

Waterloo North Mennonite Church
Matins Lent Order of Service
Sunday, March 15, 2020

For silent reflection in preparation for worship:
"Why are you speaking with her?" (John 4:27)

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 STJ (green) #14 Lord Jesus, you shall be my song
(be seated after singing)

Leader: Let us join together in reading the Psalm.

Psalm 95 - A Call to Worship and Obedience

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**People: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

Leader: For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

**People: In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it,
and the dry land, which his hands have formed.**

Leader: O come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.
O that today you would listen to his voice!

**People: Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,
as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,
when your ancestors tested me,
and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.**

Leader: For forty years I loathed that generation
and said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray,
and they do not regard my ways."
Therefore in my anger I swore,
"They shall not enter my rest."

**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.

Passing the Peace of Christ

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.
o Introduction of Visitors

Leader: Let us offer each other the sign of Christ's peace. (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 17:1-7.

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 5:1-11.

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 4:5-42.

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) #307 Will you let me be your servant *(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.

Silent Prayer (1Jn 5:14)

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 seek the peace and good of all people.

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. These are matters of prayer in the life of our congregation and our world.
o Leader prays for items in the Information Sheet, and other items.

Leader: Lord in your mercy

People: Hear our prayers.

Leader: What prayers of gratitude or petition do you bring this morning?

People: audible sentence prayers (eg I give thanks... I hold in 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
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) #423 May the grace of Christ our Saviour
(rise)

Benediction

Leader: May you be filled with the free gift of grace (Rom 5:15)
by God who so loved the world that
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: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14;
John 9:1-4.

***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 please ask anyone, visit our website www.waterlooonorthmc.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

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

The musical score is written in a two-staff system (treble and bass clefs) with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the treble clef, while the bass clef provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a final cadence on the word 'Amen'.