



**Merging Waters Pastoral Charge
Sunday Morning Worship**

Christmas Eve

Story and Candlelight

December 24th, 2021

Rev. Ryan Fea presiding
Michael Woytiuk Ministry of Music

WELCOME/BIENVENUE

People of all ages, identities, and walks of life
are welcome.

Wherever you are, whoever you are,
we welcome you in love and
community to worship.

Wherever we are, we're close in
one another's hearts.

*Toutes et tous sont bienvenus, peu importe l'âge,
l'identité ou les conditions de vie.*

*Peu importe où que vous soyez, qui
que vous soyez, nous vous accueillons dans
l'amour et la communauté pour*

*louer Dieu ensemble.
Notre amour n'est jamais limité par la distance*

ACKNOWLEDGING TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

We acknowledge that the lands our churches and many of our homes sit on have been stewarded by the first peoples of Turtle Island, among them the Kanien'kehá:ka, "Mohawk" peoples, as well as nations of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the neighbouring Huron-Wendat, Anishinaabeg, and Abenaki peoples. We commit ourselves as a faith community to the multi-generational work of reconciliation, the pursuit of true justice and flourishing well-being for all peoples who now call Canada home.

CAROL VOICES UNITED 60

O Come All Ye Faithful (verse 1)

**O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him, born the King of angels:**

[Refrain:]

**O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

SPIRITUAL FOCUS

Wonder of wonders, God has come to us!

**Not as a judge, but a Saviour,
not in power, but as a servant**

Wonder of wonders, God comes to us!

**Not in silence, but in the Word made flesh;
not in the shadows but bringing Light.**

Wonder of wonders!

God is with us!

MUSICAL CENTERING

A Peaceful Christmas Medley

arranged by Michael Woytiuk
Julia McFarlane and Aaron McFarlane, violins
Michael Woytiuk, piano

~ Away in a Manger ~

by James R. Murray

~ O Little Town of Bethlehem ~

by Lewis H. Redner

~ Silent Night ~

by Franz Gruber

RECOGNITION OF BROKENNESS AND RECONCILIATION

God became one of us, so that we could see the face of love, hear the voice of peace, be touched by the hand of grace, know the heart of mercy. God comes to us, offering us forgiveness and peace. Please join with me as we pray together, saying,

You came in weakness, Mighty God:

forgive our grasping for power.

You came in humility, Prince of Peace:

forgive us for wanting more than others.

You came in poverty, Everlasting One:

forgive us when we do not see your family sleeping in our streets.

You came in gentleness, Wonderful Counselor:

forgive us for the anger we speak and the pain we cause.

Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today:

forgive us,

heal us,

make us new;

then we will join the angels

in singing your praises

this Christmas Day

and all the days to come.

SILENCE IS KEPT

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Break forth into singing, children of God: for the Babe comes to comfort us, like a mother rocking her son to sleep, like a father wiping away the tears of his daughter.

RESPONSIVE CAROL VOICES UNITED 59

Joy to The World

**Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King.
Let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

SHARING OUR STORY

Rev. Ryan's Favourite Christmas Story

CAROL MORE VOICES 134

There Was a Child In Galilee (vv. 2-3)
(Dreaming Mary)

**One holy day an angel came
with voice of wind and eyes of flame.
He promised blessed would be her name
when he spoke to Dreaming Mary.
Then she spoke, rejoicing in her saviour.
She spoke of justice for the poor.
She spoke that kings oppressed no more
when she spoke, that Dreaming Mary.**

**And did she dream about a son?
And did he speak, the angel one?
We only know God's will was done
in the son of Dreaming Mary.
Then she prayed, rejoicing in her saviour.
She taught him justice for the poor.
She taught that kings oppressed no more
when she taught, that Dreaming Mary.**

OUR STORY CONTINUES

CAROL VOICES UNITED 69

Away In A Manger

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay
close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.**

OUR STORY CONTINUES

CAROL VOICES UNITED 75 While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks (vv. 1-4)

**While shepherds watched their flocks by night
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.**

**"Fear not," said he, for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind;
"glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and humankind.**

**"To you, in David's town this day
is born of David's line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign:**

**"The heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
and in a manger laid."**

OUR STORY CONTINUES

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

GOSPEL OF THE NATIVITY

Luke 2:1-15

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Christ is born this night

**May the light of God's love guide our ways
today and every day**

~ The Christ Candle is lit ~

PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father/Mother/Creator, in heaven,
holy is your name.
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done
on Earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen**

AMAZING PEACE: A CHRISTMAS POEM

by Maya Angelou

MUSICAL SENDING

O Holy Night

by Adolphe Adam
Wendy Hamel soprano
Michael Woytiuk piano

SENDING CAROL VOICES UNITED 67

Silent Night, Holy Night (vv. 1&3)

by Joseph Mohr and Franz Gruber
arrangement by Michael Woytiuk
Kerry-Anne Kutz, soprano Michael Cartile, trumpet

**Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Ô nuit de paix! Sainte nuit!
Dans le ciel l'astre luit;
dans les champs tout repose en paix.
Mais soudain dans l'air pur et frais
le brillant coeur des anges
aux bergers apparaît.**

~ May the Peace of Christ be with You ~

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!!

**MERGING WATERS PASTORAL CHARGE
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**

UNION CHURCH



**STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.
« An Affirming Congregation »**

&

**BEAUREPAIRE UNITED CHURCH
BEACONSFIELD, QUE.**

Michael Woytiuk; Ministry of Music

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**Merging Waters
Pastoral Charge**



*Welcome Grace Service Love
Community*

www.mergingwaters.ca

UPCOMING SERVICES at 10:30 a.m.

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| Dec 26th. | Cocoa and Carols Service – First Sunday After Christmas (online only) |
| Jan 2nd. | 2 nd Sunday After Christmas Ecumenical shared worship (online only) |
| Jan 9th. | Epiphany 1 |

Unless otherwise indicated all services are held
in person (24 Maple, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue) and live-streamed
Please consult the website and weekly announcements for details and links

www.mergingwaters.ca/Worship-online

Download the Zoom App at zoom.us/download