



Merging Waters United Church

Decommissioning of Beaurepaire United Church

Sunday, October 15, 2023

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

WELCOME TO THE LAND

Tom Deerhouse

PRELUDE: "People" words by Bob Merrill, music by Jule Styne, video by Patti Murphy – Sung by Sandy & Allan Davis

THE LIGHT AT OUR CORE

Light a candle at home if you wish!

CALL TO WORSHIP

God, whose creative glory we see in the rushing wind and the swirling waters, and whose love is revealed in the smile of a child, will remain with us.

God, whom we have discovered in the scriptures, and who has discovered us, and who comes clear to us in Jesus and in the lives of the saints, will remain with us.

God, whom we encounter in the worship and service of faith communities, whose Spirit is within the pastoral caring and the justice-seeking of this church, will remain with us.

God, gracefully known in the hard places of our earthly life's journey, and who laughs and celebrates joyfully with us here, will remain with us.

God, who will be with us as this life ends, who is with us in time and beyond time, will remain with us.

Let us worship our loving and faithful God.

HYMN: Voices United 679

Let There Be Light Verses 1,2,3 & 6

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

We are gathered today to leave this church building which has been a faith community home for us. We are gathered to move on to continue our journey with Merging Waters United Church faith community.

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Response: We give you thanks.

HYMN Voices United 563

Jesus You Have Come to the Lakeshore

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Eternal God,
God of the present time, of ages past and of all the ages that are to be, we worship you.

Loving God,
God of the compassionate act and of selfless caring, we welcome you.

God of the church, who brings us together to worship, to learn, and to serve, we respond to you.

God, whose will is revealed in Jesus Christ, who proclaimed the just and sharing way, who accepted the

unaccepted, and whose unswerving love took him to the cross, we glorify you. Amen.

A TIME OF REMEMBERING

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God hears our deepest feelings of heart and mind and spirit and has heard you this morning/afternoon.

We will continue to offer these feelings as we let go this faith community.

God will continue to listen to us.

God will go with you in your new ventures of life and faith, God is eternally to be trusted.

God's pace, which passes all knowledge and understanding, will be your peace.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

SCRIPTURE:

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

APPLICATION FOR TODAY

Éric Hébert-Daly & Lisa Byer-de Wever

HYMN: MORE VOICES 8

And on This Path

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Holy, Holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

music by William G. Hamel sung by Wendy Hamel

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Wine

"Let us Break Bread Together around The World" traditional spiritual arrangement by M. Woytiuk

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

Prayer After Communion

For the bread we have eaten, for the wine we have tasted, for the life we have received, we thank you, God. Grant that what we have done and have been given here may so put its mark upon us that it may remain always in our hearts. Grant that we may continue to express our faith in all of our living, that ours may be the faith which issues in action; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CLOSURE

A PRAYER OF MOVING ON IN FAITH

When the chosen people left the land of Egypt for the uncertainty of the wilderness,
You, O God, went with them. You inspired and directed Moses and the people to the
Promised Land.

You will be with us now as we move on.

When the prophets knew for certain that the old values and traditions would no longer
serve your purpose, nor bring closer your realm,

You, O God, showed the doubters a new way, and revealed fresh opportunities to the
closed-minded.

Ever-faithful God, you will be with us as we move on.

When Jesus realized that the trusted structures and the traditional leaders could no longer
serve your purpose, when Jesus knew it was time for a change,

You, O God, were at the heart of his ministry, you sustained him all the way to the cross.

We move on to fresh ways of worship,

We move on to serve in Merging Waters United Church.

We move on to work with new partners to build up the life of the United Church and of
the whole church of Jesus Christ.

With you, we move on to strive for justice and peace in our local community and
throughout the world . We move on to sing the familiar hymns with familiar friends,

With you we move on to sing new songs with new friends. Amen.

AN OFFERING OF SYMBOLS

A TIME OF WELCOMING

A NEW CREED: Voices United #918

We are not alone,

we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,

who has come in Jesus,

the Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others

by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence,

to live with respect in Creation,

to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil,

to proclaim Jesus,

crucified and risen,

our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us..

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

SONG:

“Be Not Afraid”

by John Michael Talbot arrangement M. Woytiuk led by Keith Whittall

COMMISSIONING

Commissioning

God remains with us,
Though we let go of our cherished place.
God remains with us,
Though we sing new songs and worship in new ways.
God remains with us,
Though we serve in different ways and pursue different causes.
God remains with us,
Though we find new friends in our new congregation.
God’s love remains with us,
**God’s justice will inspire us, God’s realm
will call us to action.**
God is eternally for you and with you.
Thanks be to God!

BLESSING

MUSICAL SENDING

“The Old Irish Blessing”

music by Denes Agay arrangement traditional



Thank you to all the many hands that made this service possible, including;

Guests:

Ken & Bernice Chisolm

Tom Deerhouse

Mary Clark

Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly

Susan Cruikshank

Rev. Ryan Fea

Sandy & Allan Davis

Helen & Jim Fyles

Merging Waters Community:

Jim Gelsthorpe

Christine Bryce

Wendy Hamel and Andrew Purser

Wendy & Richard Buchanan

Phyliss Holtz

Jan Langelier

Libby Monaco

Victoria Moulton & Keith Whittall

Patti Murphy

Diane Nener

Jo-Anne Windover

Michael Woytiuk

Merging Waters Choir

Merging Waters Social Committee

MERGING WATERS UNITED CHURCH

A community of caring within the United Church of Canada

24 Maple, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue

Lisa Byer-de-Wever, Pastor

Michael Woytiuk, Ministry of Music

Jo-Anne Windover, Office Administrator

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UPCOMING SERVICES at 10:30 a.m.

22-Oct	Special service led by Outreach Resources and support for grandparents and families of transitioning youth Spare Parts	Maple
29-Oct	All Saints celebration	Maple