

**West Island and Riverside combined
Summer Worship
Hosted by Merging Waters
BEING UNITED IN ACTION
A CALL TO
CARE FOR CREATION**

**Sunday
August 29th, 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.

INTRODUCTION

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

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 Overconsumption Blues

Words and music by Michael Woytiuk, intro read by Al and Sandy Davis

WALKING IN THE LIGHT

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

CELEBRATING THE RAINBOW

SPIRITUAL FOCUS

We are one world,

we are called to be one in community.

We have boldness before God

because we know we are loved and known

and so, in the same, way let us love one another, siblings and cousins, all living beings,

not only in word or speech

but in truth and action—let us join together as one to worship the Divine in All.

Amen.



**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.**

PRESENTATION

Caring For Creation Part 1

Sandra Davis Presenter/Written by Helen Fyles

PRAYER OF BROKENESS AND RECONCILIATION

Sacred Creating presence, that which is within and beyond, we are blessed to live in a land of plentiful natural resources. We are blessed to have rules of law that protect our human dignity. We recognize that these blessings are not extended to others, we recognize that our privilege allows us to exploit others. We recognize that, in this country and overseas, mining and other forms of natural resource extraction have allowed us to reap the rewards of natural resources while also harming your creation and fracturing communities. We recognize the harm caused by our want for more. Heal us in our desire for ever more resources; forgive those times when we do not speak up against injustice, and embolden us to be agents of your change in this world. For the building of the kin-dom, Amen.



WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Scripture assures us, The Lord is our Shepherd, we shall not want (Psalm 23).
“Whenever our hearts condemn us...God is greater than our hearts, and...knows everything” (1 John 3:20). As a shepherd cares for scattered sheep, God cares, forgives us, and calls us into community. In the blessings of Creation shared with us as co-creators we know the of of the Sacred Presence.
Members of one sacred family — we are forgiven.

PRESENTATION

Caring For Creation Part 2

Written/Presented by Susan Hawker

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Earth, Teach Me

Earth, teach me quiet — as the grasses are still with new light.
Earth, teach me suffering — as old stones suffer with memory.
Earth, teach me humility — as blossoms are humble with beginning.
Earth, teach me caring — as mothers nurture their young.
Earth, teach me courage — as the tree that stands alone.
Earth, teach me limitation — as the ant that crawls on the ground.
Earth, teach me freedom — as the eagle that soars in the sky.
Earth, teach me acceptance — as the leaves that die each fall.
Earth, teach me renewal — as the seed that rises in the spring.
Earth, teach me to forget myself — as melted snow forgets its life.
Earth, teach me to remember kindness — as dry fields weep with rain.

HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Genesis 2:10-15

From Eden a river flowed out to water the garden, then it divided into four rivers. The first one is the Pishon River that flows through the land of Havilah, where pure gold, rare perfumes, and precious stones are found. The second is the Gihon River that winds through Ethiopia. The Tigris River that flows east of Assyria is the third, and the fourth is the Euphrates River.

God put the human in the Garden of Eden to take care of it and to look after it.

PRESENTATION

Caring For Creation Part 3

written/presented by Susan Hawker

EPISTLE

Revelation: 22:1-2

The angel showed me a river that was crystal clear, and its waters gave life. The river came from the throne where God and the Lamb were seated. Then it flowed down the middle of the city's main street. On each side of the river are trees that grow a different kind of fruit each month of the year.

The fruit gives life, and the leaves are used as medicine to heal the nations.

