

## Merging Waters Pastoral Charge

Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

People of all ages, identities, and walks of life are welcome in the Merging Waters family. Feel free to make use of the activities area where children, with parental permission, may draw or play, or take an activity back to your seat.

### LIFE AND WORK OF THE PEOPLE

\* Indicates when the congregation stands as able

**Bold print** for congregational response

### ACKNOWLEDGING TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

Merging Waters Pastoral Charge is located on land which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst Indigenous peoples and nations. Merging Waters honours, recognizes and respects these nations as the traditional stewards of the lands and waters on which we meet today.

### MUSICAL CENTERING

Moonlight Sonata  
by Ludwig van Beethoven

### SPIRITUAL FOCUS

Pilgrim God, striking water in the desert,

**Refresh us and quench our thirst.**

Revealing God, sitting by the well,

**Refresh us and teach us truth.**

Dancing God, moving over the waters,

**Refresh us and bring us life.**

\* HYMN MV 144

**Like A Healing Stream**

### PRAYER OF APPROACH

**God of grace and truth, we come to your house today to worship you. We bring all of ourselves to you, all of the good, the bad, and the ugly. We entrust our hidden, fearful, and fragile selves to your transforming power and gentle, loving care. Blessing, glory, and honour are yours. Thank you for the many ways your Spirit breaks into our lives and into this troubled world. We offer this prayer in the name of the One whose name is above every name, Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

### YOUNG AT HEART

Water of Life

## Sung Invocation VU 105 Dust And Ashes Touch Our Face *(refrain)*

**Take us by the hand and lead us,  
Lead us through the desert sands,  
Bring us living water,  
Holy Spirit Come.**

### GOSPEL

John 4:5-30

So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him,

**"How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?"**

(Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him,

**"Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"**

Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him,

**"Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."**

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him,

**"I have no husband."**

Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him,

**"Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."**

Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship God neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him,

**"I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he**

**comes, he will proclaim all things to us.”**

Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.” Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, **“Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?”**

They left the city and were on their way to him.

**HYMN MV 117**

**By The Well, A Thirsty Woman**

APPLICATION FOR TODAY

Water, Water Everywhere

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERING

*We offer our prayer, reflections, and resources*

MUSICAL OFFERING

Who Will Be A Witness?

Traditional Spiritual arr. Donald Moore & Pierre Gallant

**\* SONG OF DEDICATION**

**VU 537 Your Work O God, Needs Many Hands**

**Your work, O God, needs many hands to help you everywhere,  
And some there are who cannot serve unless our gifts we share.  
Because we love you and your work our offering now we make,  
Be pleased to use it as your own, we ask for Jesus' sake.**

PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

THE JESUS PRAYER FOR TODAY

**O, Source of Life**

**Connectedness beyond simple perception,**

**We hold our experience of you as sacred.**

**May we choose to live the good you call for**

**In our lives as well as our imaginings.**

**Nourish our bodies and spirits inspiring us**

**To share the abundance we have.**

**Challenge us to show understanding and love for others**

**As we need to be understood and loved.**

**Help us overcome our shortcomings**

**To be our best selves**

**As you have, do, and will always know we can**

**Forever and ever.**

**May we all make it so.**

**Amen**

**\* HYMN**

**We Are A Rainbow**

**\* COMMISSIONING**

We are God's people

**Loved and cherishes**

**We go out in joy.**

We are God's people

**Called and challenged,**

**We go out in joy.**

We are God's people,

**Refreshed and forgiven,**

**We go out in joy.**

**\* BENEDICTION**

MUSICAL SENDING

Hymn Medley  
arr. Phillip Keveren

**Thank you to today's Ushers: Barbara Hubert & David Lewis, Announcer:  
Al Davis, and Coffee Hosts: .**

**MERGING WATERS PASTORAL CHARGE  
UNION CHURCH**

Merging Waters  
Pastoral Charge

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA  
STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.**

**« An Affirming Congregation »**

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*Welcome Grace Service Love  
Community*

**UPCOMING SERVICES at 10:30 a.m.**

<b>March 22<sup>nd</sup>.</b>	<b>Beaurepaire United – Lent 4</b>
<b>March 29<sup>th</sup>.</b>	<b>Joint Service - Summerlea United Lent 5 (Communion)</b>
<b>April 5<sup>th</sup>.</b>	<b>Beaurepaire United – Palm Sunday</b>
<b>April 9<sup>th</sup>.</b>	<b>Union Church - Good Friday</b>
<b>April 12<sup>th</sup>.</b>	<b>Union Church - Easter Sunday</b>

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 Spiritual Focus & Commissioning from *Eggs and Ashes* by Ruth Burgess and Chris Polhill pp. 80-81.  
 Prayer of Approach **Thirsting for Grace: Service Prayers for the Third Sunday of Lent**, was written by the Rev. Dr. Renee C. Jackson, Minister for Ministerial Formation, UCC. Copyright 2020 Justice and Local Church Ministries, Faith INFO Ministry Team, United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115-1100. Permission granted to reproduce or adapt this material for use in services of worship or church education. All publishing rights reserved.  
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**CRAFTS for SALE**

After church on March 15, **Lynn Thompson** is having a sale of her crafts. On sale will be all occasion cards - including birthday cards - decorated with origami designs made with recycled church bulletins. Also available will

be braided hot mats (made with recycled Boutique 24 t-shirts) as well as a few quilted items (crib quilts, table runner) made with fabric donated to Boutique 24. All proceeds go to Union Church. Treat yourself to her beautiful cards and textile work.

