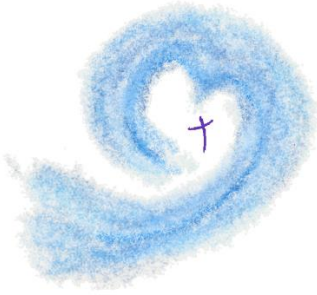


Merging Waters
Pastoral Charge



Welcome Grace Service Love
Community

**Merging Waters United Church,
Celebration of a New Ministry:
An Act of Covenanting between
Merging Waters United Church and Lisa Byer-de Wever
March 19, 2023 – 2:00pm**

WELCOME / BIENVENUE

The people will join in those responses that appear in bold face print. The service is to be used for ministry personnel entering into a new pastoral relationship with a community of faith, or another ministry such as hospital chaplaincies, social service ministries, etc. The term “community of faith” has been used throughout, but where appropriate, the name of the ministry term should be substituted, e.g., “N Pastoral Charge.”

This service takes place in the community of faith to which the new minister has been called or appointed.

MUSICAL CENTERING:

A Beat for Everywhere all Time

Music and lyrics by Michael Woytiuk

WELCOME TO THE LAND:

Tom Dearhouse

WORDS OF WELCOME:

Jan Langelier and Mary Clark

THE LIGHT AT OUR CORE

Light a candle at home if you wish

SPIRITUAL FOCUS

Come into the wild pastures,
where sheep graze, and nothing seems amiss.
This place feels so very alive.
The trees clap, the birds sing,
and the light bounces so that it feels like anything could
happen here.

We come to worship that promise and possibility.

We come to open our eyes to endless grace.

HYMN: Voices United 747:

Psalm 23-The Lord is My Shepherd

OPENING PRAYER

Loving God,
walk beside us in this place and invite us to see what you see.

When we have held on to our own ways too long,
trusting in what we have come to know so well,
and believing in our own comforts,
**enable us to let go of the familiar,
and trust in You.**

Remind us that in You,
And through You, our cups overflow.

As we celebrate new relationships today in Your Name,
**Continue to guide us along the right paths,
in this relationship with each other and in You.**

Teach us to be mindful of your call to heart-felt living,
Connected,
Attuned to each other and all your creation,
In right relationship,
Both affirmed & heard.
May we find more love in our gaze and more grace in our
presence as we worship you today. **Amen**

SCRIPTURE:

Samuel 16: 1 – 13 MSG

GOD Looks into the Heart

1 GOD addressed Samuel: “So, how long are you going to mope over Saul? You know I’ve rejected him as king over Israel. Fill your flask with anointing oil and get going. I’m sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I’ve spotted the very king I want among his sons.”

2-3 “I can’t do that,” said Samuel. “Saul will hear about it and kill me.”

GOD said, “Take a heifer with you and announce, ‘I’ve come to lead you in worship of GOD, with this heifer as a sacrifice.’ Make sure Jesse gets invited. I’ll let you know what to do next. I’ll point out the one you are to anoint.”

4 Samuel did what GOD told him. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the town fathers greeted him, but apprehensively. “Is there something wrong?”

5 “Nothing’s wrong. I’ve come to sacrifice this heifer and lead you in the worship of GOD. Prepare yourselves, be consecrated, and join me in worship.” He made sure Jesse and his sons were also consecrated and called to worship.

6 When they arrived, Samuel took one look at Eliab and thought, “Here he is! GOD’s anointed!”

7 But GOD told Samuel, “Looks aren’t everything. Don’t be impressed with his looks and stature. I’ve already eliminated him. GOD judges persons differently than humans do. Men and women look at the face; GOD looks into the heart.”

8 Jesse then called up Abinadab and presented him to Samuel. Samuel said, “This man isn’t GOD’s choice either.”

9 Next Jesse presented Shammah. Samuel said, “No, this man isn’t either.”

10 Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel. Samuel was blunt with Jesse, “GOD hasn’t chosen any of these.”

