

First United Church

November 12, 2023

7:00 p.m.

Covenanting Service

Between Rev. Hoeun Lee, First United Church
and the Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council



Purpose: Building Relationships,
Living God's Transforming Love.

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- **Call to Worship**

Isaac Morland

ONE: Tonight we celebrate new beginnings

ALL: We rejoice in the presence of God's grace

ONE: We give thanks for this Community of Faith

ALL: God has blessed us richly

ONE: But now God is calling us ... to new ministry, new community, and new life

ALL: We are ready to embrace the journey ahead with open hearts.

ONE: With joyful hearts and eager spirits, let us gather to worship and celebrate that ...

ALL: We come to worship God.

- **Hymn of Praise** Let Us Build a House

MV 1

Opening Prayer

Frank Watty

Scripture Readings

Numbers 27:1-8, 11

Frank Watty

One: Herein lies Wisdom.

All: Thanks Be To God.

Ephesians 1:15-19

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All: Thanks Be To God.

Ministry of Music

Christ, You Are the Fullness
(Congregation to join in on verse 3)
Gallery Choir and Yoonjoo Shin

Dale Grotenhuis

Reflection

A New Inheritance

Rev. Dr. David Kim-Cragg

- **Hymn** With the Wings of Our Mind

VU 698

Covenanting Action

Statement of Living Faith Story

Greg Case

Statement of this New Ministry

Regional council liaison:

Rev. Gary Clark

We are here to join into a covenantal relationship with God and between Hoeun Lee, First United Church, Waterloo, and the wider United Church as represented by the Western Ontario Waterways regional council. Although God's covenant with us never changes, our covenants with one another evolve as we seek ways to faithfully deepen our commitment to Jesus and live into our call to embody God's love in the world.

Member of search Team:

Greg Case (and Search Team)

After prayerful discernment, and the approval of First United Church, we present **Rev. Hoeun Lee**, who has been called to a ministry of word, sacrament, education and pastoral care in First United Church. We believe that his skills and talents complement our faithful witness, ministry needs, and community context.

Regional council liaison/Presider:

Hoeun, you are here in response to the call of First United Church, Waterloo, and Western Ontario Waterways regional council. We come together to mark this new relationship within our regional council for the sake of our shared ministry.

Hoeun, you are about to undertake the ministry of word, sacrament, and pastoral care in this place.

You, the members of this community of faith, are called to join Rev. Hoeun in worship, study, prayer, and action.

We, the Western Ontario Waterways regional council, will be responsible for supporting this ministry.

Let us pray for God's grace as we covenant together:

Prayer of Faith

Uniting God,

**you call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship:
to celebrate your presence,
to live with respect in creation,
to be your servants in the service of others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table,
to proclaim Jesus crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

**Send your Holy Spirit to bind us in full communion
so that we may be a uniting church embodying your love for the world.**

**As one, we proclaim: In life, in death, in life beyond death,
you are with us, we are not alone,
all glory and power be unto you.
Amen.**

(A prayer for the church inspired by John 17:21 and based on The United Church of Canada's "A New Creed" and The United Church of Christ's "Statement of Faith (in the Form of a Doxology)."
Written for the full communion service of these two denominations.)

● **Hymn** We Are A Rainbow

David Kai

Promises of the New Minister

Rev. Gary Clark

Regional council liaison/Presider:

Rev. Hoeun Lee, do you, in the presence of this community of faith, take on the new trust and responsibility of ministering with First United Church? If so, please respond, "I do."

Will you accept the guidance of the Western Ontario Waterways regional council and, together with its other members, be responsible for the health of First United Church? If so, please respond, "I will."

Will you share in the ministry goals and faith story of this community of faith? If so, please respond, "I will."

Will you accept the support and encouragement of this community of faith and this regional council? If so, please respond, "I will."

Will you work cooperatively with the wider church and wider community to embody God's love in the world? If so, please respond, "I will."

Promises of the Community of Faith

Regional council liaison/Presider:

Will you join with Rev. Hoeun in a ministry of worship, study, prayer, and action within First United, Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council and within the wider church? If so, please respond, "We will."

