

Merging Waters Pastoral Charge



*Welcome Grace Service Love
Community*

Online Worship
Sunday May 17, 2020
Sixth Sunday of Easter

WELCOME

People of all ages, identities, and walks of life are welcome in the Merging Waters family. Wherever you are, we welcome you in love and community to worship. Physically distant but close in one another's hearts.

LIFE AND WORK OF THE PEOPLE

Bold print indicates text to read/sing in unison.

ACKNOWLEDGING TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

Merging Waters Pastoral Charge is located on land which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst Indigenous peoples and nations. Merging Waters honours, recognizes and respects these nations as the traditional stewards of the lands and waters on which we meet and live today.

LIGHTING THE LIGHT OF LIFE

light a candle at home if it is safe to do so.

SPIRITUAL FOCUS

The Spirit led life evolves and expands
and finds the **Spirit of Truth**
wherever we are.

HYMN VOICES UNITED 415

God, We Praise You For The Morning

God, we praise you for the morning;
hope springs forth with each new day,
now beginning, prayer, and promise,
joy in work and in play.

God, we praise you for creation;
mountains, seas, and prairie land.
Waking souls find joy and healing
in your bountiful hand.

God we praise you for compassion,
all the loving that you show;
human touching, tears, and laughter,
help your children to grow.

God, we praise you for your Spirit,
Comfort and daily friend,
restless searchers, gentle teacher,
strength and courage you send.

God, we praise you for the Saviour,
come that we may know your ways.
In his loving, dying, rising,
Christ is Lord of our days.

Hallelujah, hallelujah,
hallelujah, hallelujah!
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
Christ is Lord of our days!

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Ever Living One, in whom we live and move and have our being, as we become aware of your indwelling presence, we embrace your continuous compassion, which leads us to participate in your love for all humanity. Amen.

So Paul took his stand in the open space at the Areopagus and laid it out for them. “It is plain to see that you Athenians take your religion seriously. When I arrived here the other day, I was fascinated with all the shrines I came across. And then I found one inscribed, to the god nobody knows. I’m here to introduce you to this God so you can worship intelligently, know who you’re dealing with.

**“The God who made the world and everything in it,
this Master of sky and land, doesn’t live in custom-made shrines
or need the human race to run errands for God,
as if God couldn’t take care of God’s self.
God makes the creatures; the creatures don’t make God.**

Starting from scratch, this God made the entire human race and made the earth hospitable, with plenty of time and space for living so we could seek after God, and not just grope around in the dark but actually *find* God.

**God doesn’t play hide-and-seek with us.
God’s not remote; God’s *near*.
We live and move in God,
can’t get away from this God!**

One of your poets said it well: ‘We’re the God-created.’ Well, if we are the God-created, it doesn’t make a lot of sense to think we could hire a sculptor to chisel a god out of stone for *us*, does it?

**“God overlooks it as long as you don’t know any better—
but that time is past.**

The unknown is now known, and God is calling for a radical life-change: confirming this before everyone by raising Jesus from the dead.”

GOSPEL

John 14: 15-17, 23b

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask God, and God will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever.

**This is the Spirit of truth,
whom the world cannot receive,
because it neither sees the Spirit
nor knows the Spirit.**

You know the Spirit, because the Spirit abides with you, and the Spirit will be in you. Those who love me will keep my word, and God will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.”

APPLICATION FOR TODAY

Hide and Seek with the Spirit

In the quiet curve of evening,
in the sinking of the days,
in the silky void of darkness, you are there.
In the lapses of my breathing,
in the space between my ways,
in the crater carved by sadness, you are there.
You are there, you are there, you are there.

In the rests between the phrases,
in the cracks between the stars,
in the gaps between the meaning, you are there.
In the melting down of endings,
in the cooling of the sun,
in the solstice of the winter, you are there.
You are there, you are there, you are there.

