

**WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH**  
January 12, 2025 – Baptism of Jesus  
Rev. Lena Medeiros

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**GATHERING SONG:** There's a Voice in the Wilderness VU #18

**GATHERING PRAYER**

All who thirst, come to the water and drink deeply of these living streams.

Come, all who are weary; come, all who yearn for forgiveness.

**As the waters of the Jordan washed over Jesus,  
so the Holy Spirit washed over you and me.**

Our gracious God beckons and blesses us.

**Let us give praise for new life in Christ.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Light has come into the world

**but we love the night.**

Love has come into the world

**but we continue to hate.**

Grace has come into the world

**but we cannot forgive.**

Hope has come into the world

**but we are surrounded by despair.**

New life has come into the world

**but we are tired.**

Peace has come into the world

**but conflict continues.**

Joy has come into the world

**but we are sad.**

Judge us, O God, by your gracious love.

Forgive us, O God, and set us free. **Amen.**

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**HYMN:** Precious Lord, Take My Hand VU #670

**SPIRIT SIGHTINGS**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

God offers to us, through prophets and apostles,  
words of life which in faith become the Living Word.

**Let us listen for that Word.**

**SCRIPTURES**

Marilyn Antkiw

**Scripture Reading 1:** Isaiah 43: 1 – 7

**Scripture Reading 2:** Psalm 29

VU #756

**Refrain: *Glory, glory, glory to our God!***

**Scripture Reading 3:** Luke 3: 15 – 17, 21 – 22

**Reader:** This is the Good News of Jesus Christ.

**All: Praise to Christ, the Word.**

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC:** As the Deer Pants for the Water VU #766

**REFLECTION:**



**HYMN:** I Have Called You by Your Name

MVU #161

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**Sung Dedication:** In the Bleak Midwinter (vs. 4) VU #55

*What can I give him, poor as I am?*

*If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;*

*If I were a wise man, I would do my part;*

*Yet what I can I give him – give my heart.*

## PRAYER RESPONSE

Mothering Spirit,  
stir us with your power.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come,  
your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread;  
forgive us our sins, as we forgive  
those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN:** How Firm a Foundation

VU #660

## BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, who stood with sinners on the river bank, uphold you. **Amen.**

May the love of God, who calls us beloved children, bless you. **Amen.**

May the power of the Holy Spirit, who descended upon Jesus as a dove, give you peace. **Amen.**

**CHORAL CLOSE:** Go Now in Peace, Guided by the Light MVU #211

*Go now in peace, guided by the light of Christ,  
So you may be nourished by the Word of Life.*

## POSTLUDE

## WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH

January 12, 2025

**Worship Leader: Rev. Lena Medeiros**

**Music: Chris Savory**



## BAPTISM OF JESUS

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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)

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## *Announcements*

### **REV. LANA'S JANUARY SCHEDULE:**

January 14 and 15	working at the church
January 21 and 22	working from home
January 28 and 29	working at the church

### **THE OUTREACH SOUP SUPPER (Loaves of Bread)**

Wednesday, January 15 at 5:00 p.m.  
All are welcome!

### **OUTREACH SOUP LUNCH**

Sunday, January 26

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** this year celebrates the Cooke Islands and will be held at Waterford United Church on March 27, 2025.

A meeting of those interested in participating will be held at WUC, in the parlour on January 22, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. to plan out the service and assign roles. Those interested can contact me (Joyce Stover) via text or call 519-429-8672 and you will be included. Those who have participated before know that this is an empowering event. Peace has to be practiced now more than ever and the prayers articulated by women most particularly. If you cannot take a planning role, please come and bring your friends and join in the hope.

**FREE CONCERT** - Friday, January 31, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. featuring the talents of **Pianists Stuart and Eric Eigler**. Please join us to enjoy the beautiful acoustics of our church sanctuary. Light refreshments follow.



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