



Merging Waters Pastoral Charge
Sunday Morning Worship

Path to Reconciliation

Palm Sunday
March 28th, 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

Serenade for Strings (excerpt) / Hosanna

Music by Tchaikovsky
piano arrangement: Pierre Gallant

Music by Pierre Gallant
Merging Waters Choir

WALKING IN THE LIGHT

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

CELEBRATING THE RAINBOW

SPIRITUAL FOCUS

(let's wave our palms/scarves as we shout Hosanna)

Jesus is coming

He's riding on a donkey

Shout Hosanna, Shout Save Us!

Open the gates

Open the ancient doors

Don't be afraid

Shout HOSANNA, SAVE US!

Wave the branches

Spread out your coats

Peace in heaven

Glory in highest heaven

HOSANNA!



**He came riding on a donkey,
he came riding into town;
slow and easy kind of lowly
he came riding with the dawn.
His disciples walked beside him,
staying close, a little shy;
not too sure where he would guide them,
on to live or on to die.
But all the morning sang his praises;
waking birds and dancing wind;
here he is, the Son of David;
riding on to take his throne.**

**Then the children gathered, singing
shouts of laughter, bursting cheer;
in the streets their song was ringing,
“Hosannas” filled the morning air.
Timid adults strained to see him,
caught the Spirit, joined the song;
spread their cloaks along before him,
branches flashing in the sun.
So all the city sang his praises;
waking streets and dancing crowd;
here he is, the Son of David;
our Messiah, Son of God.**

**In our fasting, and our feasting,
called to follow in his way;
called to walk his road to Easter,
called to live his cross today.
Hosanna to the Son of David,
hosanna in the heavens above;
blessed is he who comes to save us,
blessed is he who brings his love.
Let us join to sing his praises;
open hearts and souls to God;
he is with us, Son of David;
God’s Messiah, Christ the Lord.**

PRAYER OF APPROACH

O Christ, you entered the city as a poor man not in style but simply, yet still you caused uproar, and questions everywhere; you drew the expectations of a hungry crowd, and brought buried conflicts to the light. May we, who are sometimes swayed by the crowd's approval, and who often avoid conflict for fear of its cost to us, hold fast to the gospel of peace and justice and follow faithfully in your way of compassion and solidarity with those who are poor and excluded, wherever it may lead us. Amen.

**Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;
 deep in our hearts there is a common song;
 deep in our hearts there is a common story,
 telling Creation that we are one.**

GOSPEL

Mark 11:1-11

(During the reading wave your palm branches/scarves)

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

Hosanna's Not Hallelujah

Read the UN Declaration on The Rights of Indigenous Peoples:

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/declaration-on-the-rights-of-indigenous-peoples.html>

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 Beaufort United through CanadaHelps.org

MUSICAL OFFERING

Hosanna

Words and Music: Brooke Ligertwood
 Sung by Judy Gelsthorpe

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.**



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Peace be with you!

And also with you.

Let us lift up our hearts

We lift up our hearts to the source of all life.

We lift our thanks and praise

**It is right to lift up our thanksgiving to
the Liveliness of all Life!**



We lift up our thanks loving Creator for inspiring our brother Jesus, your beloved child,
to show us a path of life eternal.

We lift our thanks to you Voice of Novelty in the Universe.

In sharing the gifts of the Word, the blessing of creation, and the passionate embrace of
the Spirit you have shown us a love that has no end. A love we may become in how we
live together.

We live our lives to reveal your love to the world, Great Lover of all life!

With gratitude and awe we lift our song:

Holy Mystery, Holy Life Bringer, Holy Source of Love!

**Your inspiration shakes assumptions, brings down empires of oppression,
and changes the world.**

Changes lives.

Jesus lived with the poor, stood up against oppression, lived and died and lived again -
giving us hope. Giving us the mystery.

PRAYERS OF CONCERN AND JOY

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



On the night before Jesus was betrayed by the powers of this world - by greed and fear, by selfish short-sightedness - he gathered with his friends, women and men, children and adults, to share a meal, a meal that was integral to their faith.

Living out our faith we are drawn to join Jesus in this meal.

