



Merging Waters Pastoral
Charge
Sunday Morning Worship
Sunday of Peace

December 5th, 2021
2nd Sunday of Advent
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

As we enter today, please place your gifts for St Columba House where indicated.



BOLD text for congregational response – please note, as we will be engaging gently in responsive liturgy and singing all are asked to remain seated and masked, keeping bubbles 2 meters apart during the service.



ACKNOWLEDGING TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

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

Silent Night

Hans Gruber
arranged by Michael Woytiuk

WALKING IN THE LIGHT

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

CELEBRATING THE RAINBOW

SPIRITUAL FOCUS

Light for the shadows:

may it show us the way.

A flame of peace:

may our hearts be warmed.

We light the Advent candle of Peace

A beacon of possibility:

**may there be light and peace in our living
as we prepare to welcome Jesus.**



SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN MORE VOICES 220

Hope Shines As The Solitary Star *[Adapted]*

**Peace shines as the solitary star.
Faith is the inner light.
You and I together mirror the Light of Lights,
And illumine the pathway home.**

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**Peace shines as the solitary star.
Faith is the inner light.
We at Merging Waters mirror the Light of Lights,
And illumine the pathway home.**

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Holy One-In-All, as the days grow shorter and the nights lengthen, be our inner light, we pray. Keep glowing in our hearts—so that what we think and say and do comes from a place of calm and compassion. When so much distracts and disturbs, anchor us in your deep love. Remind us that even while we live in this world, you are our everlasting home. Bless our gathering together, that our minds may be calm and alert and our hearts open to the grace of your Word. Amen.

GOSPEL

Luke 1:68-79

“Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them. He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David (as he said through his holy prophets of long ago), salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us — to show mercy to our ancestors and to remember his holy covenant, the oath he swore to our father Abraham: to rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us to serve him without fear in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace.”



For fifteen years Emperor Tiberius had ruled that part of the world. Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was the ruler of Galilee. Herod's brother, Philip, was the ruler in the countries of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was the ruler of Abilene. Annas and Caiaphas were the Jewish high priests.

At that time God spoke to Zechariah's son John, who was living in the desert. So John went along the Jordan Valley, telling the people, "Turn back to God and be baptized! Then your sins will be forgiven." Isaiah the prophet wrote about John when he said,

"In the desert someone is shouting, 'Get the road ready for the Lord! Make a straight path for him. Fill up every valley and level every mountain and hill. Straighten the crooked paths and smooth out the rough roads.

Then everyone will see the saving power of God."

HYMN VOICES UNITED 595

We Are Pilgrims

**We are pilgrims on a journey, fellow travellers on the road;
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.**

**Sister, let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.**

**I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.**

**I will weep when you are weeping, when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow, till we've seen this journey through.**

**When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.**

**Brother, let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.**

APPLICATION FOR TODAY

Peace By Grace
Guest speaker Gift Tshuma

STEWARDSHIP MINUTE

Singing For Inclusion

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

Peace Train
by Cat Stevens
Lead Vocal by Jim Fyles



PRAYER OF DEDICATION

In these days of waiting, O God, as Mary grew Jesus in her womb, so grow in us a spirit of generosity. Bring to birth within us a passion for justice and peace. As we share these gifts, which you have entrusted to us, so may your dream for the world come closer to fulfillment. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

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 MORE VOICES 221

I Am Walking A Path of Peace

(x3)

**I am walking a path of peace, (x3)
lead me home, lead me home.**

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

MUSICAL SENDING

Go in Peace

by Brian Tate
Lead Vocal by Sandy Davis

~ 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.**

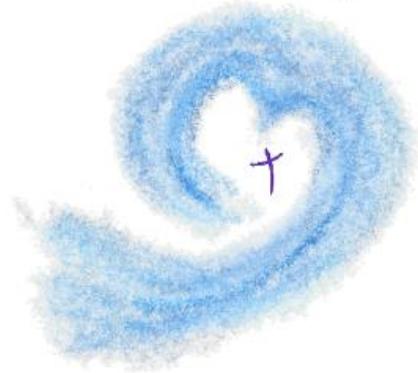
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**Merging Waters
Pastoral Charge**



*Welcome Grace Service Love
Community*

UPCOMING SERVICES at 10:30 a.m.

- Dec 5th.** Advent 2 – Peace/Human Rights Sunday
Dec 12th. Advent 3 – Joy Sunday
Dec 19th. Advent 4 – Love Sunday
Dec 24th. Christmas Eve (Family Candlelight Service 8 pm)
Dec 26th. Cocoa and Carols Service – First Sunday After Christmas (online)

Unless otherwise indicated all services are simultaneously
in person (24 Maple. Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue) and online
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 will be **available for purchase after church December 5th**. 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 pillow cases by Linda Toivanen will also be available. All donations of cash or cheques are gratefully received. Cheques can be made out to Beaufort United Church (Caring for Kenya on the memo line). Tax receipts provided.



Church Café Advent of Discussion, activities, song, and FUN: Church Café continues weekly on ZOOM Fridays 2 pm with special themes throughout Advent. Grab a cocoa and share!

Dec 10th - Does O Come All Ye Faithful get your spirit up? Love to sing Joy to The World? Get ready to tap your toes and sing along. We're going to share our favourite Christmas Carols. Not only will we talk about them but, with the help of modern technology, we will enjoy your favourite Christmas Carols together. Warmup your vocal chords, or not, we're going to have lots of fun.



Dec 17th - Dawn we now our Bake apparel?! It's cold outside! Let's bake something yummy inside! This week we're going to share our favourite Christmas recipes – type it up to share or trade a link. No baking during the gathering but if you make something in advance you can show off your goodies and share the story of how this recipe became your fav Christmas delicacy.



JOIN US ON ZOOM – LIVE online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87988296312>
Or by phone: 438-809-7799 Meeting ID: 879 8829 6312

These and other announcements available in the Mid-week message

