



Merging Waters United Church

CATCH THE WAVE!

April 16, 2023, Second of Easter

WELCOME / BIENVENUE

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

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.

LIFE AND WORK OF THE PEOPLE

ACKNOWLEDGING TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

We acknowledge that Merging Waters United Church, and its Maple and Fieldfare sites, uses land within the traditional and unceded territories of the Kanien'keha:ka (GAN-I-YAN-GE-HA-GA), also known as the Mohawk, first nation. We honour and respect their culture and their stewardship of the land, and we repent of the harm that the church has caused to them and other Indigenous peoples. We aim to reflect on our relationship with this land, and on what we each can do, to be in right relationship with the Indigenous Peoples whose land we live on.

MUSICAL CENTERING

Londonderry Air (Irish folk song)

THE LIGHT AT OUR CORE

Light a candle at home if you wish!

SPIRITUAL FOCUS

God gives us great surprises and unbounded joy,

God's voice echoes in our hearts, into our uncertainties and wonderings.

Breathe deeply, take good heart, and do not be afraid.

OPENING HYMN VOICES UNITED # 409

Morning Has Broken

1 Morning has broken like the first morning,

blackbird has spoken like the first bird.

Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!

Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

2 Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,

like the first dewfall on the first grass.

Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,

sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

3 Ours is the sunlight! Ours is the morning

Born of the one light Eden saw play!

Praise with elation, praise every morning,

God's recreation of the new day!

MORNING PRAYER

Loving God, we are grateful for the earth upon which we live, yet we also are aware of a mighty healing wave needed in the world, in your world, your beautiful, but broken creation.

Ever-Present God, help us to surrender and to remember. Help us pay attention to the cry of Creation and to learn from the lessons in nature, lessons of reawakening in new life, new growth, and new beginnings.

Mother/Father God of all beings, may we soak up your love and forgiveness as we move into a new way of being and of mindful participation in the world, understanding that we are part of creation, doing the sacred work of your hands. Amen.

HYMN VOICES UNITED # 412

This is the Day

1,4 This is the day, this is the day

that our God has made, that our God has made;

we will rejoice, we will rejoice,

and be glad in it, and be glad in it.

This is the day that our God has made,

we will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day

that our God has made.

2 Open to us, open to us

your gates, O God, your gates, O God;

we will go in, we will go in,

to your holy place, to your holy place.

Open to us your gates, O God,

we will go in to your holy place.

Open to us, open to us, your gates, O God.

3 You are our God, you are our God,
we will praise your name, we will praise your name;
we will give thanks, we will give thanks,
for your faithfulness, for your faithfulness.
You are our God, we will praise your name,
we will give thanks for your faithfulness.
You are our God, you are our God,
we will praise your name.

SCRIPTURE

John 20: 19 – 31

Later on that day, the disciples had gathered together, but, fearful of the Jews, had locked all the doors in the house.

Jesus entered, stood among them, and said, “Peace to you.”

Then he showed them his hands and side. The disciples, seeing the Master with their own eyes, were awestruck.

Jesus repeated his greeting: “Peace to you. Just as the Father sent me, I send you.”

Then he took a deep breath and breathed into them. “Receive the Holy Spirit,” he said.

“If you forgive someone’s sins, they’re gone for good. If you don’t forgive sins, what are you going to do with them?”

APPLICATION FOR TODAY Part 1

Breath of Life

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

Rippling Beauty (Michael Woytiuk)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

APPLICATION FOR TODAY Part 2

Catch the Wave!

HYMN: MORE VOICES # 182

Grateful

Refrain:

Grateful for the life you give us,
thankful for your Holy Son,
joyful in your Spirit flowing
over all, O God of Love.

Grateful for the Bread of Heaven,
thankful for your Holy Word,
joyful in your mercy flowing,
we will praise you.

1. You are more than we imagine,
Ancient, Holy, Living God.
Even when we doubt your presence
you are faithful to your Word. R

2. May our lives proclaim your justice,
may our voices sing your praise.
May our hands work in your service
to the glory of your name. R

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PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY/PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

THE PRAYER OF JESUS: A Paraphrase

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

Source of all that is and that shall be,

Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever. Amen

HYMN MORE VOICES # 171 Christ Has No Body Now But Yours

Refrain:

Christ has no body now but yours,

no hands but yours.

Here on this earth, yours is the work,

to serve with the joy of compassion.

1. No hands but yours to heal the wounded world,
no hands but yours to soothe all its suffering.,
no touch but yours to bind the broken hope
of the people of God. R

2. No eyes but yours to see as Christ would see,
to find the lost, to gaze with compassion;
no eyes but yours to glimpse the holy joy
of the city of God. R

3. No feet but yours to journey with the poor,
to walk this world with mercy and justice.
Yours are the steps to build a lasting peace
for the children of God. R

4. Through ev'ry gift, give back to those in need;
as Christ has blessed, so now be his blessing,
with ev'ry gift a benediction be
to the people of God. R

Words: Adapted by Stephen C. Warner, 2003, from St. Teresa of Avila
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CLOSING AND COMMISSIONING

Leader: As you leave this church, the breath of the Spirit goes with you, enabling you to pay attention to the needs around you, calling on you to use your talents wisely, showing you the opportunities for friendship and sharing, reminding you that forgiveness is possible, and giving you the strength to face each new day with hope. The breath of the Spirit goes with you; its inspiration will never leave you.

Catch the wave!

The God of resurrection goes with us into this world.

Catch the wave!

The God of resurrection goes with us to bring love and compassion.

Catch the wave! Go to live in the world as Christ's disciples.

We go as witnesses to all that God has done! Amen.

MUSICAL SENDING

Go Now in Peace (Nancy and Don Besig)

Thank you for joining in worship today ❤️

MERGING WATERS UNITED CHURCH

A community of caring within the United Church of Canada

Maple location / Union building @ 24 Maple, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue

Fieldfare location / Beaufort building @ 25 Fieldfare, Beaconsfield

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UPCOMING SERVICES at 10:30 a.m.

23-Apr-23	Third Sunday of Easter Eyes of the Heart	Fieldfare
30-Apr-23	Easter 4 Sensing Awe	Maple

Please consult the website for online worship links:

www.mergingwaters.ca/Worship-online

Download the Zoom App at <https://zoom.us/download>

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Spiritual Focus, Prayer of Dedication: Seasons of the Spirit™ SeasonsFUSION Lent • Easter 2023

Opening prayer: Jani Francis, St. Andrew's U.C., Indian Head, Sask.

Application Part 2: Reference to web posting "The Buddhist Easter", by Alan Peto, 2021

Prayers of the People: Gord Dunbar, Port Nelson U.C., Burlington, Ont.

Closing: David Sparks, Summerland, B.C.

BURSARIES AVAILABLE

The Finance and Extension Board of the Nakonha:ka Regional Council is responsible for three bursary funds provided by the Hugh Duncan Estate, by the Institut Français Évangélique (Fondation I.F.E.), and by the St. John's Hall Bursary Fund (SJHBF). Applicants apply for either the Hugh Duncan Bursary or the I.F.E. Bursary. For those students who have high travel costs within Québec please indicate this on your application and the St. John's Hall Bursary (SJHBF) may be awarded to Hugh Duncan bursary or I.F.E. bursary recipients.

The bursaries are available to active members in congregations of the Nakonha:ka Regional Council who are registered as students in universities and other post-secondary institutions; preference is given to those registered in Canadian institutions.

Deadline to apply is June 2, 2023. <https://nakhakaucc.ca/resources/bursaries/>