At supper Jesus took the bread and blessed it. He broke it and passed it to his friends. It was the bread of life, his life. Faithful to God's dream for us all he told them "I lived a life in solidarity with the poor and oppressed, telling truth to power. For a life truly lived, fed by the Spirit, one needs to stand for love and equality no matter the cost. Here is life - living with integrity, steadfast to God's love. My death shows you how to truly live. Each time you eat remember I have shown you how to have a life truly lived."

A life lived faithfully with integrity is the bread of life!

After the meal Jesus took the cup, and as was the Jewish custom, said the blessing, he took the cup and passed it to his friends. He reminded them that in a life truly lived, authentic to his beliefs, he offered hope of a new covenant with our Creator. Jesus said "Live out a full commitment to your faith and the world will find hope in turning and returning to right relationship with one another and with God, the lover of all the Universe. Each time you drink remember I have shown you hope for the world."

A life of commitment to love and justice is the cup of hope!

Be present, and live, Holy Spirit in these gifts and in us that we may bring life to the world in living with integrity, and *be* the hope we seek in the world by commitment to our faith in the light of life.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, by the unity of the Holy Spirit, we lift our thanksgiving to share life and hope in the world through you Great Spirit of love.

Amen

Jesus Christ the Bread of Life.
Jesus Christ the cup of Hope.
The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

By the blessing we have received, O Spirit of Life, may how we live bring life to the world. With the hope we have found in you, Lover of the Universe, may we offer hope of right relationship with you and all. May we live faithful lives of authenticity and commitment. Amen.

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

(During the commissioning put down your palm branches/scarves)

We tell your story
We follow in your footsteps
Lead us into Holy Week

We walk towards the city
We wait in the garden
Lead us onto Holy Ground

We journey towards death
We hope for resurrection
Lead us into Holy Joy!

SENDING HYMN VOICES UNITED 691

Though Ancient Walls

**Though ancient walls may still stand proud
and racial strife be fact,
though boundaries may be lines of hate,
proclaim God's saving act.**

Refrain:

**Walls that divide are broken down;
Christ is our unity!
Chains that enslave are thrown a-side;
Christ is our liberty!**

**When vested power stands firm entrenched
And breaks another's back,
When waste and want live side by side,
It's Gospel that we lack. R**

**The truth we seek in varied scheme,
The life that we pursue,
Unites us in a common quest
For self and world made new. R**

**The church divided seeks that grace,
that newness we proclaim;
a unity of serving love
that lives praise to God's name! R**

**This broken world seeks lasting health
and vital unity.
God's people by God's Word renewed,
Cast off all slavery! R**

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.

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**Merging Waters
Pastoral Charge**



*Welcome Grace Service Love
Community*

UPCOMING SERVICES at 10:30 a.m. (unless alternative time is listed)

- Mar 28th.** 6th Week of Lent – Palm Sunday – Standing Up For The Oppressed
(Sacrament of Communion)
- April 1st.** Maundy Thursday with Riverside and Beaconsfield (6 pm)
- April 2nd.** Good Friday with Riverside and Beaconsfield United (11 am)
- April 4th.** Easter Sunday
- April 11th.** 2nd Sunday of Easter – Transformative Mission
- April 18th.** 3rd Sunday of Easter

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

Upcoming Events for Holy Week

These Link will be available on the website at www.mergingwaters.ca/worship-online

Viewing of the Gospel According to Mark

Wednesday March 31 2021 *6:30pm-8:30pm

You are warmly invited to join Riverside, Merging Waters, and Beaconsfield United Churches on this Wednesday of Holy Week as we watch together a complete reading of the Gospel According to Mark. Just as the first Christian communities would have heard this gospel, David Suchet reads Mark from beginning to end without pause.

“Mark is the earliest of the Gospels, the one written closest to Jesus’ lifetime. It is short, urgent, passionate and dramatic and reads a little like a front-line dispatch from Christ’s life and death. Often we hear the Gospels in short sections, but it can be a revelation to read – or hear – the whole of the story at once.”

The Zoom link for this gathering can be found below. If you have any questions, please email the church.

Topic: Gospel of Mark Viewing

Time: Mar 31, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83544153341>

Meeting ID: 835 4415 3341

Dial by your location

+1 438 809 7799 Canada

Meeting ID: 835 4415 3341

Maundy Thursday Service

April 1 2021 *6:00pm-7:00pm

On this Maundy Thursday, you are invited to gather with Beaconsfield, Merging Waters and Riverside United Churches to celebrate and reflect upon the evening that Jesus broke bread and poured wine with his disciples. We welcome you to bring a simple meal to this gathering for a time of fellowship before the service. This will also be an Agape meal (love feast), so you are encouraged to bring some bread/cracker and juice/wine. The Zoom link for this worship can be found below. If you have any questions, please email the church.