11 Then he asked Jesse, “Is this it? Are there no more sons?”
“Well, yes, there’s the runt. But he’s out tending the sheep.”
Samuel ordered Jesse, “Go get him. We’re not moving from this spot until he’s here.”

12 Jesse sent for him. He was brought in, the very picture of health—bright-eyed, good-looking.

GOD said, “Up on your feet! Anoint him! This is the one.”

13 Samuel took his flask of oil and anointed him, with his brothers standing around watching. The Spirit of GOD entered David like a rush of wind, God vitally empowering him for the rest of his life.

Samuel left and went home to Ramah.

HYMN: More Voices 161:

I Have Called You by Your Name

APPLICATION FOR US TODAY:

Rev. Darryl Macdonald

MUSICAL OFFERING

Many Gifts

words and music by Allen Pote

COVENANTING ACTION:

STATEMENT OF LIVING FAITH STORY:

STATEMENT OF THIS NEW MINISTRY

Rev. Christine Gladu

PRAYER OF FAITH

Uniting God,

you call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship:

to celebrate your presence,
to live with respect in creation,
to be your servants in the service of others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table,
to proclaim Jesus crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

Send your Holy Spirit to bind us in full communion
so that we may be a uniting church
embodying your love for the world.

As one, we proclaim:

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

you are with us,

we are not alone,

all glory and power be unto you.

Amen.

HYMN: MORE VOICES 173: V1,2,4,5

Put Peace Into Each Other's Hands

PROMISES OF THE NEW MINISTER

PROMISES OF THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Will you join with *Lisa Byer-de Wever* in a ministry of worship, study, prayer, and action within Merging Waters Community of Faith, *Conseil Régionale Nakonha:ka* regional Council and within the wider church?

Members of the community of faith: We will.
Will you support her as they serve among you in this ministry?

Members of the community of faith: We will.

Michael Woytiuk and *Jo-Anne Windover*, you have been called by God to work together in this community of faith. Will you promise in faith and obedience to Christ to share this ministry, supporting one another in love and, through your unity of spirit, inspiring all God's people here in their common ministry for Christ?

Team: We will.

PROMISES OF REGIONAL COUNCIL: Wider Church and Community

Regional council liaison:

Will you, as members of *Conseil Régionale Nakonha:ka* regional council and members of the wider community, join with *Lisa Byer-de Wever* and this community of faith in the ministry that is both theirs and ours?

Wider community members: We will.

Regional council liaison:

Will you support and encourage them in this ministry?

Wider community members: We will.

HYMN OF CELEBRATION: Voices United 958

Halle, Halle, Halle

PRESENTATION OF SYMBOLS

BIBLE, WATER, TOWEL, BASIN, DRUM

RESPONSE TO THE COVENANT

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray concluding each petition in with a response

call: Uniting God, receive our prayers; and response: **And in your love, answer.**

LORD'S PRAYER:

Robert Patton

MUSICAL OFFERING:

“The Blessing”

words by Daved Downes, music by Brendan Graham


BENEDICTION

Beloved brothers and sisters,
Go out into the world in peace and joy,
knowing that in all our turnings, God will continue to restore us,
and follow us with goodness and mercy each step of the way.
Amen.

MUSICAL SENDING

“Merging Waters Theme Song”

words by Diana Jackson, music by Pierre Gallant

Thank you for joining in worship today 

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

Pastor Lisa Byer-de Wever, Minister

Michael Woytiuk, Ministry of Music

Jo-Anne Windover, Office Administrator

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UPCOMING SERVICES

26-Mar-23	Lent 5	Fieldfare
2-Apr-23	Palm/Passion Sunday	Maple
6-Apr-23	Maundy Thursday	Maple
7-Apr-23	Good Friday	Fieldfare

9-Apr-23	Easter Sunday	Fieldfare
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