APPLICATION FOR TODAY

Living with respect *in* Creation



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

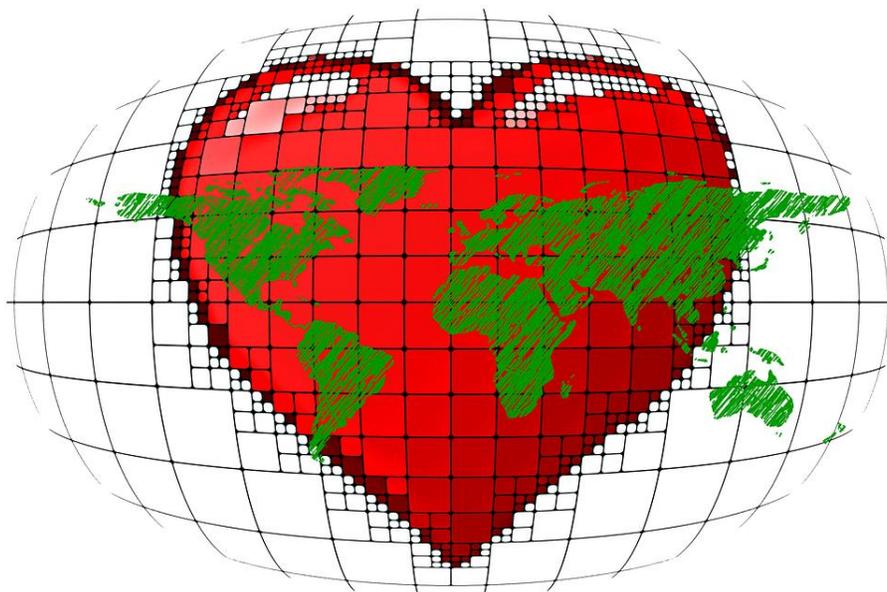
Arabesque No.1

by Claude Debussy

PRAYER FOR HEALING

We join with the Earth and with each other to bring new life to the land

**To restore the waters
To refresh the air
To renew the forests,
To care for the plants
To protect the creatures
To celebrate the seas
To rejoice in the sunlight
To sing a song of the stars
To recall our destiny
To renew our spirits
To reinvigorate our bodies
To create the human community
To remember our children
To promote justice and peace.
We pray in your name, O God. Amen**



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.

CONFESSIION 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.



Like a healing stream in a barren desert,
 Spirit water bringing life to dusty earth,
 God is trickling through our lives
 as in a dream unfolding,
 promising revival and rebirth...
 like a healing stream.

Like a gentle rain on a thirsty garden,
 Spirit water come to nourish tiny seed,
 God is bubbling through the soil
 to coax a new creation,
 yearning for an end to want and need...
 like a gentle rain.

Like a river strong with a restless current,
 Spirit water rushing on to distant shore,
 God is Carving out a channel
 in a new direction,
 calling for an end to hate and war...
 like a river strong.

Like a mighty sea reaching far horizons,
 Spirit water with a love both deep and wide,
 God is working in our hearts
 to shape a new tomorrow:
 God will always challenge and provide!
 Like a mighty sea, like a river strong,
 like a gentle rain, like a healing stream.

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

MUSICAL SENDING

The Blue Green Hills Of Earth

Words and Music by Kim Oler
 Choral Arrangement by Paul Halley
 Soloist: Denise Pelley with 'Road to Hope' Choir and Band

~ Thank you to for joining us today ~



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



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**Merging Waters
Pastoral Charge**



*Welcome Grace Service Love
Community*

UPCOMING SERVICES at 10:00 a.m.

- Aug 29th.** Combined Worship with Riverside and West Island United Churches
Celebrating the Gifts of the United Church: Caring for Creation
- Sept 5th.** Combined Worship with Riverside and West Island United Churches
Celebrating the Gifts of the United Church: Sabbath Time

**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

As we share in our commitment to live with respect in creation all are encouraged to participate in actions for climate and social justice. Check out the following groups:

**Fridays For Future
Sept 24 Rally for climate change
<https://fridaysforfuture.org/>**

**GreenFaith
Day of Global Action Oct 18-19
<https://greenfaith.org/>**

**The Broadbent Institute
<https://www.broadbentinstitute.ca/>**

**The David Suzuki Foundation
<https://davidsuzuki.org/>**

**Stand Earth
<https://www.stand.earth/>**

**United Church of Canada call for climate justice
<https://united-church.ca/social-action/justice-initiatives/climate-change>**

Details about 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.

