

WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH
June 30, 2024
INDIGENOUS SUNDAY

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

SILENCE:

As we sit with our eyes closed and, in the silence, let us sense the Spirit of God moving among us, around us, between us, embracing each of us with love, gentleness and longing.

SMUDGING and PRAYER

Cori Angus

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: We gather to share in the Creator's gift of abundant life for all.

All: We fix ourselves on you, Creator.

One: Come fill our hearts with your endless love, and send the wind of your Spirit to new hope through our lives.

All: Come light our souls to rise in faith, to reach out for your kingdom.

One: Come pour out your Spirit upon us as we stand together as brothers and sisters.

All: Lift up our heads, brush away the shadows, and shine your grace into our minds.

One: So, Creator, we rise to worship, we shake off the shackles of a fallen world and join our hearts together.

All: With gratitude we gather as a community in praise of Creator, to seek transformation and to celebrate the power of your Spirit that is always moving. (Christ candle is lit)

PRAYER TO THE FOUR DIRECTIONS –

Chief Seattle, Leader of the Suquamish and Duwamish Nations

Great Spirit of Light, come to me out of the East (*yellow*) with the power of the rising sun. Let there be light in my words, let there be light on my path that I walk. Let me remember always that you give the gift of a new day. And never let me be burdened with sorrow by not starting over again.

Great Spirit of Love, come to me with the power of the North (*white*). Make me courageous when the cold wind falls upon me. Give me strength and endurance for everything that is harsh, everything that hurts, everything that makes me squint. Let me move through life ready to take what comes from the north.

Great Life-Giving Spirit, I face the West (*black*), the direction of sundown. Let me remember every day that the moment will come when my sun will go down. Never let me forget that I must fade into you. Give me a beautiful colour, give me a great sky for setting so that when it is my time to meet you, I can come with glory.

Great Spirit of Creation, send me the warm and soothing winds from the South (*red*). Comfort me and caress me when I am tired and cold. Unfold me like the gentle breezes that unfold the leaves on the trees. As you give to all the earth your warm, moving wind, give to me, so that I may grow close to you in warmth.

Humanity did not create the web of life, we are but a strand in it. Whatever humanity does to the web, we do to ourselves. We ask this in Creator's name who taught us to pray....

Sung LORD'S PRAYER in Lenape Language

OPENING HYMN: Creator, We Gather

VU #532

YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART TIME: Moccasin

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

SILENCE AS WE PREPARE TO HEAR GOD'S LIVING WORD FOR US THIS DAY.

THE SCRIPTURE READING: Mark 5: 21 – 43

THE MEDITATION: "Embodying the Teachings"

HYMN: Spirit of Gentleness

VU #375

PRAYERS:

God, Creator and Great Mystery, we praise you this day for the gifts you have provided your people.

We lift our people up for healing comfort and your compassion.

We pray for the missing and murdered women, young girls, men, and boys of your people.

May they be wrapped in your arms of comfort.

We pray for the families of the missing and murdered, that they receive comfort in their loss.

We pray for our warriors who fight against the injustices our people endure; we pray they have your compassionate ear; we pray for strength and endurance for them.

We pray just as the Elders prayed, for renewal and for the restoration of beauty to the land and its people.

We pray for Mother Earth, the waters, the winds, for our siblings the animals, birds, and fish, and all of life that surrounds us.

We pray that we will walk the good Red Road of life, and that we will walk with courage, honesty, humility, love, respect, truth, and wisdom.

We offer this prayer in humility and hope and in the name of our brother Jesus, the one who lights our path to wholeness, justice, and peace. Amen.

OFFERING:

Doxology: Christ Has No Body (vs. 1 & 4) MVU#171

Offering Prayer:

We give these gifts freely, we receive these gifts gratefully. We dedicate these gifts to the work of our congregation: serving human wholeness, caring for our planet, upholding religious freedom, welcoming the stranger, loving one another.

CLOSING HYMN: Jesus Christ is Waiting VU #117

CLOSING BLESSING:

May our footsteps on these ancient lands remind us of creation and connectedness, in our search for truth.

May the trees from their roots to their branches, remind us to dig deep and reach high, in our action for justice.

May the Eagle, who soars in the sky, remind us of the power, in our call for love.

May the expanse of the lands and seas, of the sky and stars, remind us of God's timing in our faith in hope.

May the Holy Three, Creator Spirit, Lord God, and Brother Jesus, remind us of community.

So with grace, mercy, and peace, go in truth, justice, love, and hope.

(The Christ Candle is extinguished)

WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH

June 30, 2024

Worship Leader: Rev. Mary Jo Patterson

Music: Chris Savory



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.

Church Phone: 519-443-5261

Church Webpage: www.waterfordunitedchurch.org

Office Administrator, Diane Holden wucsecretary@bellnet.ca

Treasurer, Kimberly Holden wuctreasurer@bellnet.ca

Church Bookings, Cori Angus 519-443-8212 or 519-802-2401



SUMMER ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

PASTORAL CARE – We ask that you contact the office if you know of someone who needs a phone call or visit.

TRANSITION TEAM - As part of the process in the search for **Intentional Interim Ministry**, we invite anyone interested in joining a Transition Team of 4 to 6 people to voice their interest to our Pastoral Charge Supervisor, Ted Smith, via email at treedigger2004@yahoo.ca or via phone at 519-861-9273 or by leaving a message at the church office at 519-443-5261 ASAP. We are anxious to get under way!!

UPCOMING SERVICES

Sunday, July 7	LLWL Heather King
Sunday, July 14	Rev. Tessica Hackshaw
Sunday, July 21	Rev. Tessica Hackshaw
Sunday, July 28	Rev. Tessica Hackshaw

GOOD USED FRIDGE NEEDED – Please contact Carol Goff if you have a good used fridge you would like to get rid of to give to someone in need.

My Daily Minute
Submitted by Debra Leedham

This bible verse seems to speak about what our church is going through in our search for Ministry:

“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.” Jeremiah 29: 11



The month of June starts a year of the United Church's 100th anniversary—an opportunity to honour our past and look to the future!

The theme for the Centennial is [Deep, Bold, Daring](#). One of the first “united” churches in the world, from its formation the United Church has been rooted in:

Deep Spirituality

The words of Jesus' prayer that the disciples be one

Bold Discipleship

The belief that what unites us is stronger than our differences

Daring Justice

The desire to live out the gospel call to love and justice in Canada and around the world

June 10, 2025 marks the hundredth anniversary of the beginning of the United Church of Canada. On that day representatives from the Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregationalist churches got together in the Mutual Street Arena in Toronto to formalize the union of their three churches. This was the outcome of people from these churches working together, during the years preceding 1925, on common programmes. This cooperation was especially true in western Canada.

In this hundredth year, leading up to June 10, 2025, the Archives group of Waterford United Church plan to tell you some of the stories from the history of the United Church of Canada. Our stories will appear in the church bulletin, and will begin in July 2024.

We realize that we will not be covering the entire history of the United Church of Canada, but we hope that we will be choosing topics which interest you.

Watch for the first story. It will be coming up in July 2024.