

WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH
January 26, 2025
Third Sunday after Epiphany
Rev. Lena Medeiros

PRELUDE
WELCOME

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

GATHERING SONG: It's a Song of Praise to the Maker MVU #30

GATHERING PRAYER

God built the heavens, the earth, and everything in them.

God calls us to be builders as well.

God calls us to build our lives:

to restore broken places and continue to grow.

God calls us to build our faith:

to study the Word and ponder its interpretation.

God calls us to build our community:

to build bridges of understanding and systems of justice.

God calls us to build history by fulfilling the promises of Scripture:

to preach the good news of God's love and liberation for all people.

Let us worship our God with faithfulness and joy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

HYMN: How Great Thou Art

VU #238

SPIRIT SIGHTINGS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

By the power of your Holy Spirit, O God,

at work in the word read and proclaimed,

make the words of our mouths

and the meditations of our hearts acceptable to you,

our Rock and Redeemer. Amen.

SCRIPTURES

Scripture Reading 1: Nehemiah 8: 1 – 3, 5 – 6, 8 – 10

Scripture Reading 2: Luke 4: 14 – 21

Reader: This is the Good News of Jesus Christ.

All: Praise to Christ, the Word.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: God, Whose Almighty Word

VU #313

REFLECTION: "Watergate"

HYMN: I Come with Joy

VU #477

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING and CONCERN

THE LORD'S PRAYER (sung)

VU #959

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

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

The Spirit is still at work among us, disciples of Christ,

sending us to bring good news to the poor,

to proclaim release to those in captivity,

to be healers and a freedom force against

all oppression,

Go boldly as disciples, trusting in the Spirit's guidance.

CLOSING HYMN: Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

VU #563

BENEDICTION

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



Announcements

REV. LENA'S JANUARY SCHEDULE:

January 28 and 29 working at the church

OUTREACH SOUP LUNCH

TODAY – please plan to stay after the worship service for some fellowship over a hot lunch and to support Outreach initiatives.

THE OFFICIAL BOARD will meet on Tuesday, February 11 at 7:00 p.m. All Committee/Team chairs or a representative are encouraged to attend.

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

A meeting of those interested in participating will be held at WUC, in the sanctuary on February 3 at 1:00 p.m. to plan out the service and assign roles. 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.

WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH

January 26, 2025

Worship Leader: Rev. Lena Medeiros

Music: Joe Calverley



Luke 4: 14 – 21

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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