



Merging Waters Pastoral Charge
Sunday Morning Worship

Orange Shirt Day

June Sept 26th, 2021
18th Sunday After Pentecost
Creation Time

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. 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 a faith community to the multi-generational work of reconciliation and the pursuit of true justice and flourishing wellbeing for all peoples who now call Canada home.

MUSICAL CENTERING

A Cherokee Legend "The Wolves Within"

storyteller Libby Monaco
music "Land of the Silver Birch"
arranged by Pierre Gallant

THE SPIRIT'S LIGHT

The core of our lives and our welcome

SPIRITUAL FOCUS

By rivers and streams, on the water,
alongside lakes and seaway, we gather together.
Disciples of Christ. Children of the Spirit. People of the Creator.
Sometimes with tears. Sometimes with excitement.
All the time, worshipping the One who calls us to be.

SILENT REFLECTION



RECOGNITION OF BROKENESS AND RECONILIATION

While we try to live in God's way, we know how often we follow the wrong advice, or walk down sin's shadowed streets. Yet, God watches over us and calls us to confess, so we might be welcomed into the embracing arms of mercy and healing. Let us pray,

We confess how much we are like those first disciples of Jesus, Wisdom from on high. Our cravings for more and more toss us about like leaves in the fall winds. We boast of our great wisdom, yet do not understand your ways of peace and gentleness. We do not plant ourselves in your hope and grace, and so reap harvests of disorder and conflict.

Draw near to us, Gracious God, and forgive us. Draw us into your tender arms, and teach us peace, gentleness, the willingness to put the other first, the wisdom to serve instead of seize, so we might bring forth a harvest of righteousness, justice, and peace in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Silence is kept

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

This is the wisdom from above: God plants in us the forgiveness and healing we need, so we might share the good harvest of joy and mercy with everyone we meet. Bathed in the living waters, fed by the Bread of life, we are given new life and hope. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

PRAYER OF APPROACH

We thank you, Creator God, for the diversity, the complexity, and the interconnectedness of the world in which we live. We thank you for the mystery of it, the beauty and the bounty. In our quest to explore and understand it, keep us mindful of our place in your world, as one of its creatures, one with possibility and responsibility. As we worship, draw us closer to your mystery and your majesty. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

EPISTLE

James 5:13-20

If you are having trouble, you should pray. And if you are feeling good, you should sing praises. If you are sick, ask the church leaders to come and pray for you. Ask them to put olive oil on you in the name of the Lord. If you have faith when you pray for sick people, they will get well. The Lord will heal them, and if they have sinned, he will forgive them.

If you have sinned, you should tell each other what you have done. Then you can pray for one another and be healed. The prayer of an innocent person is powerful, and it can help a lot. Elijah was just as human as we are, and for three and a half years his prayers kept the rain from falling. But when he did pray for rain, it fell from the skies and made the crops grow.

My friends, if any followers have wandered away from the truth, you should try to lead them back. If you turn sinners from the wrong way, you will save them from death, and many of their sins will be forgiven.

John said, “Teacher, we saw a man using your name to force demons out of people. But he wasn’t one of us, and we told him to stop.”

Jesus said to his disciples:

Don’t stop him! No one who works miracles in my name will soon turn and say something bad about me. Anyone who isn’t against us is for us. And anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name, just because you belong to me, will surely be rewarded.

It will be terrible for people who cause even one of my little followers to sin. Those people would be better off thrown into the ocean with a heavy stone tied around their necks. So if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off! You would be better off to go into life crippled than to have two hands and be thrown into the fires of hell that never go out. If your foot causes you to sin, chop it off. You would be better off to go into life lame than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. If your eye causes you to sin, get rid of it. You would be better off to go into God’s kingdom with only one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell. The worms there never die, and the fire never stops burning.

Everyone must be salted with fire.

Salt is good. But if it no longer tastes like salt, how can it be made salty again? Have salt among you and live at peace with each other.

ANOTHER VOICE

Orange Shirt Day

written and shared by Helen Fyles

APPLICATION FOR TODAY

How We Stumble, How We Rise

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERING

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

If you are not on [pre-authorised 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

It Takes a Village to Raise a Child

excerpts from Scenes of Childhood by Robert Schumann
reader, Libby Monaco



PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

Great and Heavenly Spirit, God of compassion, healing and comfort,
We lift up in prayer the sacred lives of the children, some now known to us, all known to you, who died in residential schools.

We lift up in prayer the sacred lives of the children who went missing from these schools and whose fates are unknown to those who held them most dear.

We grieve the loss of so many thousands of these little ones, and we grieve especially their loss so far away from home.

We grieve the loss of youth with so much potential. These were children of this place, children of our land. The loss of their giftedness is our collective loss.

We lament how long their families have had to live with unanswered questions.

