



**Merging Waters Pastoral
Charge
Sunday Morning Worship**
*The Sunday of
Grace*

**October 24th, 2021
22nd Sunday After Pentecost
Guest Preacher
Lisa Byer-de-Wever**

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

ACKNOWLEDGING TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

As we begin worship, we acknowledge the land we are on. This is the living land of the Creator. On this land are beings that move; feathered and furry, four legs and two legged, our companions. On this land are still beings; cedar and maple, oak and pine, flowering and leafed, our wise and ancient siblings. On this land are the flowing beings; oceans and seas, rivers and lakes, ebbing and flowing, our source of being. Over this land blows the winds and breezes, our breath and life.

We acknowledge the lands our churches and many of homes sit on have been stewarded by the first peoples of Turtle Island, among them the Kanien'kehá:ka, "Mohawk" peoples, as well as nations of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the neighbouring Huron-Wendat, Anishinaabeg, and Abenaki peoples. We commit ourselves as faith communities to the multi-generational work of reconciliation and the pursuit of true justice and flourishing wellbeing for all peoples of all races and ethnicities who now call Canada home.

MUSICAL CENTERING

The Quieter You

words by Rumi, music by Michael Woytiuk

WALKING IN THE LIGHT

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



SPIRITUAL FOCUS

Come, friends.

Come and experience God's goodness
with all your being.

Taste, and touch,
see, and hear,
smell, and wonder,
know, and believe.

Know that in this place
God will hear the cries of
every voice and every heart.
Come, and let us proclaim together
the goodness of our God.

SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN

MV #106 I am the Dream

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Loving God,
we come to this place seeking healing, seeking new life, and seeking wholeness.
Help us to throw off the cloaks of our limited imaginations, that we might find ourselves
forever in your presence.
We pray in Jesus' name.

RECOGNITION OF BROKENNESS AND RECONCILIATION

VOICE ONE: Though we desire to follow in the way of Jesus, too often we are held
back and weighed down

VOICE TWO: by words and actions that have harmed us

VOICE THREE: by regrets for things we have said or done or thought

VOICE TWO: by systems that work against us and others

VOICE THREE: by truths we would rather not see

(a time of silent reflection on what weighs us down)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

VOICE ONE: Take heart! God calls us to see ourselves and others with new eyes.

VOICE TWO: Throw off brokenness and rise to life made new.

VOICE THREE: Throw off regret and rise to freedom.

VOICE TWO: Throw off oppression and rise to action.

VOICE THREE: Throw off your blinders and see again.

VOICE ONE: Thanks be to God for that grace. Amen.



LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

PSALM 34:1-8 (the Message)

I bless God every chance I get;
my lungs expand with his praise.

I live and breathe God;
if things aren't going well, hear this and be happy:

Join me in spreading the news;
together let's get the word out.

God met me more than halfway,
he freed me from my anxious fears.

Look at him; give him your warmest smile.
Never hide your feelings from him.

When I was desperate, I called out,
and God got me out of a tight spot.

God's angel sets up a circle
of protection around us while we pray.
Open your mouth and taste, open your eyes and see—
how good God is.

Blessed are you who run to him.

Disciples so often get into trouble;
still, God is there every time.

He's your bodyguard, shielding every bone;
not even a finger gets broken.

The wicked commit slow suicide;
they waste their lives hating the good.

God pays for each slave's freedom;
no one who runs to him loses out.



GOSPEL

Mark 10:46–52

Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means “son of Timaeus”), was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”

Jesus stopped and said, “Call him.”

So they called to the blind man, “Cheer up! On your feet! He’s calling you.” Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus.

“What do you want me to do for you?” Jesus asked him.

The blind man said, “Rabbi, I want to see.”

“Go,” said Jesus, “your faith has healed you.” Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

APPLICATION FOR TODAY

What do you see?

HYMN

MV # 144 Like a Healing Stream

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

“Somewhere There's a Forest”

by Susan Stevens, sung by Keith Whitall

PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

Prayers of the people

We come to you with questions, O God.

They can be specific;
questions that demand answers.

And yet often they are rhetorical;
questions that we simply want to have heard,
wonderings in which we wish you to join us.

Why is there pain in our world?
Why do some people suffer?
When will injustice end?



Can climate change be stopped?
Is there hope for tomorrow?

Through all of this, though,
we hear you ask us another question:

“What do you want me to do for you?”
and we are at times hard-pressed to answer.

Most of all, O God,
we simply want your presence to be made manifest and to be felt
in all the corners of our world.

For any who wait in frantic hope,
may there be assurance that you do not pass by.

For any who have needs too great for words,
may there be assurance that you hear the sighs that are too deep for words.

For any who are struggling with day to day problems,
may there be assurance that you are in the struggle.

And through it all, O God,
may we follow you, in real and certain hope,
that you hold the key to new and everlasting life. **Amen.**

We lift prayers in of joy and concern in our hearts

God in Community, Holy in One,
thanksgiving is in every word we speak,
even as we pray as Jesus taught us, saying, (The Lord’s Prayer)

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father/Mother/Creator, in heaven,
holy is your 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 those who 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 BLESSING

MUSICAL SENDING

Be Thou My Vision

A traditional Irish tune, arranged by Michael Woytiuk



~ 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 »**

&

**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.

Oct 27th Union Church Board meeting
Oct 31st All Saints Day

Currently we are offering a hybrid of in-person and online worship
Please consult the website and weekly announcements for details and links

www.mergingwaters.ca/Worship-online
Download the Zoom App at zoom.us/download

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The **All Saints Day** service will be **October 31st**. A service to Lift-up in Remembrance anyone who was a member or dear to a member who passed in the last year. Please send in a name, year born and photo by noon on **Wednesday Oct 27th**. Sent this info to mergingwaters@bellnet.ca

Boutique 24 - Thanks to all of the volunteers that make Boutique 24 possible! We are looking for a few volunteers that are willing to volunteer for a few hours once a month to help with sales on Thursdays between 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. call June Hudon 514-713-5054

Photo contest: How I spent my COVID summer 2021 - Help Merging Waters



celebrate our summer experiences! Living with COVID has meant some quieter times and more local pursuits, but also opportunities to pause and take a closer look at our surroundings. Share your photo memories with the community, and we will feature them in our slide shows, on our website and in our social media! Full details on how to submit your photos is in the mid-week message. DDL extended to Oct 31