

## WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, April 7, 2024

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

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

**One:** Welcome to this time of worship and blessing.

**All:** **We come to rejoice in the life-giving love of God.**

**One:** Today the table is set for us.

**All:** **Christ feeds the hungry with living bread and satisfies the thirsty.**

**One:** Praise be to God, now and always.

**All:** **Praise be to God, whose presence fills our hearts with peace and joy.**

**OPENING HYMN:** This Is the Day

VU #412

#### OPENING PRAYER

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

#### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*We always come into God's presence with nothing but ourselves and our attempts to follow Jesus in imperfect ways. Here we are greeted with God's gracious Word-taking what we offer and filling our emptiness with redeeming power. Receive the Holy Spirit and live now as God's forgiven and reconciled community of faith.*

**HYMN:** Spirit of the Living God

VU #376

## WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

#### SCRIPTURES:

read by Mae Bedford

**1<sup>st</sup> SCRIPTURE:** Psalm 16

VU #738

**Refrain: *Protect me, God: I trust in you.***

**One:** Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I have said to God, "You are my God; from you alone comes all my prosperity."

**All:** **All my delight is in the faithful who dwell in the land, and in those who excel in virtue.**

**One:** But as for those who run after other gods, their troubles shall be multiplied.

**All:** **Libations of blood I will not offer to those gods, nor will I take their names upon my lips. (R)**

**One:** You, God, are my allotted portion and my cup;

**All:** **you yourself have cast my lot.**

**One:** My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;

**All:** **Indeed I have a noble heritage.**

**One:** I will thank you, God, for giving me counsel;

**All:** **at night also you teach my heart.**

**One:** I keep you always before me;

**All:** **you are on my right hand, therefore I shall not fall. (R)**

**One:** So my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; for my body shall also rest in safety.

**All:** **For you will not surrender me to the Grave, nor suffer your beloved to see the Abyss.**

**One:** You will show me the path of life.

**All:** **In your presence is fullness of joy; and from your right hand flow delights for evermore. (R)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> SCRIPTURE:** John 20: 19 - 31

#### MUSIC MINISTRY

#### MESSAGE

**HYMN:** My Faith Looks Up to Thee

VU #663

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**OFFERING:**

**Offertory:** What Can I Do? MVU #191  
*What can I do? What can I bring? What can I say? What can I sing?  
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer. I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.*

**Prayer of Dedication:**

*Gracious God, your hand is open to us; from you we have learned to be generous. As we open our hearts and hands to you now, receive these gifts and multiply them, so they may bless others. May our giving always bring glory to you. Amen.*

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND CONCERN**

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

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

**CLOSING HYMN:** One More Step Along the World I Go VU # 639

**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.*

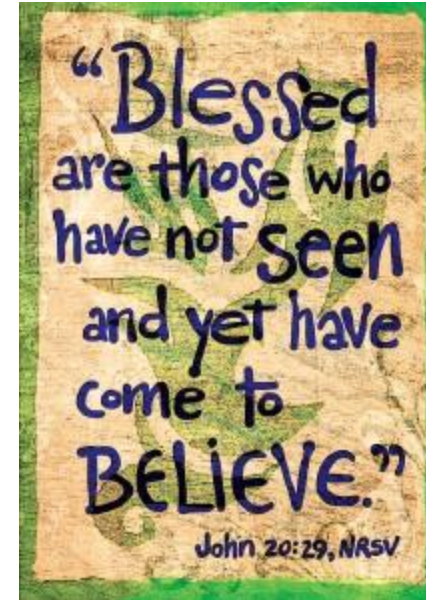
*From the beginning to the end I will always be your friend,  
When you need me, I'll be there, you can trust my faithful care.  
Wherever you may go, I will follow, and your people shall be my people too.  
Wherever you may go, I will follow, for I would be faithful, loyal and true.*

**WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH**

**April 7, 2024**

**Worship Leader: LLWL Mae Bedford**

**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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Church Phone: 519-443-5261

Church Webpage: [www.waterfordunitedchurch.org](http://www.waterfordunitedchurch.org)

Office Administrator, Diane Holden [wucsecretary@bellnet.ca](mailto:wucsecretary@bellnet.ca)

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**WELCOME AND THANK YOU  
to LLWL Mae Bedford  
for leading today's Worship**

**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.

**PRAYERS** – please keep the family and friends of Kim Moverley in your prayers. Kim passed away this week and her life will be celebrated on April 20 at the Waterford Royal Canadian Legion Branch 123 from 2 to 5 p.m.

**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.

**FREE SOUP SUPPER** – Wednesday, April 10 at 5:00 p.m. ALL WELCOME!!

**THE BOOK CLUB** will meet after church TODAY to discuss “The Alice Network” by Kate Quinn. If you still need a copy of the book, please see Janet Snow.

**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

**UPCOMING APRIL SERVICES**

Sunday, April 7            LLWL Mae Bedford  
Sunday, April 14        Rev. Mary Jo Patterson  
Sunday, April 21        Rev. Mary Jo Patterson  
Sunday, April 28        LLWL Mae Bedford



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