

WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH
February 2, 2025 – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Rev. Lena Medeiros

PRELUDE
WELCOME

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

GATHERING SONG: I Am the Light of the World VU #87

GATHERING PRAYER

What does the Lord require of us?

With what shall we come before God on high?

This is what God requires of us:

To do justice, love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.

Let us worship God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of life, we admit to you and to each other

that we have not always lived lives of love.

We have lost patience and been rude.

We have been irritable and insisted on our own way.

We have even let love end.

Forgive us and heal us, dear God,

we pray through Jesus Christ, your love incarnate. **Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

HYMN: There Is a Balm in Gilead VU #612

SPIRIT SIGHTINGS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Spirit of life, God of love,

open our hearts and enter in,

that hearing your word of love,

we may become your love for others. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Wayne Kennington

SCRIPTURE 1: Jeremiah 1: 4 – 10

SCRIPTURE READING 2: Psalm 71: 1 – 6 (part 1) VU #789

Refrain: A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.

In you, O God, I seek refuge; may I never be disappointed.

In your righteousness, save & rescue me; incline your ear and deliver me.

Be a sheltering rock for me, a fortress where I may find safety;

For you are my rock and my stronghold.

Rescue me, O God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.

For you are my hope, my trust from my youth; from the time of my birth I have leaned on you. (R)

SCRIPTURE READING 3: Luke 4: 21 – 30

Reader: This is the Good News of Jesus Christ.

All: Praise to Christ, the Word.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Father Hear Me While I Pray James L. Moses
arr Geoff Snow

REFLECTION

HYMN: I, the Lord of Sea and Sky VU #509

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & CONCERN

THE LORD'S PRAYER (sung) VU #959

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Jesus said: "When you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift." The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another with the Peace of Christ.

SUNG DEDICATION: For the Fruit of All Creation (vs. 1) VU #227

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.

For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.

For the ploughing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping, future needs in earth's safe keeping, thanks be to God.

SENDING FORTH

CLOSING HYMN: Will Your Anchor Hold

VU #675

BENEDICTION

CHORAL CLOSE: You Shall Go Out with Joy

VU #884

*You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
The mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
There'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field
Will clap, will clap their hands!
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands,
The trees of the field will clap their hands,
The trees of the field will clap their hands
While you go out with joy.*

POSTLUDE



REV. LENA'S FEBRUARY SCHEDULE:

Week of February 3	working from home
February 10 and 12	working at the church
Week of February 17	Working from home
February 25 and 26	working at the church

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER this year celebrates the Cook Islands and will be held at Waterford United Church on March 7, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

All are welcome!

A meeting of the WDOP group will be held on February 3 at 1:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH

February 2, 2025

Worship Leader: Rev. Lena Medeiros

Music: Chris Savory



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

Rev. Lena Medeiros: Phone/Text: 416-272-8134 / email: rev.lena.ucc@gmail.com

Office Administrator, Diane Holden wucsecretary@bellnet.ca

Treasurer, Kimberly Holden wuctreasurer@bellnet.ca

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

YOUTH GROUPS IN THE CHURCH

Continuing our monthly series of stories from the history of the United Church of Canada and the local Waterford United Church over the past 100 years, we would like to focus this month on some of the youth groups within the church. This theme seems to follow logically after last month's stories about the Sunday School.

When the United Church was formed in 1925, it inherited several active youth groups. One coming from the Methodist Church was the Epworth League, named after John Wesley's home town of Epworth in England. In 1928, after Church union, the youth group was renamed to Young Peoples Christian Union. During the 1950s, youth met in their own churches. The leader at Waterford United Church was the minister and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. Shaw. Also teens from area United Churches met over six week periods to study various topics. The teens enjoyed these studies because it was a chance to be with others of similar interests from the area, and to socialize. Meetings would include sing-songs, worship, games and refreshments.

In 1973 the groups were renamed again and simply known as the Young People. Leaders were David and Diane Plumb. The group was very active, with various events and programs, such as a trip to see Godspell in Toronto. The Young People also assisted the UCW in operating their fudge booth at the Norfolk Fair. It conducted some church services, and for a time, held the Easter Sunrise service at Peacock Point. Later on, the group was led by Wayne Kennington and Chris Savory.

For several years there was a very active Junior Choir that would sing regularly as part of the worship service, led by Mary Beard and Diane Holden.

In the early 1990s, Ed Turner organized the first Youth Group canoe trip into Killarney Provincial Park. Ed had a cottage on the northern boundary of the park and this was used as a jumping-off for the canoe trips into the Park. The trip became an annual tradition and ran for several years. A few adults attended as well

Confirmation classes were held led by Margot Fournier, Lisa Marr assisted by the minister to prepare young people to become full church members. Class members would lead in the worship service at which they were confirmed.

The Explorers and GGIT were very active groups as well, but more on them in the next story about our United Church in Waterford.

We realize that we will not be covering our entire history, but we hope that we will be choosing topics that interest you.

Source: Waterford United Church: A History - by various writers, published by Waterford United Church, 2002

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