Merging Waters United Church

Sunday Morning Worship September 8, 2024

Creation I

WELCOME / BIENVENUE

People of all ages, identities, and walks of life are welcome.	Toutes et tous sont bienvenus, peu importe l'âge, l'identité ou les conditions de vie.
Wherever you are, whoever you are, we welcome you in love and community to worship.	Peu importe où que vous soyez, qui que vous soyez, nous vous accueillons dans l'amour et la communauté pour louer Dieu ensembles.
Wherever we are, we're close in one another's hearts.	Notre amour n'est jamais limité par la distance.

Please join in the responses in **bold text.**

Keep our worship scent-free! To help fellow worshippers with chemical sensitivities, please do not wear perfume or scented products (lotion, hair spray) if attending in person.

To protect personal privacy, please do not take photos or videos without authorization.

WELCOME

LIFE AND WORK OF THE PEOPLE

ACKNOWLEDGING TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

As we gather, we give thanks for the stewardship of the Huron-Wendat, Anishnaabeg and Kanienkehaka Peoples. We remember and honour the history and tradition of gathering, keeping and sharing knowledge of these lands and waters over the millennia. We commit ourselves to helping the ongoing process of recognizing Indigenous knowledge, to listen when we get the opportunity, and to accept and value what we hear.

GATHERING

CENTERING MUSIC Ode to Joy

by Beethoven, arrangement Michael Woytiuk

OUR PLACE IN THE UNIVERSE (LIGHT A CANDLE)

Let us open our hearts to the light of God's presence.

We will walk in the light.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN: VOICES UNITED # 296 This Is God's Wondrous World

SPIRITUAL FOCUS

We come to worship God

Creator of all that is,

the Earth, the sea, and the sky.

All these belong to our God.

We are but a single strand

in a great web of life.

Let the whole universe give thanks and praise

this day and evermore.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN: MORE VOICES # 37 Each Blade of Grass

FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

THE WORD (SCRIPTURE) Mark 7:24–30 NRSVUE

The Syrophoenician Woman's Faith

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." And when she went home, she found the child lying on the bed and the demon gone.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

HYMN: MORE VOICES # 145 Draw the Circle Wide

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN: MV #30 It's a Song of Praise to the Maker

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY / PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

JESUS' PRAYER

SENDING

SENDING HYMN MORE VOICES # 135 Called by Earth and Sky

BLESSING AND SENDING

SENDING MUSIC How Then Shall I Live

Linnea Good

Thank you for joining in worship today ♡

MERGING WATERS UNITED CHURCH

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Merging Waters
United Church

Welcome Grace Service Love
Community

www.mergingwaters.ca

UPCOMING SERVICES at 10:30 a.m.

September 15	17th after Pentecost Creation Time 2 Communion