



Merging Waters United Church

Sunday Morning Worship March 24, 2024

"Palm Sunday"

WELCOME / BIENVENUE

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

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

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

Peu importe où que vous soyez, qui que vous soyez, nous vous accueillons dans l'amour et la communauté pour louer Dieu ensemble.

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

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 gather this morning on land in Ste Anne de Bellevue. Before people spoke English on this land, people spoke Kanienke:ha and called this place Tiotià:ke. Before people spoke French here, people on this land spoke Ojibwe, also known as Anishinaabemowin, and called this place Mooniyang. Before people spoke

Dutch here, people on this land spoke Wyandot and called this place Wendake. Many names. Many peoples. Many generations. One place. In honour of all who have come before us, may we never forget that the history of this land didn't begin with the English or French. There are more sacred stories linked to this place.

In hope that all the people after us may know the true history of this land, may we weave these stories into our lives as people who call this place home. We are all sacred people, beloved children of the Holy One. May we treat one another as such, in truth and reconciliation.

Whitney Bruno, Little Current & Sheguiandah U.C., Little Current, Ont.

MUSICAL CENTERING

Esperanza
By Pierre Gallant

THE LIGHT AT OUR CORE

Light a candle at home if you wish!

In times of struggle,

Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.

In times of wonder,

Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.

In times of anxious anticipation,

Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.

In this time and place, here and now, and in all the days of our lives,

Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.

As we continue to journey toward the cross, let the light of this Christ candle remind us of who we are and whose we are: struggling, wondering, and anxiously anticipating people of the Way.

Gathering LE, Jessica Knoyle, Ottawa, Ont.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, faithful people, and find that quiet center
where God may enter in.

We gather as God's people:

hungry for holy presence,

ready for God's Word to us.

Eternal God, this morning we have come to cheer you on.

We can feel the excitement of the crowds

who welcomed Jesus with such joy,

and we want to join in, to share their hope,

remembering your promise of a saviour.

Bless us as we greet your Son, who arrives now.

Let us worship God. **Amen.**

HYMN: VU #123

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

ENTERING THE HOLY NARRATIVE & SONG: A Joyful Hosanna

arranged by M. Woytiuk, words Jenette Threfall, a traditional German tune.

SCRIPTURE

Mark 11 :1-11

Jesus's Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this: 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said, and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple, and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

APPLICATION FOR TODAY

Hope and Waiting

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING: MV #191

What Can I Do?

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, you come to us in Jesus,
a poor man, riding a donkey;
we thank you for this witness of the power of love,
despite the powers of this world.
We thank you for all who have withstood evil,

who have suffered the jeers and worse of the crowds,
who have been tormented, even put to death,
and still refused to use the weapons of hatred.
We thank you for the times we have been able
to let go our defenses, give up control,
and live with open hands and hearts.
We thank you with “hosannas!”, with joy in our hearts,
in the name of Jesus, our leader. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY / PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

To the words ‘Loving God’, we reply ‘Hear our prayer’.

We pray for the church – may it bring us healing strength and openness to you.
May we be led in the way of your truth. Loving God... ***‘Hear our prayer’***

We pray for your world, for all nations longing for peace, justice, and tranquillity,
and pray for those many areas where those qualities do not exist. Loving God...
‘Hear our prayer’

We are here before you on this Palm Sunday to give you thanks. We realise that
you went to Jerusalem knowing the risks, but never turning back. You accepted
the praise of the people as they recognised you as their leader; you set out
knowing along a way that was most wonderful and terrible. Loving God... ***‘Hear
our prayer’***

When next we walk on the sandstones, let us remember the voice of your
creation, truth, and justice. Loving God... ***‘Hear our prayer’***

When we share the bread and wine it reminds us that Jesus enjoyed a meal with
his friends. May we join together to share the same friendship and love. Loving
God... ***‘Hear our prayer’***

We pray now for those whose lives are limited by sickness, grief, or fear. May
your compassion bring them comfort and courage. We pray especially for those
who we now name silently or aloud. Pause... Loving God... ***‘Hear our prayer’***

Creator God, accept our prayers as we seek to draw closer to you. Strengthen our
faith. Help us to be a sign of your love in the world; help us to know our true
self and yield to your love. **Amen**

THE PRAYER OF JESUS / THE LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Mother, Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy 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 them that 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

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

Let us go into this Holy Week trusting in the grace of God.

When our strength fails and we descend into horror and dread, may we still find the courage to turn toward the cross, to our king who wears a crown of thorns, and serve his world with compassion.

Go and remember that all our lives are held in God's gracious hand. **Amen.**

MUSICAL SENDING

Hosanna
by Pierre Gallant

Thank you for joining in worship today 

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.



HOLY WEEK SERVICES 2024

PALM SUNDAY March 24 – 10:30 am - 24 Maple, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue

MAUNDY THURSDAY March 28 – 6:00 pm
24 Maple, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue
****Bring your picnic dinner, coffee/tea & sweets will be served****
RSVP office@mergingwaters.ca

GOOD FRIDAY March 29 – 10:30 am @ Cedar Park UC
204 Lakeview Ave, Pointe-Claire, Quebec H9S 4C5

EASTER VIGIL SATURDAY March 30 – 7:30 pm
@ Christ Church Beaufort Anglican- 455 Church St, Beaconsfield

EASTER SUNRISE ECUMENICAL SERVICE March 31 – 7:00 am
Saint-Joachim de Pointe-Claire Church
2 Ave Ste Anne, Pointe-Claire

EASTER SUNDAY March 31 – 10:30 am
24 Maple, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue

**MERGING
WATERS
UNITED
CHURCH**



April 7	Second of Easter Communion
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