

**Waterloo North Mennonite Church**  
**Matins Lent Order of Service**  
**Sunday, March 8, 2020**

For silent reflection in preparation for worship:  
"What is being reborn in you?"

**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, our true Shepherd.**

Leader: We acknowledge your presence living in us Holy Spirit. (Rm 8:9)

**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** STS (purple) #99 The Lord's my Shepherd (rise)

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

(remain risen)

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord,  
let us worship and bow down!

(Ps 95:1)

(Ps 95:6)

**People: We praise God in spirit and truth for what we are given:  
a spirit of power to accomplish God's will,  
a spirit of love so we may truly know God, and  
a spirit of self-discipline so we can walk in right paths. Amen.**

(adapted, 2Tim 1:7)

**Hymn of Praise** HWB (blue) #169 I to the hills will lift my eyes

(be seated after singing)

Leader: Let us join together in reading the Psalm.

## Psalm 121

Leader: I look up to the mountains; does my strength come from mountains?  
No, my strength comes from God,  
who made heaven, and earth, and mountains.

**People: God won't let you stumble, your Guardian won't fall asleep.  
Not on your life! Israel's Guardian will never doze or sleep.**

Leader: God is your Guardian, right at your side to protect you--  
Shielding you from sunstroke, sheltering you from moonstroke.

**People: God guards you from every evil, God guards your very life.  
God guards you when you leave and when you return,  
God guards you now and always.**

**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: O Lord we proclaim you to be our true Shepherd,  
yet confess that we do not listen to your voice. (Ps 95:7)

**People: Our hearts are parched from wandering  
far from your life-giving springs. (STS #162)  
We seek our own heart's desire.  
We seek to maintain our image before others.  
You look into our hearts to know us as we truly are. (1Sam 16:7)  
You know the shame and guilt we hide from others and ourselves.**

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

## Words of Assurance

Leader: Thanks be to God, for God blots out our sins. (Is 43:25)  
God has made Jesus our righteousness and our redemption. (1Cor 1:30)

## Response to Assurance

**All: Fill our cups with your grace.  
Let your love overflow in our hearts  
and make us fully alive. Amen. (STS #162)**

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 welcome guests to Waterloo North today.

### **Introduction of Visitors**

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 Genesis.

READ Genesis 12:1-4a.

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 Romans.

READ Romans 4:1-5, 13-17.

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** HWB (blue) #506 I sought the Lord (v.1)

*(rise)*

READ John 3:1-17.

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** STJ (green) #73 The Lord lift you up

*(rise)*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Life of the Church: Congregational Announcements.

Leader: As we enter a time of silent prayer we are confident in God's presence so that when we ask anything according to God's will, God hears us.

(1Jn 5:14)

### **Silent Prayer**

Leader: God our Creator, as we reflect on the mysteries of the cosmos, we celebrate the wondrous design of the universe and the Wisdom that guides its course. Help us to act now for the good of future generations of all your creatures.

### **Silent Prayer**

Leader: Lord in your mercy

**People: Hear our prayers.**

Leader: We pray for those who lead and govern every land, and for the people committed to their charge. Enlighten all leaders to defend the great gift of peace and seek the good of all peoples.

### **Silent Prayer**

Leader: Lord in your mercy

**People: Hear our prayers.**

Leader: By your words and life, O Christ, 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 are grateful for the many ways you touch our lives O God. As we enter a time of spoken prayers this morning, we offer prayers of gratitude and petition to you...

Leader: Lord in your mercy OR For your goodness

**People: Hear our prayers. OR We give you thanks O God.**

Leader: What prayers of thanksgiving and petition do you bring this morning?

**People: audible sharing or sentence prayers** (eg I give thanks... I hold in prayer ...)

Leader: Lord in your mercy OR For your goodness

**People: Hear our prayers. OR We give you thanks O God.**

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  
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,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*(Nicene Creed)*

**SENDING**

**Hymn of Benediction** HWB (blue) #102 To God be the glory

*(rise)*

**Benediction**

Leader: May you be filled with the free gift of grace  
by God who so loved the world that

(Rom 5:15)

the divine Son became flesh to live among us

so that we would not perish but have eternal life. Amen.

(Jn 3:16)

*(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: Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11;  
John 4:5-42.

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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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**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 please ask anyone, visit our website [www.waterloonorthmc.org](http://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.***

# The Lord's Prayer

Adapted from a chant by  
Richard Langdon, c. 1729-1808

The image shows a musical score for 'The Lord's Prayer' in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of eight systems of music, each with a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The score includes various musical notations such as chords, rests, and phrasing slurs. The lyrics are: 'Our Fath - er Who art in heav'n, hal - low - ed be Thy name; Thy king - dom come; Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heav'n; Give us this day our dai - ly bread; And for - give us our debts, as we for - give our debt - ors, as we for - give our debt - ors; And lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil; For Thine is the king - dom, and the power and the glo - ry for ev - er. A - men'.

Our Fath - er Who art in heav'n, hal - low - ed  
be Thy name; Thy king - dom come; Thy will be  
done in earth, as it is in heav'n; Give us this  
day our dai - ly bread; And for - give us our  
debts, as we for - give our debt - ors, as we for - give our  
debt - ors; And lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de -  
liv - er us from e - vil; For Thine is the king - dom, and the  
power and the glo - ry for ev - er. A - men