Promises of the Staff

Regional council liaison/Presider:

Kathleen, Sheena, Harold, and Jay, you have been called by God to work together in this community of faith. Will you promise in faith and obedience to Christ to share this ministry, supporting one another in love and, through your unity of spirit, inspiring all God's people here in their common ministry for Christ? If so, please respond, "We will."

Promises of Regional Council, Wider Church and Community

Regional council liaison/Presider:

Will you, as members of the Western Ontario Waterways regional council and members of the wider community, join with Rev. Hoeun and this community of faith in the ministry that is both theirs and ours? If so, please respond, "We will."

Will you support and encourage them in this ministry? If so, please respond, "We will."

- **Hymn** We Are All One People

MV 141

Gift from Indigenous siblings

Talking Stick

Presentation of Symbols

Bible

ONE: Take this Indigenous Bible. Be with us as one who teaches, and proclaims the Word in ways that are new to us.

ALL: Amen.

Prayer Shawl

ONE: Be with us as one who gives and supports us as a caring community but also one who will be cared for.

ALL: Amen.

Childrens Book

ONE: Be among us as a storyteller, and one who ministers to children, youth and adults, with a vision of hope and love.

ALL: Amen.

Pride Flag

ONE: The rainbow is a sign of God's covenant and this flag a symbol of resilience of 2SLGBTQ+ people. Be with us as one who seeks justice, and reminds us to seek justice and stay true to our commitment to be an affirming congregation.

ALL: Amen.

Tambourine

ONE: Be among as one who supports our music programs and who brings his own songs of joy.

ALL: Amen.

Water

ONE: Be with us as one who administers the sacraments in the name of Christ.

ALL: Amen.

Kintsugi Kit

One: Be with us as one who helps to heal what is broken and reinforce what is strong.

ALL: Amen.

Regional council liaison:

Hoeun and First United Church, let all these be signs of the ministry that is and that will be in this community.

All: Amen.

New Minister's Prayer

Rev. Hoeun Lee

Response to Covenant

Regional council liaison:

Let us rejoice in the covenant we have made.

- **Hymn** Halle, Halle, Halle

Offering

Rev. Gary Clark

Offertory

Arirang/Amazing Grace
Handbell Choir & Leah Mezo-Willingham, cello

- **Dedication of Offering** Ay, Ay, Salidummay

MV 184

Prayer of Dedication:

**ALL: Ever-present God, with this offering,
we present also ourselves:
all that we have been, all that we are,
all that we shall become, and our resolve to walk in your way.
Accept us and our offering, we pray for Jesus' sake.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People

ONE: Uniting God, receive our prayers:

ALL: And in your love, answer.

Kristin Snell (English)
Rev. Andrew Kun Young Lee (Korean/English)
Rev. Eva Mezo (Hungarian/English)
Sheila Robson (Anishinaabemowin/English)

We join these prayers together in the prayer that Jesus taught us in your preferred language...

**Our Father (and Mother), who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin(g)dom 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 kin(g)dom, the power and
the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

Sharing the Peace of Christ

ONE: Beloved Church, we are one in Christ!

The peace of Christ, who unites us in love and discipleship, be with you all.

ALL: And also with you.

- **Hymn** Where Jesus Is In Us And Among Us

Agape Meal

Rev. Hoeun Lee & Search Team

Scripture Reading

1 John 4:7-21

Eva Mezo (Hungarian)
Davies Maina (Swahili)
Kristin Snell(German)
Rahul Solanki (Gujarati)
Lidia Gomez (Spanish)
Ehaab D. Abdou (Arabic)
Ryan Jun Jeagal (French)
Andy Yuan (Chinese)
Miriam Beldock (Tagalog)
Debora Andrade-Pereira (Portuguese)
Jana Heemskerk (Czech)
Taras Rudyi (Ukraine)
Eddie Arnett (English)
Yoonjoo Shin (Korean)

Sharing Meal

- **Sending Hymn** We Are Pilgrims

VU 595

Sending Forth and Benediction

Rev. Dr. HyeRam Kim-Cragg

Recession of the Light and Word

Postlude Finale Jubilante

Healey Willan