Waterloo North Mennonite Church Matins Season of Easter Order of Service May 19, 2019

For silent reflection in preparation for worship:

"Somewhere over the rainbow and God's home is among us mortals"

GATHERING

Prelude

Opening the Bible

Welcome:

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.**

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed!

Invocation:

Leader: We enter your presence Eternal God.

People: We come into your presence Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord.

Leader: Be present with us Holy Spirit, our comforter and guide.

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.

Silence

PRAISE

Hymn of Praise HWB (blue) #108 Blessing and honor and glory (rise)

Prayer of Praise (remain standing)

Leader: We give thanks and praise to you, Eternal God!

People: By your power you raised Christ from the dead, (Eph 1:20)

you are reconciling to yourself all things in Christ, (Col 1:20)

and your new creation will culminate

in a new heaven and a new earth. (Rev 21:1-5)

For this great hope we thank you, O God! Amen.

Hymn of Praise STS (purple) #124 My soul cries out

(be seated after singing)

Leader: Let us join together in reading the Psalm.

Psalm 148

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens:

praise him in the heights!

Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

People: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord,

for he commanded and they were created. He established them forever and ever:

he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

People: Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!

Leader: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

People: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and women alike, old and young together!

Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted;

his glory is above earth and heaven.

He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful,

for the people of Israel who are close to him.

Praise the Lord!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, All:

as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

Silence

CONFESSION

Leader: In the life of Jesus you showed us your power,

and called us to love one another as you love us. (Jn 13:34)

People: We confess that we have not always

loved as you called us to love.

We confess that our eyes have been like Paul's on the road to Damascus. only open to seeing what we want to see,

but closed to seeing your power at work (Acts 9:8)

among us and in the world around us.

Leader: Jesus, Lamb of God, pour out your mercy on us. People: Jesus, Bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Leader: Jesus, Redeemer of the world, give us peace. (HWB #702)

ΔII-Amen **Hymn:** Kyrie (remain seated)



Words of Assurance

Leader: We trust in you, O Lord for you are our God.

Save us in your steadfast love! (Ps 31:14,16)

Response to Assurance

All: In gratitude, with the eyes of our hearts enlightened by faith,

we will see opportunities each day (Eph 3:18)

to fulfill your call to love as you have loved us. Amen.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles:

I leave you peace, my peace I give you.

Look not to our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom

where you live forever and ever. Amen.

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Before we offer the peace of Christ to each other,

we especially welcome guests to Waterloo North today.

Introduction of Visitors (Please speak loudly so that all can hear.)

Leader: Let us offer each other the sign of Christ's peace.

Passing the Peace of Christ (rise)

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Leader: As we prepare to listen to God's Word let us pray:

Gracious God

All: Prepare our hearts to accept your Word.

Silence in us any voice but your own; that hearing, we may be transformed

by the Good News of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Reader: Hear the word of the Lord from the Acts of the Apostles.

READ Acts 11:1-18.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Silence

Reader: Hear the word of the Lord from the Revelation to John.

READ Revelation 21:1-6.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Silence

Reader: Hear the word of the Lord from the Gospel of John.

Hymn to greet the Gospel STJ (green) #41 Alleluia (rise)

READ John 13:31-35.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ!

Silence (be seated with the reader)

Homily

Silence

Listening to Music (remain seated)

Coming to the Table

Prayer of Preparation

Leader: Eternal God and living Christ, you are our true food and drink. **People: We join with the rest of creation in praise and adoration**

because you are our Creator and Redeemer!

Open our hearts to your living presence with us as we share the emblems of your body and blood

just as you shared them at that last supper with your disciples.

Amen.

Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: God of steadfast love, thank you for your love of our world

which caused you to send your Son Jn 3:16)

that we may believe in Him and have abundant life. (Jn 10:10)

(Ps 148:3ff)

People: We are grateful for the gift of faith

that you give us every day by the Holy Spirit. (Eph 2:8)

Thank you for the love we experience within the church, the body of Christ. Help us to see everyday opportunities

to embody your love in our fellowship. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Life of the Church: Announcements.

Leader: As we enter our time of prayer this morning, let us share experiences of

God's presence and lift our prayers of gratitude to God. These are some

events for gratitude in the life of our congregation and our world...

Leader: Lord for your goodness and mercy

People: We give you thanks.

Leader: What witness to God's presence or prayers of thanksgiving do you bring

this morning? (Please speak loudly so that all can hear.)

People: audible sharing or sentence prayers (e.g. "I give thanks..."; "I saw God..")

Leader: Lord for your goodness and mercy

People: We give you thanks.

Leader: Jesus said: "Ask and it will be given you,

Search and you will find;

Knock and the door will be opened for you."

Leader: Let us gather our prayers of petition as we lift them to God. These are

some events and concerns for prayer in the life of our congregation and

our world ...

Leader: Lord in your mercy **People: Hear our prayers.**

Leader: What are the prayers of petition that you bring this morning?

People: audible sentence prayers (e.g. "I hold in prayer ...")

Leader: Lord in your mercy **People: Hear our prayers.**

Leader: By your death and resurrection you show us that love is stronger

than hate. We pray for our torn and troubled world. May peace

and unity grow where hatred and suffering now prevail.

Silent Prayer

Leader: Lord in your mercy **People: Hear our prayers.**

Leader: By your words and life you invite us to seek your kingdom. We

pray that the church in all places may be faithful to you and that we in this congregation may embody your mission to the world.

Silent Prayer

Leader: Lord in your mercy **People: Hear our prayers.**

Leader: By your healing power you bring restoration, hope and comfort.

We pray for ourselves and those dear to us who seek healing

of body, mind, spirit or relationships.

Silent Prayer

Leader: Lord in your mercy **People: Hear our prayers.**

Leader: We offer our prayers in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray:

All: Lord's Prayer (see last page)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Leader: Let us speak the affirmation of our faith together:

People: We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God,

begotten, not made,

of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

i or us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,

and was made human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father.
With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead,

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(Nicene Creed)

SENDING

Hymn of Benediction STS (purple) #49 I will come to you in the silence (rise)
Benediction

Leader: May the God of peace, who brought back from the dead

our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep,

by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete

in everything good so that you may do his will,

through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

(Heb 13:20f) (be seated)

Silence

Closing the Bible

Declaring the Mystery of Faith

Leader: Let us declare the mystery of our faith!

All: Christ has died! Christ is risen!

Christ will come again!

Amen.

Offering: as an act of sharing with the world what you have received from God's bountiful hand you are invited to place your offering in the basket as you leave the sanctuary.

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.

The Lord's Prayer

Leonard Enns



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