

**Merging Waters Pastoral Charge
Sunday Morning Worship**

Covenant of Love

**First Sunday in Lent
February 21st, 2021**

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.*



LIFE AND WORK OF THE PEOPLE

Bold print indicates text to read/sing/pray in unison

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 and live today.

MUSICAL CENTERING

I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked
by Geoffrey O'hara
Soprano, Wendy Hamel

WALKING IN THE LIGHT

light a candle at home if it is safe to do so

CELEBRATING THE RAINBOW

We Are A Rainbow
by David Kai (verse 1 & chorus)

**We're the light of all the world, we are a city on a hill,
We're a candle on a stand proclaiming light,
We will not hide our lamp beneath a bushel any more,
We will shine a ray of hope that's burning bright.**

**We are a rainbow, sign of covenant and peace,
For the flood of tears will finally cease to be,
Come shine your rainbow, splash your hues across the sky,
Paint the world in colours proud and bold and free.**

Paint the world in colours proud and bold and free.



SPIRITUAL FOCUS

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God and to one another.

We celebrate Jesus who though tempted and tested,
**Remained true to God,
and empowers us to walk in holy ways.**

HYMN VOICES UNITED 651

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

**Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand;
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.**

**Open now the crystal fountain
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.**

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Blessed are you creator God, sower of the star-seeded night sky, tiller of mountains, keeper of lakes, cultivator of woods; heart of the universe, life who loves us into being, we are your beloved, your people. In this Lenten season, we confess to you, that we are sorely tempted and tested in many ways. Sometimes our fears or frustrations run away with us. Sometimes our hearts are closed or cool toward others. Restore us and redirect us, O God, as we lift our voices, in thanksgiving and singing....

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

Voices United 315 v. 1

HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Genesis 9: 8-17

Then The Holy One said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you...

as many as came out of the ark.

God said, "...never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, **and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.**"

God said, "I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh;

and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh."

GOSPEL

Mark 1: 9-15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven,

"You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness.

He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying,

"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; look around, and believe in the good news."

APPLICATION FOR TODAY

Shining The Rainbow



Called by earth and sky, promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust, treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.

Precious these waters, endless seas, deep ocean's dream,
waters of healing, rivers of rain,
the wash of love again.

Called by earth and sky, promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust, treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.

Précieux est l'air que l'on respire, libre est le vent:
Esprit qui souffle, viens nous instruire, de grâce nous comblant.

Du ciel et de la terre, nous entendons l'appel;
nous devons chérir l'univers. Écrin de vie, précieuse et belle;
du ciel et de la terre.

Précieuses nous sont les montagnes qui, de tous temps,
grandioses rochers, nous accompagnent,
de leur force et leur chant.

Du ciel et de la terre, nous entendons l'appel;
nous devons chérir l'univers. Écrin de vie, précieuse et belle;
du ciel et de la terre.

Precious the fire that lights our way,
bright dawning day.
Fire of passion, sorrows undone, our faith and justice one.

Called by earth and sky, promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust, treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky, called by earth and sky.

OFFERING

We offer our prayer, time, talent, reflections, and resources

*If you are not on [pre-authorized remittance \(PAR\)](#) and want to continue to support Merging Waters please click
these links, or those provided on the site to give to:*

[Union Church](#) or [Beaurepaire United](#) through [CanadaHelps.org](#)

MUSICAL OFFERING

Rainbow Piano
Moderato Cantabile from the Fantasie Impromptu 1834
by Frederic Chopin
(I'm Always Chasing Rainbows 1917)
My Heart Leaps Up 1802
by William Wordsworth



**CHORAL DEDICATION MORE VOICES 115
Behold, Behold I Make All Things New v. 1**

**Behold, behold,
I make all things new,
beginning with you and starting from today.
Behold, behold,
I make all things new,
My promise is true, for I am Christ the way.**

PRAYERS OF CONCERN AND JOY

A NEW CREED

**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.

Amen.

CONFESSION DE FOI

**Nous ne sommes pas seuls,
nous vivons dans le monde que Dieu a
créé.**

**Nous croyons en Dieu
qui a créé et qui continue à créer,
qui est venu en Jésus,
Parole faite chair, pour réconcilier
et renouveler,
qui travaille en nous et parmi nous
par son Esprit.**

**Nous avons confiance en Dieu.
Nous sommes appelés à constituer
l'Église:
pour célébrer la présence de Dieu,
pour vivre avec respect dans la
création,
pour aimer et servir les autres,
pour rechercher la justice et résister
au mal,
pour proclamer Jésus, crucifié et
ressuscité,
notre juge et notre espérance.**

**Dans la vie, dans la mort, et dans la vie
au-delà de la mort,
Dieu est avec nous.
Nous ne sommes pas seuls.**

Grâces soient rendues à Dieu.

