

WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH
January 18, 2026
2nd SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
Peter Scovil

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: Pause (a prayer)

One: Let me pause from this rush
Let me take time to remember the morning's quiet hush

All: **Let me stop, let me pray**
Tap into my source of energy for this hurried day

One: Let me hear once again
For I have long stopped listening, swept away by the din

All: **Let me search in my soul**
For desires that have captured me detract from my whole

One: Let me sing once again
For I have long forgotten the comfort that it brings

All: **Let me see beauty's trace**
Drop the scales from my eyes and show me Your face

One: Incline me towards Your heart to find truth here

All: **Give boldness to my actions, wash away my fear**
As I struggle to draw near, for I know You are here

Anonymous, c. Feb. 23, 2003

HYMN: Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore VU #563

OPENING PRAYER: Holy God, be with us now. May we hear your voice and understand your way. Grant us wisdom and strength as we reflect on our life in your world. Help us to continue faithfully in your way, by the power of your Holy Spirit and in the name of Jesus. Amen.

YOUNG AT HEART CONVERSATION

MUSIC MINISTRY: The Lord Will Be My Shepherd Besig/Price

SCRIPTURES

1 Corinthians 1: 4-9

Every time I think of you – and I think of you often! – I thank God for your lives of free and open access to God given by Jesus. There's no end to what has happened in you – it's beyond speech, beyond knowledge. The evidence of Christ has been clearly verified in your lives. Just think – you don't need a thing, you've got it all! All God's gifts are right in front of you as you wait expectantly for our Master Jesus to arrive on the scene. . . And God our Creator is right alongside to keep you steady and on track. . . God, who got you started in this spiritual adventure, shares with us the life of his Son and our Master Jesus. God will never give up on you. Never forget that.

John 1: 35-42

John the Baptist was back at the Jordan River with two disciples, who were watching. . . He saw Jesus walking nearby and said, "Here he is, God's Passover Lamb." . . The two disciples went after Jesus. Jesus looked over his shoulder and said, "What are you after?" They said, "Rabbi, . . where are you staying? He replied, "Come along and see for yourself." They came, . . and ended up staying with him for the day. . . Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two. . . The first thing he did . . . was find his own brother Simon, telling him, "We've found the Messiah". . . He immediately led him to Jesus. Jesus took one look and said, "You're John's son, Simon? From now on your name is Cephas" (or Peter, which means "Rock")

Matthew 4: 18-20

Walking along the beach of Lake Galilee, Jesus saw two brothers: Simon (later called Peter) and Andrew. They were fishing, throwing their nets into the lake. It was their regular work. Jesus said to them, "Come with me. I'll make a new kind of fisherman out of you. I'll show you how to catch men and women instead of perch and bass." They didn't ask questions, but simply dropped their nets and followed.

HYMN: Will You Come and Follow Me? VU #567

MESSAGE: "The Call"

HYMN: I Have Called You by Your Name MV #161

PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

Offertory: "In the Bleak Midwinter" (v.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. Words: Christina Rossetti ca. 1872. In Public Domain.

Offertory Prayer

We offer this to you now as a sign of our love for you. May it be used to show your love in our community. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN: Wherever You May Go

MVU #216

BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

A Franciscan Benediction

May God bless you with discomfort

At easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships

So that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger

At injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people,

So that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with tears

To shed for those who suffer pain, rejection, hunger and war,

So that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and

To turn their pain into joy.

And may God bless you with enough foolishness

To believe that you can make a difference in the world,

So that you can do what others claim cannot be done

To bring justice and kindness to all our children and the poor.

Amen

CHORAL BLESSING: God, Be with You (vs. 1)

VU #422

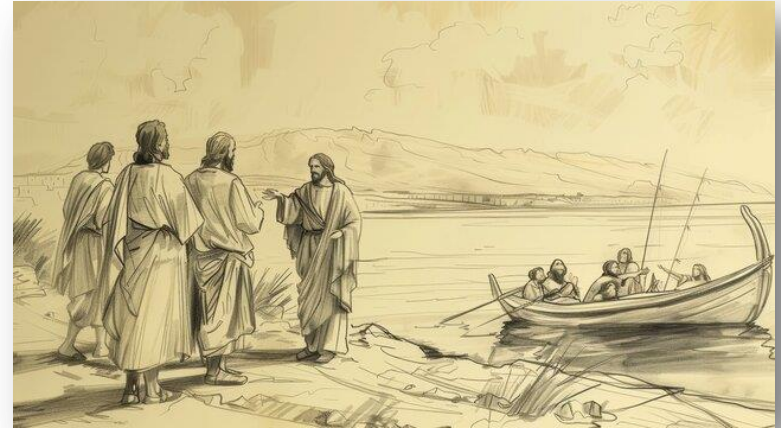
God be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherd's care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again.

WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH

January 18, 2026

Worship Leader: Peter Scovil

Music: Chris Savory



Matthew 4: 18 - 20

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.

Church Phone: 519-443-5261

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Rev. Kellie is currently on bereavement and compassionate leave until January 27. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers. Thank you for your understanding and Kellie's privacy.

THANK YOU to Peter Scovil for leading us in worship today and to Mae Bedford who will conduct next Sunday's service.

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.

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH is sponsoring "David" at the Strand Theatre in Simcoe on Monday, January 19 (school PA day for students). Show times are 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. Tickets \$10 adults and \$8 for kids. See bulletin board.

FREE CONCERT – Heart N Soul Choir presents "Harmony and Hot Chocolate" on Friday, January 30 at 7:30 p.m. in the church sanctuary. Light refreshment follows. Come one and all!



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