



**WELCOME AND THANK YOU**  
to Rev. Mary Jo Patterson  
for leading today's Worship

**WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH**  
Sunday, April 14, 2024  
Rev. Mary Jo Patterson

**FUTURE MINISTRY** – At our last Official Board meeting with our Pastoral Charge Supervisor, Pastor Ted Smith, it was unanimously agreed **“that the Official Board pursue obtaining Intentional Interim Ministry for Waterford United Church.”** The Board along with Horseshoe Falls Region will be working diligently toward that goal in the coming weeks and months.

**PASTORAL CARE** – as we work toward a change in ministry, we are grateful to have ministry personnel who have offered emergent and ongoing pastoral care. We ask that you contact the office (or Cori during the month of April) if you know of someone who needs a phone call or visit.

**COFFEE HOUR SIGNUP** – Please sign up for coffee hour on the list posted in the auditorium. Dates go to the end of June. Any costs will be reimbursed, and we ask for people to take on the prep and cleanup.

**THE CHURCH OFFICE** will not be open during the month of April. However, the phone and email will be monitored regularly and Sundays' bulletins will continue to be prepared. Thanks to Jean and Cori who are covering for me!  
~ Diane

**SINCERE THANKS** to all for cards, thoughts and prayers for my surgery and recovery. I'm doing well and look forward to being back with you in the coming weeks.  
~ Diane

**OUTREACH SOUP LUNCH** will be held following next weeks service. Donations gratefully received. 50% goes to our M&S and 50% to a local charity. Please join us for food and fellowship. Please note our **MAY** soup lunch will be held a week later on May 26.

#### **UPCOMING APRIL SERVICES**

Sunday, April 14	Rev. Mary Jo Patterson
Sunday, April 21	Rev. Mary Jo Patterson
Sunday, April 28	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**

##### **GREETING**

Blessed are you who have not seen him, yet you truly believe and trust him.

#### **WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

##### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

We have been freed!

Fear and death have no claim on us!

Christ the Lord is risen!

Even though we have not touched his wounded hands, yet we believe.

Even though we have not heard him speak our names, yet we believe.

Let us celebrate God's love through the life of Jesus Christ. AMEN.

*(The Christ Candle is lit)*

**REFLECTIVE INTROIT:** Come Touch our Hearts

MVU #12

##### **OPENING PRAYER**

***Lord of Resurrection surprises, open our hearts this day to the presence of Jesus Christ. Erase our excuses for unbelief, and exchange them for strong witness to the power of your mercy and love. Give us courage and challenge us to walk the path of discipleship, knowing that Jesus goes before us, leading and guiding our steps. In his name, we pray: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy 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 thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.***

**OPENING HYMN:** The Day of Resurrection

VU #164

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

**GOSPEL READING:** Luke 24: 36 – 48

**THE MEDITATION:** Resurrection is Everywhere!

**RESPONSIVE HYMN:** You Tell Me That the Lord Is Risen

VU #185

**MUSIC MINISTRY** As the Deer Pants Psalm 42

VU#766

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**OFFERING:**

**Doxology:** Halle, Halle, Halle

VU #958

*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*

*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*

*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*

*Hallelujah, Hallelujah!*

**Prayer of Dedication:**

*Gracious God, your hand is open to us; from you we have learned to be Generous and surprising God, when we thought that death had claimed your only Son, you amazed us with the resurrection. Surprise us again with your ability to turn these humble offerings into gifts that will transform the world through our witness to your love. We lay our very lives at your feet, O God, knowing that you will use us to proclaim and embody the gospel. Amen.*

**WE ARE SENT FORTH AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

**CLOSING HYMN:** We Know That Christ Is Raised

VU # 448

**BENEDICTION**

**SUNG BLESSING** Wherever You May Go

MVU#216

*(The Christ Candle is extinguished)*

**WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH**

**April 14, 2024**

**Worship Leader: Rev. Mary Jo Patterson**

**Music: Chris Savory**



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*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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