Topic: Maundy Thursday Service

Time: Apr 1, 2021 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85813421606>

Meeting ID: 858 1342 1606

Dial by your location

+1 438 809 7799 Canada

Meeting ID: 858 1342 1606

Good Friday Service
April 2 2021 *11:00am

Riverside, Merging Waters and Beaconsfield United Churches invite you to join us for our Good Friday service. We welcome you to a time of prayer and reflection, as we walk the journey to the Cross on this Holy day. Please find the Zoom link for this service below. If you have any questions, please email the church.

Topic: Good Friday Service

Time: April 2 2021 11:00am Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86718212332>

Meeting ID: 867 1821 2332

Dial by your location

+1 438 809 7799 Canada

Meeting ID: 867 1821 2332

It's About Bloomin' Time! - Please come and join four plant lovers (Bonnie, Helen, Christine & Kathie) for another informal and friendly gathering about plants on Tuesday **April 13 @ 7:00pm**. We will start with a quick exchange of what is blooming in our gardens and inside our houses at the moment - so we all know what to put on our wish list. From there - as time and interest permit - we will talk about what goes into making a butterfly garden and/or creating a meadow. Bring your questions and sad plants and between us all, we may come up with some solutions.



This video sure opened my eyes:

<https://www.theweathernetwork.com/ca/news/article/why-grow-it-and-dont-mow-it-is-ideal-spring-gardening-tactic-canadian-wildlife-federation>

Fascinating Report from Carleton U It's most enlightening about the experience of 2S&LGBTQ+ Older Adults and Workers in Public Services and the promising work being done to improve it. People can download the report or watch the video of its presentation to the community on their website.

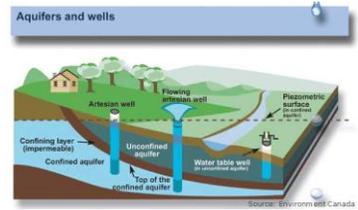


<https://carleton.ca/caework/lgbtq2s-seniors-safety-in-public-services/>



Rev. Wendy Evans is giving you heads up of this next project MCM is doing in partnership with BTS in Maine a BOOK CIRCLE. The INCREDIBLE book: All We can Save -Truth, Courage, and Solutions for the Climate Crisis. Four (4) session Thursdays April 8-29 4-5pm. Cost \$20.

The ECOfast continues This past week was the Injustice Fast, ending March 21. The current week is the Electricity Fast culminating in Earth Hour on March 27th at 8:30pm turn off your lights for an hour. Next week is the ignorance fast where we will be called to learn something new about the local environment. E.g. Do you know the detail of the local watershed? Some might but do we all? Let's share.



<u>Weeks of the ECOfast</u>	<u>Past Weeks</u>
<u>Current and upcoming weeks</u> March 22-27 – Electricity Fast March 28-April 3 – Ignorance Fast April 4 – Resurrection Feast	Meat Fast – Feb 17-20 Consumption Fast – Feb 21-27 Food Waste Fast – Feb 28-Mar 6 Water Fast – Mar 7-13 Injustice Fast – Mar 14-21

There are 2 forest saving petitions to sign from Susan Hawker.



One (1) survey for Older Adults, caregivers, community workers and staff, in the Anglophone community from Jane Cowell.

Beautiful handmade cards by Lynn Thompson are on offer. Proceeds to Union church.

Festival de a Voix is ongoing, online, March 20 to April 3 is: The Best of Broadway – A Sing Along, with our very own Michael Woytiuk amongst others. And much, much more!



Broadview magazine - SPIRITUALITY, JUSTICE AND ETHICAL LIVING CELEBRATING 192 YEARS. Subscription for a year, is upcoming in May. \$25 for 8 issues delivered to your door.

Details about these happenings and more in the mid-week message. Which you can find on our website www.mergingwaters.ca click on the Stay Up-to-Date tab then on Mid-Week Message.

Merging Waters
Pastoral Charge



Welcome Grace Service Love
Community