

**Waterloo North Mennonite Church**  
**Sunday, April 2, 2017 10:45 a.m.**  
**Lent 5**

*Restore Us, O God! We Breathe.*

**Gathering Hymns**

HWB (blue) #36 *God of Our Strength* (v.1, 3 & 4)

HWB (blue) #26 *Holy Spirit, Come with Power*

**Welcome and Announcements**

Chiming to worship and silence

**Call to Worship**

Leader: Come. Bring your weary bones and your crushed souls.

**People: Now is the time to worship the life-giving Spirit.**

Leader: Come. Bring your dashed hopes and broken dreams.

**People: This is indeed the time to worship God's life-giving Spirit.**

Leader: Come. Bring your heavy sorrow and lingering sadness.

**People: We come with expectation to worship this life-giving Spirit.**

Leader: Bring all that you have and all that you are. The Spirit is here to breathe life into all that is lifeless.

Invocation

**Hymn** STJ (green) #29 *You are All We Have*

**Congregational Prayer**

Children's time

**Hymn** STS (purple) #121 *Nothing is Lost on the Breath of God*

**Confession and Words of Assurance:**

Leader: God, we confess that when we look into the valleys of our lives, we are tempted to fix our gaze on the remnants of the past. We see the dry bones, and we doubt in our minds – “Will these bones ever live?”

**People: But in the midst of our doubt, we proclaim that you are the life-giving Spirit. You breathe new life into all that is dead.**

Leader: For you, O God, raised up the dry bones in the valley.

**People: Your Son, Jesus, brought Lazarus out from the tomb, and your Spirit lifted anew the hearts of the disciples.**

Leader: Teach us, O Lord, to wait for your breath.

**All: Blow your mighty wind into the hollow chambers of our hearts, that we may never settle for death but rise again as your beloved people.**

*(Pause for silent confession)*

Leader: God, holy Breath,

**All: Restore us.**

Leader: For with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you once more.

**All: Our whole selves waited for you, O Lord, and you answered us.**

Leader: In you there is unfailing love and full redemption. You redeem us from all our sins. Amen.

**Offering**

Scripture Reading Ezekiel 37:1-14

**Hymn** HWB (blue) #356 *Breathe on me, breath of God*

Sermon

**Hymn** HWB (blue) #483 *O God, Who Gives Us Life*

Benediction

**Worship Participants**

Pianist	Mary Lehto
Song Leader	Dale Brubacher-Cressman
Worship Leader & Children's Time	Peter Paetkau
Congregational Prayer	Lisa Carr Pries
Scripture Reader	John Cornies
Sermon	Betty Pries
Ushers	Christine Weber, Sharon Neufeld
Sound	Don Weber

**Childcare** - Infants to Age 4 – Staffed Childcare is available during worship in Nursery located outside the sanctuary. Ushers are available to assist you.

**Head sets** are available, from the ushers, for hearing assistance.

**Offering** - For 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.

**Information Sheets** with church news and activities are available on table in foyer for those who do not receive them electronically.

**Ezekiel 37:1-14:** The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup> He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup> He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." <sup>4</sup> Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD." <sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup> I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD." <sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup> I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup> I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. <sup>11</sup> Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.'" <sup>12</sup> Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup> And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup> I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

\*\*\*\*\*

***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.***

\*\*\*\*\*



**RESTORE US, O GOD**

***Waterloo North Mennonite Church***

100 Benjamin Rd., Waterloo, ON, N2V 2J9      **Phone (519)-888-6113**  
**Website:** [www.waterloonorthmc.org](http://www.waterloonorthmc.org)

**MINISTRY TEAM**

Gordon Allaby (Lead)      519-883-1666      [gordon@waterloonorthmc.org](mailto:gordon@waterloonorthmc.org)  
 Lisa Carr-Pries      519-888-1943      [lisa@waterloonorthmc.org](mailto:lisa@waterloonorthmc.org)  
 Ralph Brubacher    519-664-2414    Peggy Zehr    519 579-8807  
 Lorrie Shantz      519-745-2315

**Office Admin.** (Sharon) [office@waterloonorthmc.org](mailto:office@waterloonorthmc.org) (Tues-Thurs 9-3, Fri. 9-12)

**Accounting Services** (Dave) [finance@waterloonorthmc.org](mailto:finance@waterloonorthmc.org) (Tue.)

**Custodian** (Daniel Kramer) [daniel.kramer@rogers.com](mailto:daniel.kramer@rogers.com) Cell # 226-808-5405