

WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH
Sunday January 25, 2026
Third Sunday after Epiphany
LLWL Mae Bedford

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHT THE CHRIST CANDLE

GATHERING SONG: God of the Bible MVU #28

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: As he walked by a lake, Jesus called fishers to follow him.
All: **And immediately, immediately! they left their work and went with him.**
One: As Jesus journeys through our lives, he asks us to follow him.
All: **In this moment, we have the chance to leave the past behind and pursue Christ into God's future.**
One: As Jesus wanders in our world, he invites others to join in.
All: **We would join Jesus in this ministry, reaching out to our neighbours, without delay!**

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

OPENING PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The good news is that God calls us again. Even if we turn our backs, God keeps calling us to follow him. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

PSALM 27 MVU pages 754-755

Refrain: *God is my light and saving health, I shall not be afraid.*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

We seek you in your word, O God. Help us to find your Way for us in the scriptures we hear today, and to abide in your will.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Isaiah 9: 1 – 4
Matthew 4: 12 – 22 The Ministry of Jesus

MUSIC MINISTRY

MESSAGE: Come and Follow

HYMN: Will You Come and Follow Me VU #567

OFFERING

Offering Song: Your Work, O God VU #537
Your work, O God, needs many hands to help you everywhere, and some there are who cannot serve unless our gifts we share. Because we love you and your work, our offering now we make: be pleased to use it as your own, we ask for Jesus' sake.
Offering Prayer:
Generous God, we give back a portion of what you have blessed us with. Bless these gifts and use them to further your work in this church, this community, and around the world. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN: Jesus Calls Us VU #562

BENEDICTION

SUNG BLESSING: May God's Sheltering Wings MVU #214
May God's sheltering wings, his gathering wings protect you. May God's nurturing arms, his cradling arms sustain you, And hold you in his love, and hold you in his love.





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Worship Leader: LLWL Mae Bedford
Music: Azrael Hackshaw

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 LLWL Mae Bedford for leading us in worship today and to Azrael Hackshaw for his music ministry.

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.

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!

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.



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.

Church Phone: 519-443-5261
Church Webpage: www.waterfordunitedchurch.org
Minister: Rev. Kellie McComb rev.kellie@gmail.com
Office Administrator, Diane Holden wucsecretary@bellnet.ca
Treasurer, Ted Robinson wuctreasurer@bellnet.ca
Bookkeeper: Kimberly Holden kimholden4@gmail.com
Church E-transfer Address wucdonations@gmail.com