Merging Waters United Church

Sunday Morning Worship April 13, 2025

Palm Sunday

Lent Theme: Unburdening (#EmbraceReality)

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.** Veuillez-vous joindre aux réponses en **texte gras.**

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.

Veillez à ce que notre culte soit exempt d'odeurs ! Pour aider les fidèles souffrant de sensibilités chimiques, nous vous demandons de ne pas porter de parfum ou de produits parfumés (lotion, laque) si vous assistez au culte en personne.

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

Pour protéger la vie privée, ne prenez pas de photos ou de vidéos sans autorisation.

WELCOME

LIFE AND WORK OF THE PEOPLE

GATHERING

ACKNOWLEDGING THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

OUR PLACE IN THE UNIVERSE (LIGHT A CANDLE)

CENTERING MUSIC

Hosanna
Pierre Gallant

SPIRITUAL FOCUS

Have you heard? Jesus of Nazareth is coming to town!
Right*:* The man who has been doing all the amazing things we have heard about?
Left: Come, people are gathering from all over the place to see this Jesus.

One: Some are calling him the Messiah!
Right: Some are calling him a king!
Left: Wouldn't it be wonderful to see the Messiah – A saviour for us! Wouldn't it be amazing to live With a different king – a king who ruled with love and compassion.
Perhaps this is the one!
All : Perhaps this is the one! Hosanna!
Let's join the parade!

OPENING PRAYER

Holy One, in the midst of celebration and the joy of experiencing your blessings poured out on our children and on us, we pause to give thanks.
Like the crowds who cheered for Jesus, today it is easy to trust the future. But when tomorrow comes, with more news of bombs and violence, when tomorrow comes, with its ordinary demands, when tomorrow comes, and the crowds have moved on to something else, somewhere else, someone else, will we remember you?
Will we notice your presence in the pictures of those suffering? Will we be attentive to your hands serving soup and wrapping wounds?
Holy One, strengthen our faith and direct our path as we travel with you, and when we get tired and fear makes us stumble, renew our conviction to follow you; and if we forget, may surprising messengers remind us through their simple confidence in you. Amen.

Gathering: Wendy MacLean, Brockville, Ont.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

SHARING THE JOURNEY OF HOLY WEEK

Entry Into Jerusalem – Luke 19:28-40

SONG Pave the Way with Branches
Bret Hesla

Jesus Cleanses the Temple – Luke 19:45-47

HYMN MV 110 First Born of Mary

Prepare the Passover – Luke 22:7-14

The Last Supper

Warning Of Things to Come – Luke 22:31-34

Praying In the Garden Luke 22:39-46

HYMN MV # 92 Like a Rock

Arrest – Luke 22:47-53

Peter's denial – Luke 22:54-62

HYMN MV #78 God Weeps v. 1-3

REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We have waved palms and shouted "Hosannas."
We have gathered in excitement and rejoicing.
Holy One, hear our voices and know our joy and hope.
(Pause.)
We have gathered at your table, received the bread
and cup of your compassion and forgiveness.
Holy One, hear our voices and know our contrition and regrets.
(Pause.)
We have witnessed your trial and death over and over.
Holy One, our world is full of trial and death.
Daily, we are immersed in the shortcomings of
society and news of persecution.
(Pause.)
We remembered your last breath, Loving Saviour.
Holy One, we do remember, and again recoiled in the horror of it.
(Pause.)
Be with us now as we walk through this last week
of Lent.

Holy One, help us to heal, and to be part of the healing.
Be with us in this heaviness as we journey
toward the light. Hold us, as we hold this story
close. And help us to be your people, your presence,
your Body. Amen.

JESUS' PRAYER sung in Aramaic — Bryson Davis

SENDING

BLESSING AND SENDING

Go in the peace of a soon to come final moment. Though you have sorrow now, there will be joy. Though you wonder now, there will be light.
Allow the story of Christ's passion to be real, and to work in your hearts. Amen.
Context path to holy week and agm

SENDING HYMN MV # 8 — And on This Path

Thank you for joining in worship today ♥

MERGING WATERS UNITED CHURCH

A community of caring within the United Church of Canada
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Merging Waters United Church
Welcome Grace Service Love Community

UPCOMING SERVICES at 10:30 a.m.

April 17 Maundy Thursday	Please refer to our Holy Week poster in this newsletter!
April 18 Good Friday	
April 20 Easter Sunday	
April 27	Outreach leads us in celebrating Earth Day!