In the mystery of my hungers,
in the silence of my rooms,
in the cloud of my unknowing, you are there.
In the empty cave of grieving,
in the desert of my dreams,
in the tunnel of my sorrow, you are there.
You are there, you are there, you are there.

OFFERING

We offer our prayer, time, talent, reflections, and resources

*If you are not on [pre-authorized remittance \(PAR\)](#) and want to continue to support Merging Waters
please click these links, or those provided on the site to give to:
[Union Church](#) or [Beaurepaire United](#) through [CanadaHelps.org](#)*

MUSICAL OFFERING

Lean On Me
Words and Music: Bill Withers

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

May these gifts provide for your work to be done, O Spirit of life.
May they bring hope to those in fear and peace to those in despair.
Revealing your love through the work they support. Amen.

PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

A NEW CREED

**We are not alone,
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.**

Thanks be to God.

HYMN MORE VOICES 145

Draw The Circle Wide

**Refrain:
Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,
standing side by side, draw the circle wide.**

**God the still point of the circle,
'round whom all creation turns;
nothing lost, but held forever,
in God's gracious arms. R**

**Let our hearts touch far horizons,
so encompass great and small;
let our loving know no borders,
faithful to God's call. R**

**Let the dreams we dream be larger,
than we've ever dreamed before;
let the dream of Christ be in us,
open every door. R**

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

MUSICAL SENDING

Hope Is A Bird

Music: Pierre Gallant, inspired by a poem of Emily Dickinson
Images: Claude Villeneuve, with photos from choir members and Frans Lecluse
Video Creation: Dan Gallant

Thank you to for joining us today

<p>MERGING WATERS PASTORAL CHARGE THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA UNION CHURCH STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE. « An Affirming Congregation » Pierre Gallant; Union Musician Email: piregnt@hotmail.com</p> <p>&</p> <p>BEAUREPAIRE UNITED CHURCH BEACONSFIELD, QUE. Michael Woytiuk; Ministry of Music Rev. Ryan Fea, Ordained Minister ryanfea.mergingwaters@gmail.com Susan Smith, Office Administrator mergingwaters@bellnet.ca (514) 445-2618 www.mergingwaters.ca</p>	<p>Merging Waters Pastoral Charge</p>  <p><i>Welcome Grace Service Love Community</i></p>
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UPCOMING SERVICES at 10:30 a.m.

May 17th.	6th Sunday of Easter
May 24th.	7th Sunday of Easter – Worship with Summerlea United Church will be accessible on our site as we usual do
May 31st.	Day of Pentecost – Joint online worship West Island United Churches service online at 10AM with Zoom fellowship at 11am
June 7th.	1st Sunday After Pentecost – UCC PRIDE SUNDAY
June 14th.	2nd Sunday After Pentecost

Worship at Merging Waters: www.mergingwaters.ca/Worship-online

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Virtual Plant Sale-Ongoing As most of you know the corona virus (COVID-19) has shut down our plant sale so we have decided to try and sell plants online. I have made a Facebook page called Union Plant Sale where you will see photos of what we have for sale.

<https://www.facebook.com/Union-Plant-Sale-109311067422181/>

For those of you who are not on Facebook, here is a list of this week's plants for sale. They are still small but all will bloom or fruit this year if planted soon.

Payment is by cash or cheque (to Helen Fyles) and the location of plant pickup may vary according to the origin of the plant.

This week's plants are now on sale:

ANNUALS:

PASSION FLOWER VINE: Amazing flowers, plant in sunny spot after last frost. Support required. Need to over-winter in the house. Grown with love from cuttings! (\$15 per plant). Please contact Susan Cruikshank to purchase: susanc394@hotmail.com

VANCOUVER GERANIUM: Variegated red and green leaves and orange/red flowers. (4" pot - \$3)

PERENNIALS FOR PART SHADE:

BLEEDING HEART: white flowers -15 -20 cm tall (6" pot - \$5)

