



Waterloo Christian Reformed Church

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

Sunday, November 15, 2020

The current sermon series is based on the teachings of the prophets in the Old Testament. The prophets' messages can be used to help us reflect on our sin and to see more clearly the mercy of God.

Preacher: Rev. Vicki Cok

Worship Leader: Don Bisch

Pianist: Lisa Pardys

Deacon: Rick Strooboscher

Liturgy: Jeremy Vander Hoek & Dave Jaarsma

Welcome and Announcements

We Gather for Worship

Call to Worship

O God, you are a faithful God, keeping your covenant of love
to a thousand generations of those who love you
and keep your commands.

Your faithfulness reaches to the skies
and continues throughout all generations on into eternity.

We therefore praise you, saying,

“Great is your faithfulness!

We will exalt and praise your name,

for in perfect faithfulness you have done marvelous things.

Great is your faithfulness to us, O Lord, our God.”

Song of Praise: LUYH #529 – **Gather Us In**

- 1 Here in this place the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.
- 2 We are the young, our lives are a mystery,
we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.
- 3 Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;

nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

- 4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away—
here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

God's Greeting

We Confess our Sins and Receive Assurance of Forgiveness

Confession of Sins

Almighty God, we confess how hard it is to be your people.
You have called us to be the church,
to continue the mission of Jesus Christ.
Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active,
isolated than involved, callous than compassionate,
obstinate than obedient, legalistic than loving.
Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins.
Remove the obstacles preventing us
from being your representatives to a broken world.

Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your indwelling Spirit.

This we pray in Jesus' powerful name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

From "Our World Belongs to God", a contemporary testimony of the Christian Reformed Church:

While justly angry,
God did not turn away from a world bent on destruction
but turned to face it in love.
With patience and tender care
the Lord set out on the long road of redemption
to reclaim the lost as his people
and the world as his kingdom.
When Israel spurned God's love—
lusting after other gods,
trusting in power and wealth,
and hurting the weak—
God scattered them among the nations,
yet kept a faithful remnant
and promised them the Messiah:
a prophet to speak good news,
a king to crush evil and rule the earth with justice,
a priest to be sacrificed for sinners.
God promised to forgive their sins
and give them a new heart and a new spirit,
moving them to walk in his ways.
As the prophet Ezekiel wrote,
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.
And you shall know that I am the Lord.
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.”
—Ezekiel 37:12-14

Song of Assurance: LUYH #228 – **Send Us Your Spirit**

Refrain

Come, Lord Jesus, send us your Spirit,
renew the face of the earth.
Come, Lord Jesus, send us your Spirit,
renew the face of the earth.

- 1 Come to us, Spirit of God;
breathe in us now, we sing together.
Spirit of hope and of light, fill our lives;
come to us, Spirit of God. **Refrain**
- 2 Fill us with the fire of your love;
burn in us now; bring us together.
Come to us, dwell in us, change our lives, O Lord;
come to us, Spirit of God. **Refrain**
- 3 Send us the wings of new birth;
fill all the earth with the love you have taught us.
Let all creation now be shaken with love;
come to us, Spirit of God. **Refrain**

We Hear God's Word

Prayer for Illumination:

God of mercy,
you promised never to break your covenant with us.
Amid all the changing words of our generation,
speak your eternal Word.
Enable us to respond to your gracious promises
with faithful and obedient lives.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Scripture Reading: **Ezekiel 37:1-14**

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

Sermon: **Breath of God**

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 #746 – **Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God**

- 1 Holy Spirit, living Breath of God,
breathe new life into my willing soul.

Bring the presence of the risen Lord
to renew my heart and make me whole.
Cause your Word to come alive in me;
give me faith for what I cannot see;
give me passion for your purity;
Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

- 2 Holy Spirit, come abide within,
may your joy be seen in all I do.
Love enough to cover every sin,
in each thought and deed and attitude.
Kindness to the greatest and the least,
gentleness that sows the path of peace.
Turn my striving into works of grace;
Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.
- 3 Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,
giving life to all that God has made,
show your power once again on earth,
cause your church to hunger for your ways.
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise;
lead us on the road of sacrifice,
that in unity the face of Christ
may be clear for all the world to see.

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: **Bridgeport Café**

Diaconal Prayer

We Celebrate Holy Communion

Declaration of God's Invitation

Sisters and brothers, the gospels tell us that on the first day of the week,
the day on which he was raised from the dead,
Jesus appeared to his disciples and was made known to them in the breaking of bread.
Come, then, to the joyful feast of the Lord!

We Thank and Praise God

The Lord be with you. ***And also with you.***
Lift up your hearts! ***We lift them up to the Lord!***
Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God!
It is right to give our thanks and praise!
With joy we praise you, gracious God,
for you created heaven and earth,

made us in your image,
and kept covenant with us—even when we fell into sin.
We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who by his life, death, and resurrection
opened to us the way of everlasting life.
Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels
and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

LUYH #2 (vs. 1 & 5) – **O Worship the King**

- 1 O worship the King all glorious above,
O gratefully sing his power and his love:
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.
- 5 O measureless Might, unchangeable Love,
whom angels delight to worship above!
Your ransomed creation, with glory ablaze,
in true adoration shall sing to your praise!

We give thanks to God the Father
that our Savior, Jesus Christ, before he suffered,
gave us this memorial of his sacrifice, until he comes again.
At his last supper, the Lord Jesus took bread,
and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said,
“This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.”
In the same way, he took the cup after supper and said,
“This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this in remembrance of me.”
Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

We Pray for the Work of the Spirit

Lord, our God, send your Holy Spirit
so that this bread and cup may be for us
the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.
May we and all your saints be united with Christ
and remain faithful in hope and love.

We Prepare the Bread and Cup

The bread that we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body, for we all share the same loaf.
The cup for which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.
The cup that we drink is our participation in the blood of Christ.
The body and blood of Christ, given for you.
Thanks be to God!

(We share the bread and cup with each other)

We Are Sent Out with the Spirit

Sending Prayer

Go in peace as the reaffirmed church of Jesus Christ.
From dry bones with breath restored.
We go to be his body in a broken world.
May the grace of God and the love of Christ go with you. **Amen.**

Closing Song: LUYH #747 – **Breathe on Me, Breath of God**

- 1 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love the way you love,
and do what you would do.
- 2 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until my will is one with yours,
to do and to endure.
- 3 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with you the perfect life
for all eternity.

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

All songs reprinted under CCLI License #298495