



**Merging Waters Pastoral Charge
Sunday Morning Worship**

**1st Sunday after
Christmas**

December 26th, 2021

Rev. Ryan Fea presiding
Michael Woytiuk Ministry of Music

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

We acknowledge that the lands our churches and many of our 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, the pursuit of true justice and flourishing well-being for all peoples who now call Canada home.

**O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him, born the King of angels:**

Refrain:

**O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

**God of God,
light of light,
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb,
very God, begotten, not created: *R***

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: *R***

SPIRITUAL FOCUS

Listen!

The air is still.

Listen!

The stars are shining brightly.

Listen!

In the distance, we hear the murmur of voices!

Listen!

We hear the cry of a child!

God is with us!

God is with us; let us worship.

SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Divine God, Holy Jesus, energy and essence of swirling galaxies, creator of land and sea and sky, babe in a manger burning with light, ignite us, sweet son of God. Make us light-bearers in a shadowed world. Work wonders in us. Holy! Holy! Holy! Embrace us, sweet son of God. Wake us to celestial sounds. Make us jump for joy at your coming! Holy! Holy! Holy! Encircle us in your tender arms of mystery. Clothe us in robes of righteousness. Feed and sustain us with holiness. Holy! Holy! Holy! Amen.



**O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.**

**How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessed gift of heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.**

GOSPEL

Luke 2:41–52

Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for Passover. And when Jesus was twelve years old, they all went there as usual for the celebration. After Passover his parents left, but they did not know that Jesus had stayed on in the city. They thought he was traveling with some other people, and they went a whole day before they started looking for him. When they could not find him with their relatives and friends, they went back to Jerusalem and started looking for him there. Three days later they found Jesus sitting in the temple, listening to the teachers and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was surprised at how much he knew and at the answers he gave. When his parents found him, they were amazed. His mother said, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been very worried, and we have been searching for you!" Jesus answered, "Why did you have to look for me? Didn't you know that I would be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he meant.

Jesus went back to Nazareth with his parents and obeyed them. His mother kept on thinking about all that had happened. Jesus became wise, and he grew strong. God was pleased with him and so were the people.



What child is this, who laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain:

This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear; for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading. *R*

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
come, one and all, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him. *R*

STEWARDSHIP MINUTE

Mission & Service Boxing Day 2021

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

Child of the Poor/What Child is This?

music by Scoot Soper, lyrics by William Dix
What Child is This? traditional English melody
Pierre Gallant Music Director
Heather Lewis, soprano soloist
Christine Bryce, recorder

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We do this every Sunday, Gracious God: ask for your blessing for what we give. As we begin a new year this week, open us to lean more fully into your blessing, a blessing not just for what we offer back to you but a blessing that permeates the entirety of our souls, our living. Such a blessing is powerful, life changing, transformative. As we are blessed, so may we bless. May the Spirit's power motivate us to follow the Way of Jesus in all we do. Blessed in our following, may we transform the world. Amen.



PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

As once you came into the hush of darkness, O God, so still our hearts now by the wonder of Christmas. Make us wise with the wisdom of a little one, that truth might be born afresh in us. Let not our hearts be busy inns with no room, but doors opened wide to welcome a Holy Guest, who is Jesus Christ, alive with you and the Holy Spirit, on God now and for ever. Amen.

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**

HYMN VOICES UNITED 59

Joy To The World (verse 1 & 2)

**Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns:
let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

MUSICAL SENDING

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

Music by Richard Willis
arranged by Michael Woytiuk

~ Thank you 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.**

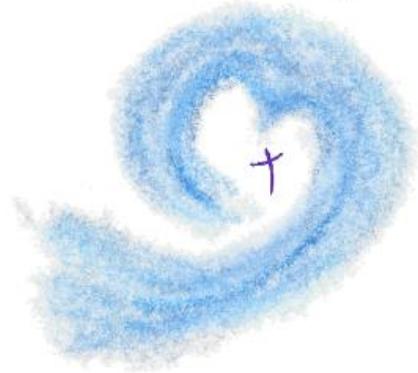
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www.mergingwaters.ca

**Merging Waters
Pastoral Charge**



*Welcome Grace Service Love
Community*

UPCOMING SERVICES at 10:30 a.m.

Dec 26th. Cocoa and Carols Service – First Sunday After Christmas (online only)
Jan 2nd. 2nd Sunday After Christmas Ecumenical shared worship (online only)
Jan 9th. 2nd Sunday After Christmas Ecumenical shared worship (online only)

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

Pay It Forward

Canadians are receiving COVID vaccines, people in many other parts of the world have no way to get them.

Your gift of 25\$ will provide a complete COVID-19 vaccination to one person in a country where vaccines are in short supply. 25\$ to save a life.



<https://giftswithvision.ca/collections/featured/products/pay-it-forward>



Lynn Thompson – Has a new series of hand-made 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.

Send a card, Fund a student – Caring for Kenya, Ebi Kimanani Scholarship Cards are available for purchase. The cards celebrate Christmas and special occasions and can be given as a gift or part of a gift. A donation of \$10 per card, contributes to the cost of sending 16 girls and boys to secondary school in the Itegero region of Kenya. Handmade pillowcases by Linda Toivanen will also be available. All donations of cash or cheques are gratefully received. Cheques can be made out to Beaurepaire United Church (Caring for Kenya on the memo line). Tax receipts provided. Address inquiries to Susan Cruickshank (susanc394@hotmail.com / 514-694-3382).



Please note that the **Church Café** will be on hiatus starting Dec. 24th returning Jan 14th

Please note that the Church office will be closed from Dec 24th

These and other announcements available in the Mid-week message available on www.mergingwaters.ca

