

Waterloo North Mennonite Church
Sunday, August 11, 2019, 9:30 a.m.

Gathering Hymns:

HWB (blue) #651 I owe the Lord a morning song

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

Opening Prayer

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.

Introductions and Announcements

Call to Worship

Invocation: HWB (blue) #661

Confession:

Leader: Gracious God, hear our confession.

**People: Our faith is uncertain, our forgiveness slow,
our conviction is weak, our compassion wavering.**

Show us your mercy.

Help us show mercy.

(HWB 703, abridged)

Words of Assurance

Leader: God says, "I will heal your disloyalty and love you freely."

(Hos 14.4)

Jesus said "Take heart, it is I. Do not be afraid."

(Mt 14.27)

People: Therefore, if God is for us who can be against us?

(Rom 8:31)

**In Christ we have been given new hope and new life,
and to this newness of life we commit ourselves.**

Amen.

(WNMC Covenant)

Hymn: HWB (blue) #229 Lord, you have come to the lakeshore

Children's Time

Congregational Prayer

Hymn: STJ (green) #4 You've got a place

Offering

Scripture Reading Luke 15:11-32

(see last page)

Hymn: HWB (blue) #145 There's a wideness in God's mercy

Sermon "Insult, Objection and Acceptance: Exploring the Parable of the Prodigal Son"

Hymn of Response: HWB (blue) #433 Go, my children

Benediction

Headsets for hearing assistance are available from the ushers.

Nursery is located next to the sanctuary. Infant change table is located in washroom next to nursery. Ushers can direct you. The nursery is unstaffed in the summer.

Children's Worship Binder, an instrument to help children through the worship service, is available by the sanctuary entrance.

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.

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.

Luke 15:11-32 (NRSV)

¹¹ Then Jesus said, “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.’” ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ ³¹ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”