

**Prayer of Dedication: (together)**

Lord of love and compassion, bless these gifts given in person and by PAR . Help us to use them for ministries of hope and healing, through our church and into our community, nation and the world. AMEN.

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND CONCERN  
LORD'S PRAYER**

**WE TAKE CHRIST'S MESSAGE INTO THE WORLD**

**HYMN:** For the Fruit of All Creation

VU # 227

**BENEDICTION:**

Go out from here into whatever labour God calls you to do. Go knowing you are gifted, talented and loved. Go knowing that whatever God calls you to do, God has already given you the skills you need.

**PARTING SONG:** Go now in Peace



**Waterford United Church  
September 1, 2024 - Labour Day Sunday  
Heather King, Licenced Lay Worship Leader**

**MUSICAL PRELUDE  
LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**GATHERING HYMN:** (*seated*) Come and Find the Quiet Centre VU #374

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

One: God said, "Six days you shall labour and do all your work,

All: **But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord."**

One: Jesus said, "Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden,

All: **And I will give you rest."**

One: We come in the name of the Spirit, resting from our labours,

All: **Let us worship God this day!**

**OPENING PRAYER:** ( together)

**Worker God, whose hands built the earth, created our bodies, and sowed the stars across the sky, we gather in your presence this morning with praise and thanksgiving for your mighty deeds. Meet us here, Worker God; strengthen our hearts and our hands to work with you in the building of a world filled with love, justice and peace.**

*Source: The United Church of Christ*

**OPENING HYMN:** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

VU # 220

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

**TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART**

**A PRAYER OF BLESSING FOR LABOUR DAY:** ( together)

Bless the work of our hands, O God.

Bless the hands that work the land;  
hands that move earth, plant seeds and harvest,  
hands with callouses and dirty fingernails, strong hands.

Bless the hands that use machines;  
hands that drive cars, trucks and forklifts, fire trucks and ambulances,  
hands on computer keyboards, capable hands.

Bless the hands that make things;  
hands that manufacture and create,  
working with wood and metal, fabric and plastic, practical hands.

Bless the hands that clean;  
hands that wash, mop and scrub,  
hands that know what to do with soap, determined hands.

Bless the hands that make music and art;  
hands that play instruments and hold paintbrushes,  
hands that are creative tools, artistic hands.

Bless the hands that care for people;  
hands that cook and feed, heal and nurture, teach and guide,  
hands with a gentle touch, loving hands.

Bless the hands that are generous;  
hands that give away money and food, Christ-like hands.

Bless the hands that are folded in prayer.  
Bless the hands that are lifted in praise.  
Help Our hands do the work of your hands,  
O God our Creator. Amen.

*Written by Carol Penner*

**HYMN:** Open My Eyes, That I May See

VU # 371

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:** O Lord. Be with us as we listen for your word and seek your ways. Guide our steps and guard our lives that we may serve you more effectively. AMEN.

**RESPONSIVE PSALM:** Psalm 15

VU # 736

**Response:** Within your holy place, O God, Who shall a dweller be?

One: God, who may be a guest in your house,

**All:** or who may dwell on your holy mountain? (R)

One: One who leads a blameless life,

**All:** who does what is right, who speaks truthfully from the heart;

One: one whose tongue is free from malice,

**All:** who never wrongs a friend, who utters no reproach against a neighbour;

One: one who cannot respect the unworthy, but honours those who fear God;

**All:** who stands by a promise given, though it be to personal disadvantage;

One: one who will not take interest on a loan, nor accept a bribe to testify against the innocent.

**All:** Whoever does this shall never be overthrown. (R)

**GOSPEL READING:** Romans 12: 9-21 (from The Message)  
(Love in Action)

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC:**

**REFLECTION:**

**HYMN:** I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

VU # 575

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**INVITATION OF THE OFFERING**

As God has blessed our lives with abundant love and gifts, let us bring our offerings to this place, seeking to help others, to offer comfort and hope. Let us receive our morning offering.

**Offering Response:** Praise God from whom all blessings flow VU # 541

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

praise God, all creatures high and low;

give thanks to God in love made known:

Creator, Word and Spirit, One.



## Announcements

WELCOME and THANK YOU TO  
HEATHER KING LLWL for leading today's Worship

### UPCOMING SERVICES

Sunday, September 8 Rev. Randy MacKenzie  
Sunday September 15 Cori Angus  
Sunday September 22 Outreach  
Sunday September 29 Rev. Randy MacKenzie

Cori has asked that you send or give her the name of your favourite flower and your most disliked weed by September 11. They can be sent to the office at 519-443-5261, [wucsecretary@bellnet.ca](mailto:wucsecretary@bellnet.ca) or to 519-802-2401.

**OUTREACH - Hello September.** The fall programs will be starting up soon. Our first Soup Supper will be held on Wednesday, September 11 at 5pm. All are welcome. There will also be a Soup Lunch after church on Sunday September 15th

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**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)  
Treasurer, Kimberly Holden [wuctreasurer@bellnet.ca](mailto:wuctreasurer@bellnet.ca)  
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