Amen.



COMMISSIONING HYMN MORE VOICES 138 My Love Colours Outside The Lines

**My love colours outside the lines,
exploring paths that few could ever find; and takes me into places
where I've never been before,
and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.**

**My Lord colours outside the lines,
turns wounds to blessings, water into wine; and takes me into places
where I've never been before
and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.**

**We'll never walk on water
if we're not prepared to drown,
body and soul need a soaking from time to time.
And we'll never move the gravestones
if we're not prepared to die,
and realize there are worlds outside the lines.**

**My soul longs to colour outside the lines,
tear back the curtains, sun, come in and shine;
I want to walk beyond the boundaries
where I've never been before,
throw open doors to worlds outside the lines.**

**We'll never walk on water
if we're not prepared to drown,
body and soul need a soaking from time to time.
And we'll never move the gravestones
if we're not prepared to die,
and realize there are worlds outside the lines.**

**My soul longs to colour outside the lines,
tear back the curtains, sun, come in and shine;
I want to walk beyond the boundaries
where I've never been before,
throw open doors to worlds outside the lines.**

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

MUSICAL SENDING

The Overconsumption Blues
Music and words by Michael Woytiuk
illustrations by Ralph Allison

Thank you to for joining us today



**MERGING WATERS PASTORAL CHARGE
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
UNION CHURCH**



STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.

« An Affirming Congregation »

Pierre Gallant; Union Musician

Email: piregnt@hotmail.com

&

BEAUREPAIRE UNITED CHURCH

BEACONSFIELD, QUE.

Michael Woytiuk; Ministry of Music

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**Merging Waters
Pastoral Charge**



*Welcome Grace Service Love
Community*

www.mergingwaters.ca

UPCOMING SERVICES at 10:30 a.m.

Feb 21st.	1 st Week of Lent – Covenant of Love
Feb 28th.	2 nd Week of Lent – Black History Month Service: A History In Song
Mar 7th.	3 rd Week of Lent – Wisdom of Love: International Women's Day
Mar 14th.	4 th Week of Lent – God's Healing Love
Mar 21st.	5 th Week of Lent – Write Your Love Upon Our Hearts
Mar 28th.	6 th Week of Lent – Palm Sunday
April 1st.	Maundy Thursday (evening gathering)
April 2nd.	Good Friday Service (12 pm)
April 4th.	Easter Sunday

Worship at Merging Waters: Sunday www.mergingwaters.ca/Worship-online

Links for the Zoom Service will be available at on that page

Download the Zoom App at zoom.us/download

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Condolences: We wish all our sympathies to June Hudon on the loss of her sister Helen.

UNION'S FROZEN FOODIE SALE IS HERE. Orders will be received via email to bonnie.norris@sympatico.ca after 8 am Sat., Feb. 20 through 6 pm Feb. 21 or as long as supplies last. Limit of 2 of each soup per person. Please add your telephone No. to your orders and you will be contacted to pick up your orders at the Norris house, 109 Upper Cambridge Rd., Baie d'Urfe. Orders will be placed in a blue bin outside the door. Payment is by Cash or Cheque (payable to Bonnie Norris), placed in an envelope with your name on it and left in the other blue bin outside the door.

(S)mall (2 cups) - \$4, (M)edium (3 cups) - \$5, (L)arge (4 cups) - \$6.

Supplies still last please contact Bonnie for details.

Community Needs:

We have received a couple of requests and we are hoping perhaps we can find donors for two items:

A **washing machine** for a woman with a very limited income, and

A **double bed mattress** for a newly-arrived Syrian refugee family

Both items to be in very good, usable condition please.

Please contact Susan Hawker at 514-457-1793 or sahawker@hotmail.com

Happy Lent everyone... I am enjoying the concept of the Ecofast!

In addition to reducing our consumption, given the Climate Change and Biodiversity Crises and resulting loss of species, it has become crucial that we also preserve our remaining natural spaces.

