



Waterloo North Mennonite Church  
Sunday, September 8, 2019, 9:30 a.m.

**Welcoming: Opening the Door**

*“Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God” (Romans 15:7)*

**Head Spirituality**

**Gathering Hymns:**

**HWB (blue) #1    What is this place**  
**HWB (blue) #6    Here in this place**

Welcome, Introduction, Announcements

Moment in Mission – *The Mennonite Story*

**Call to Worship:**

Leader: What does it mean to open our door?

**People: To open the door is to greet the world  
with generous hospitality instead of fear.**

Leader: Welcoming is messy. It is risky.  
It requires vulnerability and embraces diversity.

**People: It changes and challenges us. It is what Christ  
has done for us and calls us to do.**

**Hymn: HWB (blue) #322 For we are strangers no more**

Children’s time *(see insert)*

Rite of passage for those turning 2\*

Rite of passage for those entering Grade 1\*\*

**Camp Song: “Love the Lord your God”**

Offering

Congregational Prayer

**Hymn: HWB (blue) #306 In Christ there is no East or West**

Scripture Reading Isaiah 56:1-8 *(see insert)*

# Sermon “How to Welcome”

## Hymn of Response: This is God’s Wondrous World *(see insert)*

### Benediction

#### Fall Theme

#### WELCOMING: OPENING THE DOOR

*Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you,  
for the glory of God. Romans 15:7*

This fall we are invited to respond to God’s call to open the door. One way to practice this risky hospitality is to become more aware of the various ways we come to God. Our four worship services in September will be shaped around different spirituality types: head, heart, mystic, and service/action. To a certain extent we each embrace all of them, but we can also feel more at home in one or two and perhaps slightly uncomfortable in others. Helping each other feel at home with God and God’s people is part of radical hospitality. May we follow Christ’s example and find courage, creativity, and grace to prop our doors open together!

\*\*\*\*\*

*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 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 56:1-8 (NVSr)

Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,  
for soon my salvation will come,  
and my deliverance be revealed.

<sup>2</sup> Happy is the mortal who does this,  
the one who holds it fast,  
who keeps the sabbath, not profaning it,  
and refrains from doing any evil.

<sup>3</sup> Do not let the foreigner joined to the LORD say,  
“The LORD will surely separate me from his people”;  
and do not let the eunuch say,  
“I am just a dry tree.”

<sup>4</sup> For thus says the LORD:  
To the eunuchs who keep my sabbaths,  
who choose the things that please me  
and hold fast my covenant,

<sup>5</sup> I will give, in my house and within my walls,  
a monument and a name  
better than sons and daughters;  
I will give them an everlasting name  
that shall not be cut off.

<sup>6</sup> And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,  
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,  
and to be his servants,  
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,  
and hold fast my covenant—

<sup>7</sup> these I will bring to my holy mountain,  
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;  
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices  
will be accepted on my altar;  
for my house shall be called a house of prayer  
for all peoples.

<sup>8</sup> Thus says the Lord GOD,  
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,  
I will gather others to them  
besides those already gathered.

Litany for Turning 2 and Grade 1

Stories shape us -

-they open the door to wonder and imagination.

Stories open us to God's imagination.

**You are a part of God's story.**

Together we explore stories from the Bible.

People, places, plots, plants and animals -

-they invite us into a journey towards God's compassion  
and kindness,

peace and justice for all living things.

**We are a part of God's story.**

Through sharing God's stories the Words become fresh and  
alive.

We become a part of the mystery of God through them,

so that we can see and shine God's love in the world.

**God's story is alive among us, through us, around us.**