



Waterloo Christian Reformed Church

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

Sunday October 4, 2020

During this service "I will focus on biblical ideas of friendship in polarized times especially as it relates to missional living. One of my core tasks these days is developing the Journeys into Friendship network through Resonate. J2F as we call it is a CRC/RCA collaboration." – Greg Sinclair

Preacher: Greg Sinclair

Worship Leader: Dave Jaarsma

Pianist: Pam Joosse

Liturgy: Dave Jaarsma

Deacon: Evelyn Zwart

Welcome and Announcements

We Gather for Worship

Call to Worship

O most merciful Redeemer, friend, and brother,
We are here to worship you.
Through this service, may we know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly,
day by day. Amen.

Song of Praise: LUYH #510 – **Come, Let Us Worship and Bow Down**

Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord, our God, our Maker.
Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord, our God, our Maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand,
just the sheep of his hand.

God's Greeting

We Confess our Sins and Receive Assurance of Forgiveness

Call to Confession

Our Lord Jesus said:
"You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
and with all your soul,
and with all your mind.'
This is the greatest and first commandment.
And a second is like it:
'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'
On these two commandments
hang all the law and the prophets."
As God has instructed us in these great commandments,
and because we have not lived in full obedience,
let us now confess our sins to God,
trusting Christ as our Savior and Lord.

Confession of Sin

Almighty God and loving Father,
We thank you for placing us in covenant relationships,
in homes and families and friendships.
Forgive us for taking our vows and promises lightly.
Forgive us for the breakdown of family life,
for broken friendships in these polarized times,
for failing to treat our family members well,
and for failing to teach and live by your values.
Jesus, our heavenly brother,
teach us every day to love and serve,
to cherish and protect those with whom we live.
In your name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon - based on 1 John 4:7-16

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.
Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.
Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

This is how God showed his love among us:
He sent his one and only Son into the world
That we might live through him.

This is love:
Not that we loved God, but that he loved us
And sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.
No one has ever seen God;
But if we love one another,
God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

This is how we know that we live in him and he in us:
He has given us his Spirit.
And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son
To be the Saviour of the world.
If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God,
God lives in them and they in God.
And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.

Song: LUYH #309 – The Servant Song

- 1 Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.
- 2 We are pilgrims on a journey;
we are travelers on the road.
We are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.
- 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the nighttime of your fear.
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.
- 4 I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.

I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.

- 5 Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

We Hear God's Word

Sung Prayer for Illumination: LUYH #755 (vs. 1 and 3) – **Speak, O Lord**

- 1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you
to receive the food of your holy Word.
Take your truth, plant it deep in us;
shape and fashion us in your likeness—
that the light of Christ might be seen today
in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
all your purposes for your glory.
- 3 Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
help us grasp the heights of your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
that will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on your promises,
and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till your church is built,
and the earth is filled with your glory.

Scripture Reading: **John 15:9-17**

Concluded with "This is the word of the Lord" and "Thanks be to God"

Sermon: **Called to Be Friends**

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 #897 – **What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
oh, what needless pain we bear—
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer.
- 2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged—
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our every weakness—
take it to the Lord in prayer.

- 3 Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
you will find a solace there.

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: **Christian Reformed Race Relations**

Diaconal Prayer

We Are Sent Out with the Spirit

Closing Prayer:

Lord, make our hearts places of peace
and our minds harbours of tranquility.
Sow in our souls true love for you and for one another,
and root deeply within us friendship and unity,
so may we give peace to each other sincerely
and receive it beautifully. In Christ, Amen.

Closing Song: LUYH #927 – **God, the Father of Your People**

- 1 God, the Father of your people,
you have called us to be one;
grant us grace to walk together
in the joy of Christ, your Son.
Challenged by your Word and Spirit,
blest with gifts from heaven above,
as one body we will serve you
and bear witness to your love.
- 2 May the grace of Christ, our Savior,
and the Father's boundless love,
with the Holy Spirit's favor,
rest upon us from above.
May we now remain in union
with each other and the Lord,
and possess, in sweet communion,
joys that earth cannot afford.

Benediction and Choral "**Amen, Amen, Amen**"