sup> So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. <sup>27</sup> And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ <sup>28</sup> He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ <sup>29</sup> But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup> Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

### **Matthew 13:36-43 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

<sup>36</sup> Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” <sup>37</sup> He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; <sup>38</sup> the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, <sup>39</sup> and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup> Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, <sup>42</sup> and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!