**P.I.E. = (Public. Intentional. Explicit)**

After service (March 15) there will be slices of pie for the second annual **Pie Day** (March 14 =  $3.14 = \pi$ ) celebrating the full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ and Two Spirit people in faith communities and beyond across Canada. Pies to be provided by the Social Committee and others for after the Church Service. A freewill donation will off-set the cost of ingredients & help support the West Island LGBTQIA+ Centre.



**Merging Waters Outreach** - There will be no Merging Waters sale of Fair Trade chocolate before Easter this year. Unfortunately, **Dix Mille Villages** in Pointe Claire will be closing at the end of May and we are unsure of our supply. We are very sorry to be losing this wonderful Fair Trade shop and encourage you to go and visit before it closes.



## HEY BIBLE! WHAT DID YOU MEAN BY THAT!?

Do you want to engage the scriptures in creative ways? Join Rev. Ryan in a Midrashic study of the readings for Lent. Midrash being the way we come at a Biblical text, asking questions about the gaps in the text, and allowing one's faithful

imagination to fill those gaps with possibilities that inspire our faith and living. **Beaurepaire United Church Lounge**

**2:30 pm – 4:30 pm Wednesdays 25<sup>th</sup>, April 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.**

## WEST ISLAND LENTEN LUNCHES will be

served at Christ Church, Beaurepaire, on Wednesday from **March 4th to April 8th between 11:30 and 1:00 PM.** Beau.U.C. And Union Church (Merging Waters) are

responsible for the one on **March 18th.** A signup sheet for volunteers to make Beef Barley Soup and/or squares and help during the Luncheon will be posted in each church.

**Lenten Lunches** are back again this year and will take place at **Christ Church Beaurepaire**, 455 Church St, Beaconsfield, every Wednesday from **March 4 to April 8, from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm.** Enjoy a hearty homemade soup, bread, cheese, squares and tea/coffee for just \$8.00 per person.

We now have an elevator near the front doors, to access the Parish Hall. The Churches which are participating are St John the Baptist; Merging Waters Pastoral Charge; St Edmund of Canterbury; West Island Network and Christ Church Beaurepaire. All proceeds go to support each parish's world relief and development organizations.



## Lent discipline: An environmental challenge

### Week three – use of energy

The electricity, gas and fuel oil we use in our homes come mostly from fossil fuels. For most of us there is no realistic alternative, but we can be responsible about our consumption of energy and adapt our lifestyles to reduce our use of fossil fuels. There are electricity suppliers who will guarantee to supply customers from renewable sources of energy (usually at no added cost). If you have investment capital, you can install solar PV (electric) panels, with a moderate rate of financial return under the current grant scheme.

#### Actions - Choose two or three of these:

- Keep your windows and doors closed
- Only fill up the kettle to the amount of water required
- Hang your clothes to dry instead of using the tumble dryer
- Turn your central heating down and wear warmer clothes
- Only heat the room you are using
- Use eco light bulbs
- Don't leave appliances on stand-by
- Turn off garden water features and outside lights or install PIR detectors
- Avoid cooking in a conventional oven (use a hob or investigate methods such as hay boxes)
- Improve your home's insulation
- Reduce the amount of hot water you use
- Switch your energy provider to one that uses renewable energy sources
- Give up using your TV and computers
- Go to bed at sunset and get up at dawn

#### Research and campaigning - Choose one of these:

- Consider installing a solar PV (electric or a solar water system)
- Research the use of energy in the manufacture of the goods you buy, and the amount of energy used in transporting them
- Look into replacing existing appliances with energy efficient (A rated) ones
- Write to your MP about streetlight pollution.

From: Eggs and ashes Practical & liturgical resources for Lent and Holy Week by Ruth Burgess & Chris Polhill, Wild Goose Publications (2004), ISBN 978-1-901557-87-09, pp.45.

## Prayer

### The be-attitudes

Blessed are those who use low-energy light bulbs,  
for theirs is the light of God's wisdom.

Blessed are those who travel by train,  
for their lives are on God's track.

Blessed are those who choose a car with low fuel consumption,  
for they are in God's fast lane.

Blessed are those who insulate their homes,  
for theirs is the warmth of God's love.

Blessed are you when you put yourselves out  
to use energy from renewable sources,  
for you have kindled the flame of the future.

Yvonne Morland

From: Eggs and ashes Practical & liturgical resources for Lent and Holy Week by Ruth Burgess & Chris Polhill, Wild Goose Publications (2004), ISBN 978-1-901557-87-09, pp. 46.