Merging Waters United Church

Earth Day 2026: Plant trees while you search the internet

Sunday Morning Worship April 19, 2026

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 (Helen)

Announcements (Carylle)

Musical Centering: Open Letter to the Earth **(**Song and lyrics by Terry Tufts**)**

Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory: (Susan C)

We are gathered on the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee nations, the Huron-Wendat, the Anishinaabe, and the Abenaki peoples. We honour their heritage and their gifts. On this Earth Day, let's celebrate the beauty of our planet and the Indigenous peoples who have been its caretakers for thousands of years. Their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. They understood and cared for this land in ways that sustained the soil, the waterways, the plants and the animals**.** Let us also learn to respect and care for this land, this earth, our home.

Introduction to Video (Helen)

Video 1: Antonia Burchard-Levine

Opening Song: It's a Song of Praise to the Maker (MV 30)

Opening prayer (Patti)

We are only one species among many
and yet we have a huge impact on the Earth, our home.
Teach us to conserve the riches of nature
and not to squander them.
Make us better stewards, and more careful tenants
of the world you lend us as our home

Lighting the candle (Sandy reads the words while Patti lights the candle)

As we light this candle,
Let us be thankful for this amazing world we live in.
Let us never take any of it for granted
Let us learn to make small changes in our lives that can create important benefits in the future
We share the Earth with many and must protect it for all

Young at Heart: Why do we plant trees? (Susan H). Jim will teach the song "Plant a Tree" (by Alex Sinclair)

Video 2: Antonia Burchard Levine (Helen)

Offering (Lisa)

Offering Hymn: Halle, Halle, Halle (VU 958)
Halle, halle, halle lujah!
Halle, halle, halle lujah!
Halle, halle, halle lujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Prayers of the People (Lisa)

Bike Blessing (Lisa)

Song: Touch the Earth Lightly (VU 307)

Sending: (Darlene)
Loving God,
As we leave this gathering,
let us work together so that our hands be instruments of restoration,
our voices advocates for justice,
and our lives a reflection of harmony with all living things.
Bless our steps,
that they may tread lightly upon the Earth
and lead others toward hope.
Amen.

Musical Sending: Big Yellow Taxi (by Joni Mitchell)

Thank you for joining in worship today ❤️

MERGING WATERS UNITED CHURCH
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Merging Waters
United Church
Welcome Grace Service Love
Community

April 26	Communion 📦 🍷
May 3	Intercultural #14 🗣️