



# Waterloo North Mennonite Church

Sunday, March 8, 2020, 10:45 a.m.

## Lent 2: Show us the extent of your faithful, loving presence

Focus statement: God calls us out of familiar and comfortable places in our lives and invites us into new challenges, new ways of being, thinking, and doing. As we respond to this invitation, God shows us a deeper experience of Divine Presence.

### Gathering Hymns:

STJ (green) #2 Hamba nathi (Come, walk with us)

STS (purple) #39 Will you come and follow me

Welcome and Announcements

Chiming to Worship and Silent Reflection

### Call to Worship

Leader: We lift up our eyes looking for help.

**People: Our help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth.**

Leader: When we have troubles and difficulties,  
where does our help come from?

**People: Our help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth.**

Leader: When we are invited into new ways of thinking and being,  
where does our help come from?

**People: Our help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth.  
Let us worship the One who faithfully helps us  
and never leaves us or forsakes us.**

### Confession

**All: We confess, O God, that you are faithful, loving, and totally trustworthy. We also confess our desire for what is familiar, comfortable, and secure. We acknowledge that you sometimes call us to accept new challenges, new ways of thinking, or new places of service. Lord, give us the grace to respond to your call when you invite us into new ways of being.**

Silence

## Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, the One who calls us is the faithful One who promised to never leave us or forsake us. May you know God's faithful presence more fully.

**All: *Thanks be to God.***

## Hymn: STJ (green) #97 The Lord is my light

Children's Time

Congregational Prayer

## Hymn: STJ (green) #78 Sizohamba naye (We will walk with God)

Offering

Scripture Reading Genesis 12:1-4

*(see insert)*

Sermon *"I've Got Your Back"*

## Hymn of Response: HWB (blue) #546 Guide my feet

## Ritual of Response

Extinguishing the Light and Benediction

Leader: As you move into this new week, may you be blessed with opportunities to live more fully into God's faithful, loving presence.

***\*The visuals for Lent present the bleak, lonely aspect of Lent.  
Extinguished candles will mark our journey to the cross.***

Our Lenten theme is "Show Us". May our hearts and minds be open when we engage these texts and declare, "Show us." We seek to better understand God, and Jesus lived and taught to show everyone the will and passion of God. As we petition the passages to "Show Us", may we also be receptive to the surprising love and grace of God.

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

## **Genesis 12:1-4** (NRSV)

<sup>1</sup> Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4</sup> So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

## **Psalms 121** (NRSV)

- <sup>1</sup> I lift up my eyes to the hills—  
from where will my help come?
- <sup>2</sup> My help comes from the LORD,  
who made heaven and earth.
- <sup>3</sup> He will not let your foot be moved;  
he who keeps you will not slumber.
- <sup>4</sup> He who keeps Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.
- <sup>5</sup> The LORD is your keeper;  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.
- <sup>6</sup> The sun shall not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.
- <sup>7</sup> The LORD will keep you from all evil;  
he will keep your life.
- <sup>8</sup> The LORD will keep  
your going out and your coming in  
from this time on and forevermore.

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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.*