Hear our prayers:

for those who were not informed of their children's deaths at all, or on a timely basis;
for those who were not told of where their daughters and sons had been buried;
for those who have long hoped that a child who went missing somehow survived and had a good life—
even as they may have also feared the worst.

We lament our complicity in the loss of these children. As members of a church which ran residential schools, we seek your help as we look to redress the many ways in which our church failed these Indigenous children, their families, and their communities. We pray that your reconciling love will teach us how to create true bonds of community and understanding as Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples today.

We lift up with gratitude the efforts of all those who are seeking to honour the lives of the children who died, as well as the children whose fates are unknown, through ongoing research and acts of remembrance.

We ask for your continued guidance of them as they work to uncover the stories of the lost. We understand how precious this information is, and how vital it is to the healing of so many families and communities.

Bless those who are preparing to honour the children with sacred ceremonies and those who work to protect burial sites, in keeping with the traditions of Indigenous peoples across this land.

We pray for the families of these children and for all who loved them. Envelop them in the warmth of your infinite care and give them peace.

Inspire all of us with energy, wisdom, and commitment to the loving pursuit of the truth which will heal all of us in our brokenness and lead to reconciliation with our neighbours across this land.

We lift our personal prayers of concern and joy in our hearts

In you, God in Community, Holy in One,
we have found all we need and long for,
and we Offer the prayer we have been taught,

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 actions as well as in our imaginings.

Nourish our bodies and spirits,

Inspiring us to share the abundance that 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,

Through the faith that you always show in us.

May we all make it so.

Amen.



COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

MUSICAL SENDING

Dialogo Pastorale

by Domenica Zipoli

~ Thank you to for joining us today ~

MERGING WATERS PASTORAL CHARGE THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA UNION CHURCH



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« An Affirming Congregation »

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Merging Waters Pastoral Charge



Welcome Grace Service Love
Community

UPCOMING SERVICES at 10:30 a.m.

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|-------------------------|---|
| Sept 26 th . | Creation Time 3 – Orange Shirt Day (in person and online) |
| Oct 3 rd . | Creation Time 4 – World Communion Sunday (online only)
The Sacrament of Communion will be celebrated today |
| Oct 10 th . | Creation Time 5 – Thanksgiving Sunday |
| Oct 17 th . | World Food Sunday |
| Oct 24 th . | The Sunday of Grace |
| Oct 31 st . | All Saints Day |

Currently we are alternating between 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

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Recognition of Brokenness and Reconciliation and Words of Assurance adapted from *Where the Broken Gather: Lectionary Liturgies for year B.*, by Thom M. Shuman, Copyright © 2014 Thom M. Shuman. All rights reserved.
Prayer of Approach by *Jean Leckie, while at Heart Lake U.C., Brampton, Ont.*, Gathering PENTECOST 4 2021, page 7 electronic version. Used with permission.
Another Voice – The Story of Orange Shirt Day researched, written, and shared by Helen Fyles.
Prayer of Joy and Concern adapter from —A prayer offered by [Indigenous Ministries \(opens in a new tab\)](#) for the memorial register honouring children who died at residential schools (TRC Call to Action 72), [launched on September 30, 2019 \(opens in a new tab\)](#).
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH CAFÉ returns with a blast of autumn air
Join Engaging Discussions and
Visits with neighbours
Hosted by with Rev. Ryan

Every Friday
On ZOOM @ 2 pm
see mergingwaters.ca and the mid-week message for weekly updates



Sept 30th, 2021 is the first Annual National Day of Truth and Reconciliation as well as Orange Shirt Day – a day to embrace healing and peace.



You are invited to wear something Orange on Sept 30th to mark this important day in Canada's history and to stand in solidarity with all children, with residential school survivors, and all those committed to the cause of healing, justice, and peace here in Canada and around the world.

Lynn Thompson – is selling glorious handmade cards featuring origami decorations using assorted papers. The cards are \$2.00 each and all proceeds go to Union Church. Anyone interested in ordering cards can reach Lynn by phone (450-218-6131) or email (lynnathompson3@icloud.com) and arrangements can be made for pickup or delivery.



EMERGENCY AID FOR HAITI

On the morning of **Saturday, August 14**, Haiti was struck by a severe earthquake. The extent of the damage is still unclear. Haitians and the international community are working hard to rescue people trapped under the rubble. But the number of deaths is rising. Many homes and community buildings have been destroyed. Hospitals have also been damaged, and acutely injured and traumatized people are struggling to find help. And what's more, Tropical Storm Grace hit Haiti on August 16, making an already bad situation worse.

The United Church of Canada is in contact with Mission & Service partners in Haiti to find out how we can support their communities. Today, people in Haiti need emergency shelter, clean water, and food.

Earthquake in Haiti | The United Church of Canada (united-church.ca)

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