

WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, March 17, 2024

PALM SUNDAY

LLWL Mae Bedford

A Warm Welcome to everyone worshipping with us today at Waterford United Church. May this time together be a blessing to you as you pause to praise God, to give thanks and to gather spiritual strength for the coming week. Please join us for **Coffee and Fellowship** after the service.

GATHERING

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

LIGHT THE CHRIST CANDLE

PALM SUNDAY CANDLE EXTINGUISHING

One: We have now experienced the five Sundays of Lent.

Two: **In that time, we have seen how God hears and accepts our laments, and how tests in the form of temptations can become a time to build resilience.**

One: We have seen a God who offers both forgiveness and abundance when we have the courage to let go and trust.

Two: **Today, we join a parade of celebration, one that will unfold much differently than we can imagine.**

(Extinguish the sixth candle.)

GATHERING HYMN: He Came Riding on a Donkey VU #124

OPENING PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Jesus came that barriers might be broken down, and all flesh see the glory of God. Hosanna! Unite us with all those who seek your way, O God.

HYMN: Beneath the Cross of Jesus VU #135

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

TIME FOR YOUNG AT HEART

SCRIPTURES:

1st SCRIPTURE: Psalm 118 (parts, 1, 3 & 4)

Diane Holden
VU #837

Refrain: Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

One: Let Israel now say:

All: **"God's love endures for ever."**

One: Let the house of Aaron say:

All: **"God's love endures for ever."**

One: Let those who fear God say:

All: **God's love endures for ever." (R)**

One: Open to me the gates of the temple, that I may enter and give thanks to God.

All: **This is the gate of God; through it the righteous shall enter.**

One: I thank you for you have answered me; you have become my salvation.

All: **The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.**

One: This is God's doing, marvellous in our eyes.

All: **This is the day that God has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it! (R)**

One: Save us, O God, we pray;

All: **God, we pray, give us success.**

One: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.

All: **We bless you from the house of God.**

One: God, our God, has given us light;

All: **With palm branches in hand let us march to the altar.**

One: You are my God, and I will thank you;

All: **You are my God, and I will extol you.**

2nd SCRIPTURE: Mark 11: 1 - 11

MUSIC MINISTRY: Laudate Dominum

MESSAGE

HYMN: Hosanna Loud Hosanna

VU #123

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERING:

Offertory: Jesus' Hands were Kind Hands VU #570

*Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all,
Healing pain and sickness, blessing children small,
Washing tired feet, and saving those who fall;
Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all.*

*Take my hands, O Jesus, let them work for you,
Make them strong and gentle, kind in all I do;
Let me watch you, Jesus, till I'm gentle too,
Till my hands are kind hands, quick to work for you.*

Prayer of Dedication:

God of the journey, we travel to Jerusalem knowing that it's noisy and a busy community. We gather with the crowds that we too might share the holy meal. In preparation, we present gifts – our very best and our very selves. May all we share be graciously received. In the name of the giving Christ. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND CONCERN

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*sung*) VU #960

WE ARE SENT FORTH AS GOD'S PEOPLE

CLOSING HYMN: All Glory Laud and Honour VU # 122

BENEDICTION

SUNG BLESSING: Wherever You May Go MVU #216

*Wherever you may go, I will follow, and your people shall be my people too.
Wherever you may go, I will follow, for I would be faithful, loyal and true.
Say the word and I will stay, I will never go away,
We will travel side by side and God's love will be our guide.
Wherever you may go, I will follow, and your people shall be my people too.
Wherever you may go, I will follow, for I would be faithful, loyal and true.
From the beginning to the end I will always be your friend,
When you need me, I'll be there, you can trust my faithful care.
Wherever you may go, I will follow, and your people shall be my people too.
Wherever you may go, I will follow, for I would be faithful, loyal and true.*

WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH

March 24, 2024

Worship Leader: LLWL Mae Bedford

Music: Chris Savory and Azrael Hackshaw



Today we are gathered in the traditional territories of several indigenous nations with gratitude. As settlers, we take on the responsibility of learning about historic and current relationships, and our desire to engage in building right relations. We are also mindful of broken covenant, and the need to commit ourselves to deep reconciliation and healing.

The Waterford United Church is a place where everyone is welcome regardless of their ability, age, class, ethnicity, gender, race, or sexual orientation.

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