

SHARING BREAD AND WINE

The bread we break is Christ's gift of life. *(break open the bread)*

The cup we bless is Christ's sustaining love for us. *(pour from jug chalice)*

The gifts of God for all the people.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION –

One: We give you thanks, creating God, That you have blessed us at your table and nourished us with hope.

All: Send us out in the Spirit of Christ to be neighbours and gardeners, loving, tending, and working for peace and justice on your sacred streets and your good earth. Amen.

OFFERING:

Offering Prayer:

We thank you God for all your blessings, and most especially the blessing of your caring presence. We offer to you our gifts and the intentions of our hearts. We pray that you will use them and us in your work. Grant that all that we say and do may serve to bring your healing and your love to others. We ask these things in the name of Jesus. Amen

CLOSING SONG: Go to the World

VU #420

BLESSING

One: We go into this week,

All: with the love of God inscribed upon our hearts,

One: the life of Jesus Christ imprinted within our being,

All: and the energy of the Holy Spirit giving us life.

(The Christ candle is extinguished)



WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, October 5, 2025

Worship Leader: Rev. Mary Jo Patterson

Music: Chris Savory

CELEBRATING WORLD WIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY

PRELUDE

WELCOME – On this Sunday that we are celebrating World Wide Communion, I welcome you to Waterford United Church.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: God calls us to come and dine this day with our brothers and sisters around the world.

All: God's food is good for the body, the mind, and the soul. It heals and mends, it strengthens and delights, it warms and caresses and makes what is broken whole.

One: God's food brings joy, wisdom, love and peace to all who eat it.

All: God calls us to turn aside from our busy ways and to sit at God's table and eat.

One: Come then, come and dine and let God's Spirit minister unto you.

OPENING HYMN: As We Gather at Your Table

VU #457

OPENING PRAYER:

Gracious God - we thank you for calling us together today to worship you as a family. We thank you that we are not alone - that you have provided for us fellow pilgrims on the way you have set before us. Fill us with your heavenly food this day, visit us and prepare us by our worship and in our fellowship for that which lies before us. Help us to praise you with joy and to pray with conviction and to serve you with all our hearts. We pray this in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray together as a family saying, Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

Today we are gathered in 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.

The Waterford United Church is a place where everyone is welcome regardless of their ability, age, class, ethnicity, gender, race, or sexual orientation.

CENTERING SILENCE

SCRIPTURE READING – Mark 10: 2 – 16

MUSIC MINISTRY: A Communion of Compassion

REFLECTION: “Around the Table”

COMMUNION HYMN: We Gather Here

VU #469

WORLD WIDE COMMUNION

Thanksgiving Communion Prayer

© Rev. Dr. Nancy Hardy *A communion prayer that celebrates and gives thanks for food*

The table is set and heaped with God's abundance – bread, fruit of the vine, love, joy, forgiveness, and we are all welcome. So, come: in from the streets and country lanes, forgetting cares and finding companionship. Come, celebrate: eat, drink, and be satisfied. Come to Christ's table with thanks and praise.

Giving Thanks

- One:** Gracious and loving God, we praise and thank you, for you are the creator of all goodness and the source of abundance.
- All:** **In the beginning, your Spirit danced on the waters and brought us life, and in your generosity, you created a garden of delights and nourishment: apples and artichokes; potatoes and pomegranates; cabbages and carrots and corn.**
- One:** You gave us oceans teeming with fish, and forests where deer and other animals roamed, and you called us to live with respect in creation and to care for one another in the places where we live. You brought your people out of slavery into a land of milk and honey, flowing with streams of living water and planted with groves of olive trees;
- All:** **And today, in our country, fields of wheat stretch under the prairies skies and blossoms from apple orchards hold promise of succulent goodness, while in the cities, community gardens, farmers' markets, backyard blooms, vegetables, and herbs provide beauty and nourishment.**
- One:** Even when we turn away from you living in greed and violence, overfishing the oceans, despoiling the land, ignoring those who have no food while our garbage cans are overflowing, You send us

prophets to call us back and remind us to live for a day when no one will be hungry and we will live together as gardeners and neighbours in justice and peace. And so with people around the world: farmers and fishers, wine-makers and coffee growers, butchers and bakers, those who deliver our daily bread, and those who prepare and serve it to our dining tables and our kitchen tables, We raise our voices in thanks and praise.

- All:** **Generous God, we give you thanks for Jesus, who came to live with us. We remember how he called his disciples to follow him and become fishers of all people.**
- One:** We thank you that he loved eating and drinking around tables where strangers became friends and outcasts – tax collectors, gentiles, women – were included.
- All:** **He told stories about banquets and barns and vineyards, and taught us to pray for Jubilee, a time of cosmic liberation when no one will be hungry. On the hillside, in the corn fields, on the seashore, in villages and towns and cities, he reminded us of the importance of food for our bodies and for our spirits.**
- One:** Jesus was crucified, died, and was buried. But you raised him from the dead; and like his disciples, we meet him again in the breaking of bread. As we gather around his table.
- All:** **We remember that on the night he was betrayed, Jesus sat at table with his beloved friends sharing the fruit of the vine and the harvest of the fields in the village outside the city.**
- One:** We remember that after he had given thanks he took bread, broke it and shared it, reminding his disciples that he would be always be with them. In the same way, he took the cup and spoke of a new covenant, a new relationship with them.
- All:** **O God, giver of all that is good, We thank you for this bread and this fruit of the vine, symbols of the harvest of your good earth, and we look to the day when we will all eat together as your holy people; In the meantime, we live in your promise:**
- One:** Ever present Giver, send your Spirit on us and what we do here as we gather around Christ's Table to feed on the living Word, That in our eating and drinking we may be one in Christ and one with your vision of peace and plenty.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU to Rev. Mary Jo Patterson for leading Worship today.

AS PART OF OUR PASTORAL CARE DISCUSSIONS, the Council has put a white board in the auditorium headed “thoughts and prayers” to keep you informed of those who may be ill, in hospital or celebrating a special event. If you know of someone, please add the information to the board.

FOR CURRENT PASTORAL CARE needs, contact the office for an appointment.

M & P MEETING - Monday, October 6 at 2:00 p.m.

After the October 19 service, Rev. Gary Patterson will conduct a short **PROFESSION OF FAITH CEREMONY** for anyone wishing to become a member of WUC. This ceremony will be held in the Minister’s office. Those individuals who wish to attend this ceremony please let Marilyn Antkiw know and she will inform Gary.

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES:

Sunday, October 12	led by the Worship/Faith Committee
Sunday, October 19	led by Rev. Gary Patterson
Sunday, October 26	led by Rev. Gary Patterson
Sunday, November 2	led by Rev. Mary Jo Patterson

THE WORSHIP/FAITH COMMITTEE INVITES VOLUNTEERS to assist with the October 12 Thanksgiving service by offering to read scripture and lead in prayers. Please contact a member of the Committee if you can help!

FREE THANKSGIVING TAKE OUT DINNER – Monday, October 13
2 – 2:30 pm. Pre order by October 9 by calling Lana Plank at 226-802-1328.
See bulletin board for details.

Church Phone: 519-443-5261
Church Webpage: www.waterfordunitedchurch.org
Office Administrator, Diane Holden wucsecretary@bellnet.ca
Treasurer, Kimberly Holden wuctreasurer@bellnet.ca
Church E-transfer Address wucdonations@gmail.com
Church Bookings, Cori Angus 519-802-2401



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