

**WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH**  
**October 27, 2024 – ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY**  
Rev. Lena Medeiros

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**GATHERING SONG:** Make A Joyful Noise VU #820

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE** Andrea Borsy

**TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Today we are gathered on 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.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

We are grateful for our many years of being a community of faith.

**We come to worship with joy.**

We are mindful of the needs of our community and of the whole Body of Christ.

**We come to worship with compassion.**

We are unsure of the impact of a fast-changing world will bring to our church.

**We come to worship in hope.**

On this anniversary Sunday, we are certain of the steadfast love of God.

**Let us worship God!**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Let us greet one another with the Peace of Christ.

**TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART**

**HYMN:** Great Is Thy Faithfulness

VU #288

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

God of light,

**let your Holy Spirit come into our darkness**

**and open our hearts,**

that your word may show us

**the blessings you intend for all creation. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READING 1:** 1 Corinthians 13: 1–13 Andrea Borsy

**Reader:** Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SCRIPTURE READING 2:** Psalm 78, Part 1 VU #792

**SCRIPTURE READING 3:** Mark 8: 27–29 Andrea Borsy

**Reader:** May God bless to our understanding  
this reading from the Holy Scriptures.

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC:** Lead Us On O Lord

*Written in honour of the anniversary of Waterford United Church building by  
Don Besig and Nancy Price*

**REFLECTION:** “Anniversary”

**HYMN:** My Love Colours Outside the Lines

MVU #138

**ANNIVERSARY PRAYER**

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**Sung Dedication:** 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.

**Offertory Prayer:**

We bring before you, God, the gifts of our hearts,

**a reflection of the lives that we live as followers of Jesus.**

Through these gifts

**we renew our commitment of faith, hope and love.**

Bless us and our gifts that they may transform the world Christ loves. **Amen.**

### **SENDING FORTH: A New Creed**

We are not alone; we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the Church:**

**to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

**We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**

**CLOSING HYMN:** Go to the World

VU #420

### **BENEDICTION**

**CHORAL CLOSE:** The Lord Bless and Keep You

The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord make His face to shine on you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you,

And give you peace, and give you peace.

Amen.

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**Change to Rev. Lena's office hours this week:** Please note that Rev. Lena will be working from home the week of October 28 in order to attend the virtual Interim Ministry Network Conference. Her office hours will resume on Tuesday, November 5. You can, of course, still call, text or email her.

**Update from Transition Team:** The Transition Team met on Tuesday, October 22. Discussions included reflections on what biblical character/story most reflects Waterford's situation now (Noah and the Israelites came to mind), as well as the difference between transparency, confidentiality and secrecy. The Team appointed Greg Strachan as the Team's representative on the Official Board, and Elaine Woloshyn will assume the role of Chair of the Transition Team until April 2025. The next Transition Team meeting will be on November 6@ 11:00.

## **WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH**

**October 27, 2024**

**Worship Leader: Rev. Lena Medeiros**

**Music: Chris Savory**



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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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## LEAD US ON, O LORD

*Don Besig and Nancy Price*

*Commissioned by the Waterford United Church Choir in 2005*

*In honour of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Church Building*

Oh, sisters and brothers, join one another. Sing out with joy and praise the Lord.  
In celebration, with jubilation, sing out with glory to the Lord.

We are gathered here today Lord, to worship and to pray,  
And to hear again the promise of Your Word.  
In this fellowship we share, Lord, Your love is everywhere;  
And we find the hope to face this troubled world.  
Lead us on, O Lord help us walk within Your light.  
Lead us on, O Lord make us worthy in Your sight.  
As we celebrate our faith, as we serve You every day  
Lead us on, O Lord. Lead us on!

We are grateful for this place where we find your loving grace,  
And for those who had the vision to believe.  
Help us learn to work as one. Help us do as they have done,  
And go out and share the gifts that we receive.  
Lead us on, O Lord help us walk within Your light.  
Lead us on, O Lord make us worthy in Your sight.  
As we celebrate our faith, as we serve You every day  
Lead us on, O Lord. Lead us on!

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OUTREACH SOUP LUNCH** – Join us for an Outreach soup lunch after the service  
**TODAY** in celebration of Anniversary Sunday.

**SCRIPTURE READERS AND CANDLE LIGHTERS REQUIRED!!** See Diane or Cori.

**OUTREACH OUDOOR PANTRY** – With colder weather coming, please consider a  
cash donation or a non-perishable food donation to our Outdoor Pantry. There is a  
drop off container conveniently located in the gym.

**New Members** are also welcome to our Outreach Team. See Marilyn if interested.

**TIME CHANGE** – remember to “fall back” one hour next Saturday night!

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## Anniversary – Waterford United Church - October 27, 2024

Today we are celebrating the 206<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Waterford United Church.

Our church was started in 1818 by a saddlebag Methodist preacher from the United States. His name was Alvin Torry- Alvin Torry was a probationer (minister in training) with the Methodist Church. He and a number of probationers crossed the border from the United States at Niagara. We are fortunate that he left behind an autobiography in which he described his pastoral work in Upper Canada. The following is a quote from that document:

“Here (at Niagara) I took leave of my brethren, they going north, and I bearing off to the west. I still had over sixty miles to travel before reaching my Circuit (which was in the Long Point area), and among entire strangers; but I found them very kind and hospitable as those of my native state.

“When within about twelve miles of Vittoria (the District capital), I entered a small valley where was a little village, called Lodersville (later renamed to Waterford); it had received its name from a wealthy merchant (Job Loder) who owned a large distillery there. He had in his employ and under his control a large number of men. Neither the merchant nor his men professed religion... (However) there was a partially finished church building standing in the village, started by Methodists and Presbyterians. (By 1818), the building had been abandoned.

“My experience in the work of the ministry was small; for I was not yet twenty-one, but my (superior) said I must consider myself in charge “I resolved to visit the people of Lodersville (again). An appointment for preaching in the old unfinished church had been given out, and when I entered I found a respectable and intelligent congregation were assembled. I stepped upon a platform, knelt down, prayed and sang some appropriate verses. While singing, I found I had gained their attention and during my sermon I saw the truth had taken hold of the hearts of many in the congregation and I knew the Lord would save his people.”

We know Alvin Torry’s visits happened in 1818 but we do not know the actual month or day each of them happened. However our congregation’s anniversary has traditionally been held in October. Waterford Methodist Church became part of the United Church of Canada when the United Church was formed in 1925.

**Happy Anniversary Waterford United Church.**