

LENT

A WILDERNESS JOURNEY



St. Matthews Church

WHERE COMMUNITY
GATHERS AND GROWS

March 13, 2022

Second Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 13, 2022

(* indicates the assembly stands

** indicates singing is encouraged)

Gathering

Prelude *“Interlude”* D. Lord

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

Prayer of Lament

*Hymn 709 *“When Our Song Says Peace”*

*Greeting

*Lenten Kyrie 615** *“In All Our Grief”*

*Prayer of the Day

Anthem *“Merciful God, Come”* M. Lundquist

Word

First Reading Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Psalm 27 *(spoken antiphonally, see page 4)*

Second Reading Philippians 3:17-4:1

*Gospel Acclamation *“Let Your Steadfast Love”* p. 103

*Gospel Reading Luke 13: 31-35

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day 735** *“Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth”*

*Statement of Faith (see page 5)

*Prayers of Intercession **A: receive our prayer.**

*Peace

The Meal

*Offering Hymn 188** *“Create in Me a Clean Heart”*

*Great Thanksgiving**		p. 107
*Holy, Holy, Holy		p. 108
*Thanksgiving at the Table		
*Lord's Prayer		p. 112
Lamb of God		p. 112
Communion Hymn 566		<i>"When Twilight Comes Night"</i>
*Table Blessing		
*Prayer after Communion		
Sending		
General Announcements		
*Blessing		
*Hymn 543**		<i>"Go, My Children, with My Blessing"</i>
*Dismissal		A: Thanks be to God.
Postlude	<i>"Little Fugue in D minor"</i>	F. Mendelssohn

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Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

Church Fire Plan For everyone's awareness, a copy of the Church Fire Plan for safe exit from the Sanctuary appears in the back of the worship books. Please take a moment to review for your own safety.

Psalm 27

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then I shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

²When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh,
they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.

³Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.
Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

⁴One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze
upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.

⁵For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up on a
rock.

⁶Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.
Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will
sing and make music to the LORD.

⁷Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.”
Your face, O LORD, I will seek.

⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.
Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of
my salvation.

**¹⁰Though my father and my mother forsake me,
the LORD will take me in.**

**¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD;
lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.**

**¹²Subject me not to the will of my foes,
for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.**

**¹³This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living!**

**¹⁴Wait for the LORD and be strong.
Take heart and wait for the LORD!**

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Statement of Faith

O God, the source of our being
and the goal of all our longing,
we believe and trust in you.

The whole earth is alive with your glory,
and all that has life is sustained by you.

We commit ourselves to cherish your world,
and to seek your face.

O God, embodied in a human life
we believe and trust in you.

Jesus our brother, born of the woman Mary,

you confronted the proud and the powerful,
and welcomed as your friends
those of no account.
Holy Wisdom of God, firstborn of creation,
you emptied yourself of power,
and became foolishness for our sake.
You laboured with us upon the cross,
and have brought us forth
to the hope of resurrection.
We commit ourselves to struggle against evil,
and to choose life.

O God, life-giving Spirit,
Spirit of healing and comfort,
of integrity and truth,
we believe and trust in you.
Warm-winged Spirit, brooding over creation,
rushing wind and Pentecostal fire,
we commit ourselves to work with you
and renew our world.

By Janet Morely from "All Desires Known"

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

Assisting Minister: Scott Kuschnereit

Diaconal Minister of Music : Deacon Scott Knarr

Choral Scholars: Nicole Hamilton, Laura Moolenbeek, Dylan Siebert,
Jacob Steinmann

Vocal Ensemble: Julia Crnko, Lana Moses, Jim & Erika Sattler, Pauline Finch

Radio: Gary Pootz

Building Monitor: Don Robins (519-502-2099)

Worship Notes

In our prayers John, Susan, Marie, Grace, Maureen, Frank and Bernice.

Important Information for today's worship

- **Masks:** According to the Waterloo Region Bylaw, wearing a mask indoors is mandatory.
- **Personal belongings:** You may use the basement coat racks, but please use the Church Street side staircase to descend back down (follow the arrows). Please still exit via the left (Charles St.) staircase and doors.
- **Offering:** Please place your offering in one of the offering plates upon leaving.
- **The Peace** will be shared without physical contact
- **Guides to Worship:** Please place these in the recycling bins in the Narthex upon leaving, or take them home.
- **Exiting:** At the end of the service, all will remain in place until the end of the postlude. Then, following the ushers' guidance, those in the back pews will exit first, going directly out the only official exit: the Benton parking lot doors. Please do not mingle inside, and maintain distancing until you are in the parking lot. We encourage you to mingle outside while maintaining physical distancing.
- **Washrooms:** Are not sanitized after each usage. Please only use the ones in the Sanctuary basement, follow all signage and maintain physical distancing.
- **Coffee Hour** is cancelled until further notice.
- **Mingling:** Please do not mingle while indoors and respect 2 metre physical distancing at all times. Please refrain from shaking hands or other physical contact with people outside your social bubble.
- **Pastors** will not be greeting at the door or mingling indoors, but will make an effort to come outside asap after the service. If you wish to talk to them,

best to call or email at another time. An in-person meeting may be scheduled.

- **Water Coolers** are not to be used.
- **Access** to the rest of the building (e.g. Office, Fellowship Hall, Scout Hall) is not permitted.
- **Property Cleaning and Sanitizing:** Will be increased throughout this time
- **Thank you for helping to keep all of us as safe as possible during this pandemic, by following these directions!**

Annual Congregational Meeting at 11 a.m. on Sunday March 27th in the Fellowship Hall (in-person only). All members are invited to join for this important meeting to review the Annual Report and to conduct other congregational business, such as the election of the Board of Directors.

Midweek Lenten Worship Services on Wednesdays at 7 p.m., featuring Holden Evening Prayer. Come join us live or via live-stream.

Contact Information

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