

WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH
Epiphany 4 – February 1, 2026
Rev. Kellie McComb

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God, be a dwelling place for us, we pray.
All: **Lord you have been a dwelling place for all generations**
One: Before the mountains were brought forth, or even you had formed the earth, you are present
All: **From everlasting to everlasting you are God**
One: For a thousand years in your sight, are like yesterday when it is past.
All: **So let us praise God from yesterday to tomorrow.**

HYMN: Shall we gather at the river

VU #710

OPENING PRAYER

You challenge us to follow you; not by staying as we are but by stepping out in faith, casting our net into deeper water as with Simon Peter, fisherman. You challenge us to trust you and be prepared for all eventualities, even when the load is heavy and we struggle to succeed. But with your challenge comes blessing. Flimsy nets are filled, broken lives made whole. From emptiness to abundance. Thank you for your challenge. Grant us courage to follow. Amen

HYMN: Jesus, You have come to the Lakeshore

VU #563

YOUNG AT HEART

HYMN: Like a Rock (actions)

MVU #92

SCRIPTURE READING:

15 Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand.² By

this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

³ For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance^[a]: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas,^[b] and then to the Twelve. ⁶ After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, ⁸ and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

⁹ For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. ¹¹ Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

Jesus Calls His First Disciples

One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret,^[a] the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church. **Thanks be to God.**

MUSIC MINISTRY: Over My Head

MVU #88

MESSAGE: "Just When You Least Expect It"

HYMN: Simon, Simon a Fisherman Was He

VU #597

PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

Offertory: O for a World (vs. 2)

VU #697

O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved, where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.

Offertory Prayer: *Loving God, many hands have worked to offer these gifts. There are many hands in this community of faith that work together to do your work in the world. Let our hands be Christ's hands, let these gifts share your love in the world. Amen.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER:

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.

HYMN: Spirit Open my Heart

MVU #79

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

CHORAL BLESSING: God Be with You

VU #422

God be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you. With a shepherd's care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again.

Faith Formation Thoughts

Debra Leedman

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful."
~ Colossians 3:15, New International Version

Peace is a pretty familiar theme for what it means to be a Christian, a follower of Jesus. And, boy, don't we need some peace in our world. Today we're saying that peace should rule in our hearts. Easy to say, harder to do. Do you feel it? Do you know it? Let peace rule in your heart. And when you feel it, when you know it, be thankful. For the life you have. For the blessings that are yours. For the peace you can find. Do you know peace? How do you feel it in your life? It's there. It can be found. Feel it, know it and be thankful.

WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH

February 1, 2026

Worship Leader: Rev. Kellie McComb

Music: Chris Savory



COME AND FOLLOW

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.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL REPORT 2025 – All Committee Chairs, Small Group Ministries and Teams are requested to submit their 2025 Annual Report by February 15 to the Office preferably via email at wucsecretary@bellnet.ca in preparation for the upcoming **Annual Congregational Meeting**. Your promptness would be much appreciated!!

Please consider attending the **ASH WEDNESDAY (February 18) LABYRINTH WALK** led by Rev. Kellie. Details to follow in next week's bulletin.

CROW SHIELD LODGE SENDS THEIR THANK YOU (KINANÂSKOMITIN) for our donation of knitted items from the mitten tree for their backpack program to support unhoused community members. See the bulletin board to read their message.

FOODHANDLER'S COURSE – Wednesday, February 25 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the auditorium. Please register your attendance online or pick up a form available in the church office. The church will pay the registration fee.

COFFEE HOUR – The sign-up sheet and information to help at coffee hour is on the hall bulletin board. Spaces are open to the end of June.

THE VERY REV. DR. NORMAN BRUCE MCLEOD, 25th Moderator of The United Church of Canada from 1972 to 1974 has died at the age of 96. The funeral service will be livestreamed on the Westminster's YouTube page on February 1 at 2 pm.

JARVIS COMMUNITY CHURCH (19 Church St.) is hosting a Valentine's Luncheon on Saturday, February 14 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. \$15. See bulletin board.



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