HELLEBORE- pale pink hanging flowers. 15-25 cm tall. Blooms early May (6" pot - \$5 or 3" pot - \$2)

PACHYSANDRA: Ground cover. Tolerates shade and poor soils. (6" pot - \$3)

PERIWINKLE – Ground cover. Periwinkle blue flowers. Drought resistant. (6" pot - \$4)

PRIMROSE: pink flowers, 6-10 cm high. Spreads slowly. Blooms mid-May. (4" pot - \$3) **PULMONARIA:** pink/blue flowers. Speckled leaves. Leaves are large and attractive in shady areas once blooming is finished. Blooms mid-May. (4" pot - \$4)

SOLOMON'S SEAL: Dangling elegant white flowers. Slender arching stems. 15-25 cm. (10" pot - \$8)

PERENNIALS FOR SUN:

BACHELOR BUTTONS or CORNFLOWER: Bright blue flowers with fringe-like petals. An annual that will self-seed. Flowers in mid-June (4" pot - \$3)

GOOSE-NECKED LOOSE STRIFE: white spikes, about 30 cm tall, does okay in shade also, spreads so plant only where you either do not mind or where you can contain it. (6" pot - \$4)

EVENING PRIMROSE – yellow flowers – likes full sun. About 15 cm tall. Spreads slowly. (10" pot - \$6)

LADY'S MANTLE – yellow/green flowers. Pretty folded leaves. Tolerates full sun but will also grow in part shade. (10" pot - \$6)

LUPINS: pink or blue (no idea which). 25-30 cm tall – likes full sun. Biennial. Seeds itself. Will flower this year – mid June (6" pot - \$4-5)

PHLOX: pink, 15-25 cm tall. Flowers in late June (8" pot - \$5) **PHLOX:** blue 10-15 cm tall. Flowers in late June (5" pot - \$5)

SEDUM: low growing, variegated leaves, purple flowers, late June, full sun, drought tolerant (4" pot - \$4) **SEDUM:** low growing, blue/green leaves, purple/pink flowers, late June, full sun, drought tolerant (4" pot - \$4)

SIBERIAN IRIS: slender leaves and delicate purple flowers in mid-June (9" pot - \$8 or 6" pot \$6)

WHITE IRIS – likes full sun. About 35-30 cm tall. Blooms late May/early June. (10" pot - \$8)

ZEBRA GRASS: variegated leaves, will spread in sunny area (6" pot - \$4)



Please either email hfyles@bell.net or message me on the Facebook page if you are interested,

Cheers, Helen Fyles

Online Children's Church-Ongoing - Merging Waters has all of our members at heart, at this time as all times. As part of a wider community we are sharing our worships, programs, time, and love with the world. Other congregations and parts of the church are too. To help support the spiritual life of the children of the Pastoral charge we sent out resources to help families engage their children in their faith life during lent.

To help faith communities and families continue to support the spiritual lives of our children during the COVID-19 pandemic, Shanna Bernier, the Nakonha:ka Regional Council Program Support Minister for Youth and Young Adults, is offering a weekly online children's church service on Facebook Live at 9:00 am on Sundays.

Videos of all past services are available on the Nakonha:ka Regional Council website:

<https://nakonhakaucc.ca/programs/youth-young-adult/>

To join in the Facebook Live Children's Church go to Shanna's Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/shanna.bernier> 9am Sundays

Then you can all join us for the Online Worship at Merging Waters

Broadview subscription - Renewals have arrived. If you have a subscription, it would be \$25 for the year, if we have a minimum of 5 subscriptions (so far we do). If you have always wanted a subscription this is your chance! Please send the church office a cheque (payable to Broadview) by the end of May and you will receive the issues to your own door. What do I like about the Broadview? So glad you asked: there are often ideas for how congregations found a new spark to renew their church families and mission. There are articles about how people have struggled with their faith. All good stuff.

