

Waterloo North Mennonite Church
Matins Season After Epiphany Order of Service
Sunday, February 23, 2020

For silent reflection in preparation for worship:

“Lord, it is good for us to be here.” (Matthew 17:4)

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.

Invocation:

Leader: We enter your presence Eternal God, Creator of heaven and earth.

People: We enter your presence Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

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) #74 We would extol thee *(rise)*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

(remain standing)

Leader: The voice of the Lord our God is powerful, (Ps 29:4)
the Lord our God is righteous and merciful. (Ps 116:5)

**People: We give thanks for the Light of the world
who dwelt among us,
revealing and demonstrating divine love
in human form.**

Happy are those who make the Lord their trust. (Ps 40:4)

**The Lord is our light and salvation,
therefore we live in confidence without fear!** (Ps 27:1)

Hymn of Praise STJ (green) #1 We sing to you, O God

(be seated after singing)

Leader: Let us join together in reading the Psalm.

Psalm 99

Leader: The Lord reigns,
let the nations tremble;
he sits enthroned between the cherubim,
let the earth shake.

**People: Great is the Lord in Zion;
he is exalted over all the nations.
Let them praise your great and awesome name—
he is holy.**

Leader: The King is mighty, he loves justice—
you have established equity;
in Jacob you have done
what is just and what is right.

**People: Exalt the Lord our God
and worship at his footstool;
he is holy.
Moses and Aaron were among his priests,
Samuel was among those who called on his name;**

Leader: they called on the Lord
and he answered them.
He spoke to them from the pillar of cloud;
they kept his statutes and his decrees.

**People: Exalt the Lord our God
and worship at his holy mountain,
for the Lord our God is holy.**

**All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.**

Silence

CONFESSION

Leader: Oh Lord, we confess too often we follow the law (Matt 5:17)
without the Spirit of Light.

**People: We are as infants in Christ without growing to know (I Cor 3:1)
the mystery of love that is birthed in Christ.
Open our hearts, O Lord, to the inward Light
that will show us the path to service. (Is. 42,49)**

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)

All: Amen.

Silence

Hymn: HWB (blue) #144 Kyrie (remain seated)

Words of Assurance

Leader: God reveals God's self in transfigured Light
if we but open our eyes to see.

(II Peter 1: 16-18)

Response to Assurance

**All: God's love rests on us like the Dove of Spirit
sent in Christ's baptism. We, too, seek
to live in that power of Spirit which is the
opening to grace and truth in Love. Amen.**

(John 1: 32-34)

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 book of Exodus.

READ Exodus 24:12-18.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Silence

Reader: Hear the word of the Lord from the Epistle to the Peter.

READ 2 Peter 1:16-21.

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 Matthew.

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

READ Matthew 17:1-9.

(rise)

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ!

Silence

(be seated with the reader)

Homily

Silence

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

(rise)

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 lift our prayers of petition and intercession 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 and intercession 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 God above us,
Maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon,
of water and earth,
of all living things.**

**We believe in God beside us,
Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,
born of a woman, servant of the poor,
tortured and nailed to a tree.
A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.
He descended into the earth,
to the place of death.
On the third day he rose from the tomb.
He ascended into heaven
to be everywhere present,
and his kingdom will come on earth.**

**We believe in God with us,
the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,
life-giving Breath of the church
spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of resurrection and eternal life. Amen.**

(adapted, Iona Abbey Worship Book)

SENDING

Hymn of Benediction STJ (green) #14 Lord Jesus, you shall be my song (rise)

Benediction

Leader: By the tender mercy of our God love has broken upon us!
Light is given where once there was darkness,
and hope where there was only death.
Go forth knowing that God will guide your feet
into the way of peace. Amen.

(adapted, Copyright Carol Penner, www.leadinginworship.com)
(be seated)

Silence

Closing the Bible

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Abide in God's love, seek justice and go in peace.

All: 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.

Scriptures for next week: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7; Psalm 32;
Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11.

***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.

Nursery: The nursery is located next to the sanctuary. Infant change table is located in the washroom next to nursery. The nursery is unstaffed during Matins.

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, 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.

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.

The Lord's Prayer

Leonard Enns

Our Fa-ther who art in heav'n, hal-low-ed be thy name. Thy king-dom come. Thy

The first system of musical notation for 'The Lord's Prayer'. It consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The vocal line starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Our Fa-ther who art in heav'n, hal-low-ed be thy name. Thy king-dom come. Thy'. There are some triplets in the piano accompaniment.

will be done on earth, as it is in heav'n. Give us to-day our

The second system of musical notation. The vocal line continues with the lyrics: 'will be done on earth, as it is in heav'n. Give us to-day our'. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and some melodic lines.

dai-ly bread, and for-give us our tres-pas-ses, as we for-give those, who tre-pass-a-

The third system of musical notation. The vocal line continues with the lyrics: 'dai-ly bread, and for-give us our tres-pas-ses, as we for-give those, who tre-pass-a-'. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and some melodic lines.

gainst us, and lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from ev-il, for thine is the king-dom, the

The fourth system of musical notation. The vocal line continues with the lyrics: 'gainst us, and lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from ev-il, for thine is the king-dom, the'. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and some melodic lines.

pow'r, and the glo-ry for ev-er. A - - - - men.

The fifth system of musical notation. The vocal line continues with the lyrics: 'pow'r, and the glo-ry for ev-er. A - - - - men.'. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and some melodic lines.

21 December 2017