Merging Waters United Church

Lent II - “Disruptive Blessings”

Sunday Morning Worship March 1, 2026

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 ensembles.

Notre amour n’est jamais limité par la distance.

Please join in the responses in **bold text.** Veuillez-vous joindre aux réponses en **texte gras.**

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.

Veillez à ce que notre culte soit exempt d'odeurs ! Pour aider les fidèles souffrant de sensibilités chimiques, nous vous demandons de ne pas porter de parfum ou de produits parfumés (lotion, laque) si vous assistez au culte en personne.

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

Pour protéger la vie privée, ne prenez pas de photos ou de vidéos sans autorisation.

WELCOME

LIFE AND WORK OF THE PEOPLE

GATHERING

SONG People Who Need People
Music by Jule Styne arrangement by M. Woytiuk

ACKNOWLEDGING THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

CANDLE LIGHTING

GATHERING HYMN: MV # 154 Deep In Our Hearts

SPIRITUAL FOCUS

Come into Love's presence,
you who imagine and you who seek,
you who disrupt and you who repair.
By the Spirit, we gather in hope.

Come into Love's fellowship,
you who are broken and blessed,
you who show mercy,
as God has given grace to you.
In Christ, we gather in blessing.

Come into Love's presence,
singing for joy and for justice;
bringing prayer and worship, your most faithful acts of resistance.
May Love be our guide! We gather to learn!

Illustrated Ministries (adapted by Rev. Lisa)

GATHERING PRAYER

Response:
I am vulnerable, I am blessed.

FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

THE WORD LUKE 6:17–23 MSG

You're Blessed

17-21 Coming down off the mountain with them, he stood on a plain surrounded by disciples, and was soon joined by a huge congregation from all over Judea and Jerusalem, even from the seaside towns of Tyre and Sidon. They had come both to hear him and to be cured of their diseases. Those disturbed by evil spirits were healed. Everyone was trying to touch him—so much energy surging from him, so many people healed! Then he spoke:
You're blessed when you've lost it all.
God's kingdom is there for the finding.
You're blessed when you're ravenously hungry.
Then you're ready for the Messianic meal.

You're blessed when the tears flow freely.
Joy comes with the morning.
22-23 "Count yourself blessed every time someone cuts you down or throws you out, every time someone smears or blackens your name to discredit me. What it means is that the truth is too close for comfort and that that person is uncomfortable. You can be glad when that happens—skip like a lamb, if you like!—for even though they don't like it, I do . . . and all heaven applauds. And know that you are in good company; my preachers and witnesses have always been treated like this.

CHARACTER NARRATIVE-One of the witnesses at the Sermon on the Plain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING SONG: Sharing Song

Raffi

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, we bring our gifts before you and your church like tiny seeds from a dandelion. Send out these gifts on the mighty wind of your Spirit, bringing growth, bearing fruit, and nourishing both our faith community and our neighbours. May each gift of every size bloom with your holy imagination.
Amen.

Illustrated Ministries

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Gracious One,
you hold each of us and all the world.
When we rejoice, you delight.
When our hearts break, you draw nearer.
We hear your words of blessing, your cries of woe.
We know no one is forgotten.
We know you call us to bless one another, too.
So hear our prayers now.

Prayer tree prayers…

Amen.

Illustrated Ministries, adapted by Rev. Lisa

PRAYER OF JESUS / THE LORD'S PRAYER

SENDING HYMN: TLUS # 164 Neighbour, I Am Your Neighbour

BLESSING & SENDING

Beloved people of Love,
as you return to the wild wilderness of everyday life,
as you encounter every kind of person,
cling to the ways of Jesus who helps us imagine a world where love and justice thrive.

Go out into the world, working to make that world a reality this week.
Amen.

Illustrated Ministries, adapted by Rev. Lisa

SENDING SONG: Rippling Beauty

Michael Woytiuk

Thank you for joining in worship today ❤️

MERGING WATERS UNITED CHURCH

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UPCOMING SERVICES at 10:30 a.m.

1-Mar

Lent 2: Disruptive Blessings

Annual General Meeting after worship

8 Mar

Lent 3: Holy Confrontation & Communion

15 Mar

Lent 4: Accountable Leadership

PIE Sunday 🌈