

WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH
February 16, 2025 – Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
Rev. Lena Medeiros

PRELUDE
WELCOME

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

GATHERING SONG: This Is the Day VU #412

GATHERING PRAYER

Wondrous God: you touch our lives with healing and with justice;
new life is your gift.
We praise you for the Good News that is ours through Jesus Christ.
May this time of worship nourish us
with your promise of meaning and purpose.
May we be empowered
to carry your goodness into the coming week.
We pray in Jesus' name, our Source and Saviour. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, your call to discipleship is demanding.
You call us to reorder our lives by the kingdom you are bringing in Jesus Christ.
Yet we still pass by the ones you especially notice:
people who are poor and hungry;
people who weep.
We have not stood with those who are hated, bullied, and excluded.
Comfortable with the way things are,
we are too complacent, even complicit with injustice and prejudice.
Forgive us, O God,
and turn us back to your gospel.
We pray this now, for our sake, and for the sake of your world; through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

HYMN: In Christ There Is No East or West

VU #606

SPIRIT SIGHTINGS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O God, let your Word now flow into us
that we might flourish—
bearing gospel fruit for a hungry world.
In the name of Jesus, the Living Word, we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURES

SCRIPTURE READING 1: Jeremiah 17: 5 – 10

SCRIPTURE READING 2: Psalm 1

VU #724

Refrain: Blessed are those who follow the law of God.

Blessed are those who do not follow the counsel of the wicked, or linger in the way of sinners, or sit down among those who mock
But their delight is in the law of God, and on that law they meditate day and night.

They are like trees planted beside streams of water, yielding their fruit in due season.

Their leaves do not wither, and whatever they produce shall prosper. (R)

As for the wicked, it is not so with them,

But they are like the chaff, driven away by the wind.

Therefore the wicked shall not be able to stand when judgement comes, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

For God watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. (R)

SCRIPTURE READING 3: Luke 6: 17 – 26

Reader: May God bless to our understanding these readings from the Holy Scriptures.

All: Amen.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

REFLECTION: "Colour Theory"

HYMN: Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

VU #375

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND CONCERN

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

SUNG DEDICATION: Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow VU #541

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise all creatures high and low;
Give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.*

SENDING FORTH

CLOSING HYMN: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah VU #651

BENEDICTION

CHORAL CLOSE: Go Now in Peace Don Besig / Nancy Price

*Go now in peace, never be afraid,
God will go with you each hour of every day,
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true,
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe
Reach out to others so all the world can see,
God will be there watching from above,
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love. Amen. Amen. Amen.*

POSTLUDE



WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH

February 16, 2025

Worship Leader: Rev. Lena Medeiros

Music: Azrael Hackshaw



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REV. LENA'S FEBRUARY SCHEDULE:

Week of February 17 working from home
February 25 and 26 working at the church



PRAYERS – Please keep Muriel Stetler and her family in your prayers as they mourn the sudden passing of her grandson, Jason Thompson.

BOOK CLUB – will meet after church on Sunday, March 2 to discuss “Cutting for Stone.” Please come with a request for our next book.

THE SOUP LUNCH will be held on Sunday, February 23. **Please note date change.** Come to enjoy fellowship along with a hot meal to support Outreach initiatives.

CONGREGATION MEETING, FEBRUARY 23

There will be a congregation meeting on February 23 at 12:30. The meeting will be held in the sanctuary following the soup luncheon. The purpose of the meeting is for the Transition Team to present their 2025 project plan and to clarify and update Waterford's governance structure.

OUTREACH MEETING – March 3 at 10 a.m. **(note time change)** Anybody wishing to attend is welcome! More hands make light work!

HONOURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH: February is Black History (or African Heritage) Month, officially recognized in Canada since 1995. This is a time to honour the contributions and struggles of peoples of African descent in the UCC, Canada and around the world.

FROM HORSESHOE FALLS: PROVINCIAL ELECTION, FEBRUARY 27

With all that is going on across the country and around the world, there are concerns that many people may not engage with this election. For Christians, participation in democratic elections is one way to act on our faith. For more information, go to the UCC's website on Faith and Politics:
<https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/get-involved/faith-and-politics>.

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!

CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES is holding a **blood donor clinic** at the Waterford Legion on Friday, February 21 from 2 – 7 pm. See the bulletin board for details on booking your appointment!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REV. LENA'S FEBRUARY SCHEDULE:

Week of February 17 working from home
February 25 and 26 working at the church



PRAYERS – Please keep Muriel Stetler and her family in your prayers as they mourn the sudden passing of her grandson, Jason Thompson.

BOOK CLUB – will meet after church on Sunday, March 2 to discuss “Cutting for Stone.” Please come with a request for our next book.

THE SOUP LUNCH will be held on Sunday, February 23. **Please note date change.** Come to enjoy fellowship along with a hot meal to support Outreach initiatives.

CONGREGATION MEETING, FEBRUARY 23

There will be a congregation meeting on February 23 at 12:30. The meeting will be held in the sanctuary following the soup luncheon. The purpose of the meeting is for the Transition Team to present their 2025 project plan and to clarify and update Waterford's governance structure.

OUTREACH MEETING – March 3 at 10 a.m. **(note time change)** Anybody wishing to attend is welcome! More hands make light work!

HONOURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH: February is Black History (or African Heritage) Month, officially recognized in Canada since 1995. This is a time to honour the contributions and struggles of peoples of African descent in the UCC, Canada and around the world.

FROM HORSESHOE FALLS: PROVINCIAL ELECTION, FEBRUARY 27

With all that is going on across the country and around the world, there are concerns that many people may not engage with this election. For Christians, participation in democratic elections is one way to act on our faith. For more information, go to the UCC's website on Faith and Politics:
<https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/get-involved/faith-and-politics>.

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!

CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES is holding a **blood donor clinic** at the Waterford Legion on Friday, February 21 from 2 – 7 pm. See the bulletin board for details on booking your appointment!