



Waterloo Christian Reformed Church

209 Bearinger Road N2L 4H5 (519) 746-5727

Eastertide, April 26, 2020

Because the good news of Easter can hardly be contained in a single day's celebration, Easter is only the first of fifty days of **Eastertide**, the "Great Fifty Days" that lead up to Pentecost. This season is designed for extended celebration, for exploring the ramifications of Easter for the redemption of all creation, and for joyful Christian living.

This service will be held online using Zoom. A recorded copy of the service will also be posted on the WCRC website and be sent out for viewing any time.

Preacher: Rev. Vicki Cok

Worship Leader: Scott Lammers

Pianist: Ann Smith

Liturgy: Nelda Looyenga

Welcome and Announcements

We Gather for Worship

Call to Worship —Psalm 13, NIV

How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide your face from me?
How long must I wrestle with my thoughts
and day after day have sorrow in my heart?
How long will my enemy triumph over me?

Look on me and answer, Lord my God.
Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death,
and my enemy will say, "I have overcome him,"
and my foes will rejoice when I fall.

***But I trust in your unfailing love;
my heart rejoices in your salvation.***

***I will sing the Lord's praise,
for he has been good to me.***

Song of Praise: LUYH #347 – **The Steadfast Love of the Lord**

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
God's mercies never come to an end.
They are new every morning,
new every morning;
great is your faithfulness, O Lord,
great is your faithfulness.

God's Greeting

We Confess Our Sin and Receive Forgiveness

Prayer of Confession

God of all compassion,
To whom all hearts are open and all desires are known,
We gather today in the context of a global pandemic.
So much of what we feel,
We can only haltingly put into words,
So, sometimes, we rely on the words of others.

In the words of Sarah Bourns;
"Corona is exposing us.

Exposing our weak sides.
Exposing our dark sides.
Exposing what normally lies far beneath the surface of our souls.
hidden by the invisible masks we wear.
Now exposed by the paper masks we can't hide far enough behind.
Corona is exposing our addiction to comfort.
Our obsession with control.
Our compulsion to hoard.
Our protection of self.
Corona is peeling back our layers.
Tearing down our walls.
Revealing our illusions.
Leveling our best-laid plans.
Corona is exposing the gods we worship:
Our health
Our hurry
Our sense of security
Our favorite lies
Our secret lusts
Our misplaced trust."

***Heal us, we pray,
In the midst of our words and silence.
Into our silence speak your Word,
So full of truth and grace.
Assure us that nothing in all creation
can separate us from your love for us
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

Song of Response: LUYH #426 (vs. 1, 3 & 2) – **My Faith Looks Up to Thee**

- 1 My faith looks up to thee,
thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray,
take all my guilt away.
O let me from this day
be wholly thine!
- 3 While life's dark maze I tread
and griefs around me spread,
be thou my guide.
Bid darkness turn to day,
wipe sorrow's tears away,
nor let me ever stray
from thee aside.
- 2 May thy rich grace impart
strength to my fainting heart,
my zeal inspire.
As thou hast died for me,
O may my love to thee,
pure, warm, and changeless be,
a living fire!

We Hear God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Our eyes turn to you, O sovereign Lord;
In you we take refuge.

***By the illuminating power of your Holy Spirit,
Help us to see the light of the knowledge of your glory
In the face of Jesus, Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.***

LUYH #907 – **Be Still and Know**

Be still and know that I am God. (3x)

Scripture Reading: **Psalm 46**

Concluded with “This is the word of the Lord” and “**Thanks be to God**”

Sermon: **Help in Trouble**

Moment of Silent Meditation

*Take a moment to reflect on what God's word might mean for your life or on a truth that spoke to you.
Please be still until after the pianist concludes this time of silence.*

We Respond with Gratitude

Song of Response: LUYH #907 – **Be Still and Know**

Be still and know that I am God.
Be still and know that I am God.
Be still and know that I am God.

Prayers of the People (using Chat)

We will conclude this time of prayer with the Lord's Prayer:

***Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name;
your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,
for yours is the kingdom and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.***

Offering: **Institute for Christian Studies**

Diaconal Prayer

We Are Sent Out with the Spirit

Closing Words

As followers of Jesus Christ, living in this world –
Which some seek to control, but which others view with despair –
We declare with joy and trust;
Our world belongs to God!

From the beginning, through all the crises of our times,
Until his kingdom fully comes, God keeps covenant forever.
Our world belongs to him!

God is King! ***Let the earth be glad!***

Christ is the Victor: his rule has begun. ***Hallelujah!***

The Spirit is at work, renewing the creation. ***Praise the Lord!***

Closing Song: LUYH #378 (vs. 1,2 & 4) – **Lord of All Hopefulness**

- 1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
- 2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
- 4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Benediction and Choral “**Amen, Amen, Amen**”

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