

Greetings Merging Waters,

June 23rd, 2021

This week is Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day (tomorrow in fact) and the Ecumenical Service. Like John the Baptist so many of us have felt like we were out in the desert for the past year and a half calling out for change and seeking spiritual renewal. Some of us wandered alone, some have been in this desert time together like the Ancient Israelites searching for spiritual nourishment and renewal, seeking our home. For so many of us it has been a hard time but also a time out of time. As a community some of us have found different kinds of nourishment and connection in the online activities and worships we were able to accomplish together.

The theme of this week's service is *Streams In The Desert* wherein we will explore the opportunity for respite, inspiration, and connection through faith - being nourished by the waters of life. Alone or together, we have all had a journey in the desert of life and in ways big and small we have all found some kind of change, renewal, challenge, and promise. Stories we hope to be able to share in the coming months as we journey in the new normal that we will find together. Looking at the readings from [Isaiah 35:1-7](#) we can ask ourselves some questions:

- Either during the pandemic or in the time before, when have you felt like you were in a spiritual desert, in need of spiritual nourishment?
- When have you found the waters of life, the life-giving presence of the spirit, in your life?
 - Has this been in times of trouble or when times were good?
- How can we share the waters of life, the spiritual nourishment of the Divine presence with one another? With our neighbours? With people near and far?

I look forward to our shared worship with ecumenical neighbours and to hearing your individual and collective stories from the journey.

Peace and hope,

Rev. Ryan Fea

MDiv

ryanfea.mergingwaters@gmail.com