Locally there are two groups working on that, both with online petitions we invite you to sign:

My daughter Genevieve has spearheaded the Save Fairview Forest campaign:

Facebook page: **Sauvons la Forêt Fairview / Save Fairview Forest**

Petition: <https://www.change.org/p/mayor-and-council-of-pointe-claire-save-fairview-forest-sauvons-la-forêt-fairview-de918a4d-d44e-4021-9c62-b5defdce81fb>

As well, there is a group in Ile Perrot attempting to protect the Boisé des Chênes blancs (White Oak Woods):

Petition: <https://www.change.org/p/notre-dame-de-l-ile-perrot-sauvons-le-boisé-des-chênes-blancs-à-l-île-perrot>

I invite you to sign, for the planet, our future and that of our children.

Susan Hawker

Merging Waters Pastoral Charge in a community that cares –

Our Pastoral Care team is there to help you with your concerns.

Ivy Lewis Union Pastoral Care Chair: lewisir@hotmail.com &

Diane Nener Beaufort Pastoral Care Coordinator: dianenener@icloud.com

We do have the prayer circle made up of members from both Union and Beaufort and that if they do have any **prayer requests** to let me know lewisir@hotmail.com

BEAUConnexion – is an initiative by Les Amis du Village Beaufort for people in the area to connect households in the Village to help each other.

<https://www.facebook.com/LesAmisduVillageBeaufort/>

Food Banks – On Rock in Pierrefonds east: <http://onrock.org/donate.html>

Fonds d'aide in Roxboro: (through Canada Helps) <https://www.canadahelps.org/fr/dn/15557>

West Island Mission: (also through Canada Helps)

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/m/42261/donation>



Congratulations Rev. Joëlle Leduc

You are invited to attend the Covenanting Service between **Rev. Joëlle Leduc**, Ste. Genevieve United Church and Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council (online via Zoom) on **Sunday, February 21, 2021 at 1 pm.**

Zoom details on the website: <https://us20.campaign-archive.com/?u=cdc0cf1d3f8a8fb5ab6228426&id=abfe2a6c32>

LENTEN JOURNEY

ECOfast

Give it up for the environment!!

Through engagement of the Environmental fast proposed by our siblings in Christ from the Anglican Diocese of Toronto we will explore ways we can impact the environment and humanity in positive ways by giving attention to excesses in our society and engaging in seeking justice.

Find the description of the ECOfast [HERE](#)

Weekly ECOfast check-in
2pm Fridays Feb 19th – April 2nd, 2021

We will explore the experience of the past week's ECOfast for Lent 2021 and how we will engage in the coming week's fast.

Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84749881746>

or by phone: +1 438 809 7799 Meeting ID: 847 4988 1746



A Fast for the Earth: Lent 2021

a resource created by

The Bishop's Committee on Creation Care
Diocese of Toronto



LENTEN IMAGININGS: EXPLORING THE LENTEN SCRIPTURES WITH CREATIVITY

From the ancient Jewish practice of Midrash to modern Christian practice of Biblical storytelling we stand in a long tradition of allowing the scriptures to inspire and challenge us to see our sacred texts from many angles. We are encouraged to engage the scriptures in different ways. This is both a blessing and a responsibility. We are called to explore the texts in ways that allow us, and others, to apply them to our lives. These living texts can awaken renewal, comfort, growth, and vision for us and others.

Full of depth and meaning there is as much, if not more, that is unsaid within the scriptures as there is that is said. Drawing out the meaning and depth is something we can all do. I encourage you to read a text from our lectionary each week. Reflect on each, allowing them to inspire your imagination. Ask yourself:

- What is the passage saying or not saying explicitly?
- Are there seeming implications to the passage?
- What happened before and after the passage in the storyline?
- Go further into the Biblical narrative and add the next scene if it isn't written in the text.
- Is there a character, object, or event that could have more going on behind the scenes? What could be happening there?
- What other questions can you think of?
- What feelings does this passage evoke in you?

After you've reflected and noted down some thoughts and feelings and get creative. You may want to:

- Retell the story from a different perspective.
- Write the story of what's happening in the background or could happen next.
- Sculpt/paint/draw/write a poem/compose a song about an important event related to the narrative or the feelings you experienced.
- Anything goes.



Lenten Imaginings:
Exploring the Lenten Scriptures with Creativity

Join us in expressing our journey through the Lenten scriptures through the art form that speaks to your soul.

Thursdays at 2 pm
Feb 18th - Genesis 9:8-17
Feb 25th - James 2:1-10, 14-17
March 4th - 1 Corinthians 1:18-25
March 11th - Numbers 12:4-9
March 18th - Jeremiah 31:31-34
March 25th - Mark 11:1-11

Details to join in:
www.mergingwaters.ca/calendar/upcoming-events/
or
mergingwaters@bellnet.ca