

Waterloo North Mennonite Church
Sunday March 24, 2019, 10:45 a.m.
Lent 3: God pours out life-giving drink

Focus Statement: When we become empty and weary from things that do not satisfy, God pours out life-giving drink. We turn from destruction to God's grace.

Gathering hymns:

STJ (green) #42 Listen, God is calling

STJ (green) # 9 Come, now is the time to worship

Welcome, Announcements and Introductions

Chiming to Worship and Silent Preparation

Silence

Call to worship (based on Psalm 63)

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: We have seen you in the sanctuary,
and know your power and glory.

**People: We will praise you and bless you
as long as we live.**

**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) #49 Rain down

Scripture reading: Luke 13:1-9

(see insert)

Children's Time

Offering

Hymn: HWB (blue) #495 O let all who thirst

Congregational Prayer

Sermon “*FIG-URE IT*”

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

Confession and Reconciliation

Leader: (*reading Isaiah 55:1-3a*)

“Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat. Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.”

Who will listen to the Lord today?

All: We will listen to the Lord today.

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

**All: God of life, we listen to you,
for you alone have the words of life.
When we realize that we have paid too much
attention to the voices in our world,
we listen to you.**

Leader: When we sense the poverty of our souls,
we listen to you.
When our souls hunger for abundant life,
we listen to you.

**All: In the morning and in the evening,
we will listen to you.**

Leader: Our generous God provides for us.

Benediction

Sending Hymn: HWB (blue) #435 May the Lord, mighty 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.

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.

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.

Isaiah 55:1-9 (NRSV)

- ¹Ho, everyone who thirsts,
 come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
 come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
 without money and without price.
- ²Why do you spend your money for that which is not
bread,
 and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
 and delight yourselves in rich food.
- ³Incline your ear, and come to me;
 listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
 my steadfast, sure love for David.
- ⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
 a leader and commander for the peoples.
- ⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
 and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
 for he has glorified you.
- ⁶Seek the LORD while he may be found,
 call upon him while he is near;
- ⁷let the wicked forsake their way,
 and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on
them,
 and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
- ⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
 nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.
- ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
 so are my ways higher than your ways
 and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Luke 13:1-9 (NRSV)

¹ At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ² He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

⁶ Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷ So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ ⁸ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”