



## Merging Waters United Church

### Sunday Morning Worship

# LOVE THROUGH SHARING

Advent 2 -Sunday, December 4, 2022

## 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.

Please join in the responses in **bold text**.

Keep our worship scent-free! To help fellow worshippers with chemical sensitivities, please do not wear perfume or scented products (lotion, hair spray) if attending in person.

***To protect personal privacy, please do not take photos or videos without authorization.***

## LIFE AND WORK OF THE PEOPLE

## ACKNOWLEDGING TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

We are gathered here on Turtle Island, the unceded territory of the Haudenosaunee or the people of the longhouse, specifically of the Kanien'kehá:ka nation who speak the Mohawk language. The Methodist and Presbyterian churches and, by 1925, the United Church of Canada explicitly supported the goals of assimilation and Christianization laid out by the Canadian government. The residential school system brought harm and cultural dislocation to children by removing them from their families and communities. The harm done over several generations will take several more generations to heal.

**As a Christian community, we are committed to learning from our mistakes and seeking right relations with our Mohawk neighbours and other First Nations Peoples.**

## MUSICAL CENTERING

Mother Earth, Father Sky  
*words and music by Michael Woytiuk*

## ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Light a candle at home if you wish!

The wolf will romp with the lamb,

the leopard sleep with the kid.

Calf and lion will eat from the same trough,

and a little child will tend them.

**Cow and bear will graze the same pasture,**

**their calves and cubs grow up together,**

**and the lion will eat straw like the ox.**

Today we light the second candle, the candle of peace. We dream the dream of Isaiah where all, big and small, fierce and gentle, share meals and shelter. We know full well that peace is elusive, yet we trust that God is never absent from us. And even where there is war and discord, whether between countries, within families, or within our own hearts, God is present, gently leading us to new possibilities.

**We take our encouragement from Christ,**

**So that our lives may be complete.**

**We will share in the Spirit;**

**We will find consolation in love.**

## **SONG More Voices #221 – I am walking a path of (Peace) Love**

**I am walking a path of love (3x)**

**Give me peace, lead me home.**

## **SPIRITUAL FOCUS**

Imagine with us,

**a world where God takes shoots and buds and uses them for large purposes.**

We imagine a world,

**where baby cows and baby bears play together in peace and harmony. Where lions and lambs live together in safety.**

Imagine God's world,

**where God's Holy Mountain provides refuge, peace, and safety.**

We imagine God's world,

**Where love through sharing of oneself connects us to the whole of your creation.**

We come to worship; we come to the mountain

**to worship the One who takes the tiniest shoot and uses it to signal the peace of God.**

## **SONG More Voices #62 – There is Room For All**

**English:        There is room for all**

**in the shadow of God's wing;**

**there is room for all, sheltered in God's love.**

**And I rejoice and sing,**

**"My refuge and my rock, in whom I trust."**

**There is room for all, there is room for all!**

**French:** Chacun a sa place a l'abri sous l'aile de Dieu;  
chacun a sa place en l'amour de Dieu.

**De joie, je chanterai:**

**"Mon refuge en le quel je me confie"**

**Chacun a sa place, chacun a sa place.**

**English:** There is room for all  
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there is room for all, sheltered in God's love.

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*Words: Bruce Harding, 2004; French trans. David Fines, 2006. Words copyright © 2004 by Bruce Harding, www.evensong.ca. Used by permission.*

## **PRAYER OF APPROACH & CONFESSION**

With this one light, we pray:

O God, we place this light in this holy space

as a reminder that we are on this journey together.

**Be light and love along all our paths.**

Lead us to a more just world  
and help us to stay awake  
and be present to your love  
in each ordinary day.

**Amen.**

Gracious and Almighty God,  
you know that we fail to live as you would have us fully live,  
and we fail to love as you would have us fully love,  
and the result is a world where so many live in various kinds of conflict.

**Consumed by the worries of the world, we struggle to think  
about anything other than ourselves and our own.**

**It seems our failings only fuel our bad habits of forgetting  
about you.**

We lay before you, Holy God, our broken promises, hurtful  
words, bad intentions, and misled ways,  
that you love us into wholeness and help us  
take small steps towards your greatest peace.

We pray in Christ's name. **Amen.**

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Friends, hear the Good News.

Our gracious God gathers us and grants us the freedom to join God's new vision of a peaceful world.

Friends, we are free from the prison of war, free to construct peace.

I declare to you now that in Jesus the Christ, we are forgiven.

**Amen**

## SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 11:1-10

## APPLICATION FOR TODAY

"All my relations." / "Akwe Nia'Tetewá:neren"

## MINUTE FOR MISSION / STEWARDSHIP MINUTE

## OFFERING

"How Full is Your Bucket?" by Mary Reckmeyer and Tom Rath, shared by Lynn Thompson

We come to God's house to

**pray for peace, justice, and hope.**

And our offerings help us as a community of faith

and support us as we work towards God's call.

**Let us worship God with God's tithes and our offerings of our time, talents and love.**

## MUSICAL OFFERING

Light the Candles All Around the World

*words and music by Teresa Jennings*

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Almighty and All-loving One, we lift up today our thanks to you. Can we ever catalogue all the ways you have blessed our lives? We dedicate those to you today. Take our very best; may it help bring about peace on your holy mountain as we learn what "All My Relations" means. With gratitude and anticipation, we pray.

**Amen.**

## SONG More Voices #191 – What Can I Do? Repeat x 3

**What can I do? What can I bring?**

**What can I say? What can I sing?**

**I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.**

**I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.**

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## PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY / PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

### THE PRAYER OF JESUS / 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**

### SONG Voices United #684—Make Me A Channel of Your Peace

**1 Make me a channel of your peace:**

**where there is hatred, let me bring your love;**

**where there is injury, your healing power,**

**and where there's doubt, true faith in you:**

**2 Make me a channel of your peace:**

**where there's despair in life, let me bring hope,**

where there is darkness, only light;  
and where there's sadness, ever joy.

O Spirit, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love with all my soul.

3 Make me a channel of your peace.

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving to all that we receive,  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

## COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

Go forth as a light bearer, love sharer and with peace.  
Go forth seeking to see as God sees,  
with unending love for every creature.  
May it be so! Alleluia. Amen.

## MUSICAL SENDING


Voices United #575

I'm Gonna Live So

I'm gonna live so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna live so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

\*\*work, pray, sing, share\*\*

Thank you for joining in worship today 

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## MERGING WATERS UNITED CHURCH

A community of caring within the United Church of Canada

Union building @ 24 Maple, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue Beaurepaire building @ 25 Fieldfare, Beaconsfield

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## UPCOMING SERVICES

December 11, Advent 3 24 Maple – Union	Love Through Simplicity	Rev. Drew Strickland
December 18, Advent 4 25 Fieldfare – Beaurepaire	The Big Picture: Courageous Love	Patti Murphy
December 20 25 Fieldfare – Beaurepaire 7:30 pm	An Evening of Christmas Carols	Merging Waters Choir
December 24, Christmas Eve 24 Maple – Union 7 pm	Destination: Love A Celebration	Merging Waters Community

On Sunday, January 1, please join the West Island and Riverside Cluster in a shared service for New Year's Day, hosted by Lakeshore-Trinity United Church, 98 Aurora, Pointe-Claire, at 11 am.