The buildings are closed but the work of the church continues – As the church buildings are maintaining the absolutely minimum operational presence, we remind everyone that the buildings are being kept safe and maintained by those assigned the task by the boards. While no one else is to go to the buildings our community continues to have a vibrant life through online presence and the good old-fashioned telephone. Please feel free to email or leave a message and our intrepid office administrator Susan Smith and dedicated pastor Rev. Ryan Fea will get back to you as soon as possible. Patience and prudence will help us to do our part to help the community.

LOVE
is patient
is kind
it does not envy
it does not boast
it is not proud
it is not rude
it is not self seeking
it is not easily angered
it keeps no record of wrongs
never fails

Merging Waters Pastoral Charge is a community that cares - In this time of trial we are here for one another. Rev. Ryan and the pastoral care team are here for you and available through email, phone, and instant messenger. Please reach out to one another in support – stay in touch with others and ask for help when you need it. We may not be in the same room but we are in one another's hearts and in the love of God. We aren't sharing germs but we are sharing the love. Keep in touch.

Rev. Ryan Fea: ryanfea.mergingwaters@gmail.com

Ivy Lewis Union Pastoral Care Chair: lewisir@hotmail.com

Diane Nener Bearepaire Pastoral Care Coordinator:

dianenener@icloud.com



During Rev. Ryan's study leave, from May 19th to 24th, please contact Diane and Ivy for pastoral needs and if there is a pastoral emergency the church offices will direct you to ministry support in our area who have arranged to cover his absence.

Church Online - Worship will be held online Sundays at 10:30 am.

Please join us at www.mergingwaters.ca/Worship-online/ and you will find videos, music, and the opportunity to make your weekly offerings. All the goodness of church without having to leave home.



Joy And Concern: Are here individuals and situations that you would ask that we pray for aloud in the time of prayer at this week's online worship? Please email them to Rev. Ryan at ryanfea.mergingwaters@gmail.com by Friday night, or they will be included the following week. For the week of May 24th please send your prayer requests to the office (mergingwaters@bellnet.ca) which will be forwarded to Rev. Scott Patton.

Save The Dates - Our hard-working Rev Ryan Fea will be on study leave, so for the **Sunday May 24th** worship we will join in online worship with Summerlea United.

Rev Scott Patton has welcomed us in the worship which will be available on the Merging Waters worship page at 10:30 am May 24th.

May 31st Sunday we will celebrate joint worship with other West Island United Churches. The service will be available at 10 am we can worship together with our neighbours and join in a Zoom conversation time to follow at 11AM. The service and ZOOM link will be available as always on the Merging Waters worship page.



Spiritual Practices - We are still supporting those practices that nurture the faith life of the community. Check out the new Merging Waters Web resources at www.mergingwaters.ca Click on "Spiritual Life" in the menu and find pages dedicated to at-home yoga, meditation and contemplation, and our online worship.

Church Café – Grab a coffee or cocoa and join us for chat and community every Friday afternoon from 2 pm until 3:30 pm on Zoom every Friday. May 22nd will be hosted by Susan Smith.

Come and can catch up on how the week has gone.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88541686995>

or by phone: +1 438 809 7799 Meeting ID: 885 4168 6995



The life and mission of Beaufort United and Union Church needs your support so we can continue to support the community and makes a difference in the lives of others.

If you would like to get on Pre-Authorised Remittance [download the PAR Form](#), print and send it in with a void cheque to either church address – you can also send a cheque or post-dated cheques:

Union Church
24 Maple
Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue
Qc, H9X 2E6

Beaufort United
25 Avenue Fieldfare
Beaconsfield,
QC H9W 4W4

Mail is picked-up regularly

If you are already on PAR and would like to increase your monthly offering to support the ongoing mission and work of the church please email par@united-church.ca providing them your name and congregation and how much you would like to increase your monthly amount. If you are not on **pre-authorized remittance (PAR)** and want to continue to support Merging Waters please click these links, or those provided on the site to give to:

[Union Church](#) or [Beaufort United](#)