

Waterloo North Mennonite Church  
Sunday, December 8, 2019, 10:45 a.m.  
Advent 2 - PEACE

**Gathering Hymns**

**HWB (blue) #190 'Twas in the moon of wintertime**

**HWB (blue) #318 Joy to the world**

Welcome and Announcements

Chiming to Worship

Silent Reflection – Reflect on the peace that Jesus' coming brings to our hearts at this time of year.

**Call to Worship**

Leader: O God, O God, we wait for you.

**People: Asking, when will you bring the child of peace?**

**All: O God, our God, we wait with joy.**

**Invocation**

**STS (purple) #124 My soul cries out** (vs.1)

**Responsive Reading**

Leader: God calls us to wait with endurance.

**People: We glorify the God of hope.**

Leader: The God of encouragement calls us to peace.

**People: We thank the Lord for the bounty of God's mercy.**

Leader: God calls us to a new vision for all creation.

**All: Let us all praise the Lord.**

**Theme Song: STS (purple) #15 Hope is a candle**

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Children's Time

**Hymn: STJ (green) #54 Longing for light**

Offering

Congregational Prayer

**Hymn: HWB (blue) #172 O come, O come Immanuel** (vv 1,3,5,6)

Scripture Reading Isaiah 11:1-10 (see insert)

Sermon “Lofty Expectations”

**Hymn of Response: HWB (blue) #377 Healer of our...** (vs. 1)

**Sung Benediction: HWB (blue) #427 You shall go out...**

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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 from the ushers.

**Childcare** (infants to age 4): The nursery is located next to the sanctuary. Infant change table is located in washroom next to nursery. Ushers can direct you.

**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.***

## Isaiah 11:1-10 (NRSV)

- 11** A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
- <sup>2</sup> The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- <sup>3</sup> His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;
- <sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
- <sup>5</sup> Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
- <sup>6</sup> The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.
- <sup>7</sup> The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- <sup>8</sup> The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
- <sup>9</sup> They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain;  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.
- <sup>10</sup> On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples;  
the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

## Matthew 3:1-12 (NRSV)

**3** In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup>“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

<sup>3</sup>This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.’”

<sup>4</sup>Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup>But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit worthy of repentance. <sup>9</sup>Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>10</sup>Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup>“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”