

Waterloo North Mennonite Church
Sunday, March 26, 2017 10:45 a.m.
Lent 4

Restore Us, O God! We See.

Gathering Hymns

STS (purple) #39 *Will You Come and Follow Me*
HWB (blue) #545 *Be Thou My Vision*

Welcome and Announcements

Focus Statement

We are bombarded by visual images, and can mistake what is seen for what is true. God reveals hidden truths, surprising us and challenging our assumptions. Once our eyes and hearts are opened, we can see with greater clarity.

Chiming to worship and silence

Call to Worship

Leader: Here in this place we gather to worship.

All: Open our eyes and our hearts.

Leader: Here in this place we gather to see you.

All: Open our eyes and our hearts.

Leader: Here in this place we gather to perceive you in all your glory and beauty.

All: Open our eyes and our hearts.

Leader: Remove our blindness so that we might see ourselves honestly, and humbly worship you.

Congregational Prayer

Children's Time

Hymn *This Little Light of Mine*

Confession and words of assurance

Leader: O God, you open our eyes to see what is true. We confess that sometimes it is easier for us to stay blind than to embrace the fullness of your truth.

All: We admit that it is scary and unsettling to fully accept what you want us to see.

Leader: Your truth exposes our hidden secrets, upsets our expectations, and establishes a new order where we are

no longer leading the way. Forgive us, O Lord when we would rather stay in the darkness of our current reality instead of receiving your miracle of light and new life.

All: Remove the cataracts from our eyes that we may see and celebrate your goodness around us. Quicken our minds, and soften our hearts, that we may recognize that you are at work.

(Pause for silent confession)

Leader: God, who brings all things into the light,

All: restore us.

Leader: The Lord is our shepherd we shall not want. Though we cannot see through the valley of the shadow of death, God is with us. We will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen.

Offertory Prayer (in unison):

All: With all that we have and all that we are, we honour you. Restore us, O God, to live in freedom and trust.

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

Scripture Reading *John 9:1-41*

Hymn STJ (green) #56 *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

Sermon *"Here is an astonishing thing"*

Hymn of response HWB (blue) #336 *When Peace Like a River* (vs. 1,2,4)

Benediction

Go with your eyes wide open and your hearts softened to see the face of God in each person you meet – and to love them accordingly. Go in God's peace. Amen.

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

Worship Participants

Worship Leader Christine Weber/Nicole Kornelsen
Music Leader Jennie Wiebe
Pianist Colin Wiebe
Children's Time Nicole Kornelsen
Preacher Gordon Allaby
Congregational Prayer Lorrie Shantz
Scripture Reader Wendy Kornelsen and Rebecca Hecht-Enns
Additional Music Junior Youth Soul Food Ukulele Ensemble***
Ushers Phil Ruby/Kathryn Good
Sound Kevin Lanctot
*** Junior Youth Soul Food Ukulele Ensemble: Thomas Fieguth, Thomas Beech, Naomi Willms, Naomi Wiebe, Gemma Sauder, Grace Fast, Nathan Heidebrecht, Megan Sloka.

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.



Waterloo North Mennonite Church

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MINISTRY TEAM

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Accounting Services (Dave) finance@waterlooonorthmc.org (Tue.)

Custodian (Daniel Kramer) daniel.kramer@rogers.com Cell # 226-808-5405

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