



Welcome to worship!

Sunday August 23, 2020

12th Sunday after Pentecost

A joint online Zoom worship Service with:

Claremont, Fairbank & Goodwood United Churches and Guests

Worship Leader: Marilyn Elphick, Reg.N, M.Div., Th.M

Onelicense # A-723979 CCLI # 11550809

Announcements & Today's Worship Theme

We Gather to in Joyful Celebration

Lighting the Christ Candle

There was a man named Jesus, who embodied God's love and compassion in such surprising ways. And he said: **I am the light of the world**

Acknowledgement of the Land

As we begin our worship, we acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land where each of us are gathered today. We pay my respects to the Elders past, present and emerging, for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and the hopes of all Indigenous peoples on Turtle Island.

God of justice, help us to embody your call to reconciliation with our First Nations in tangible, loving ways. Amen.

Call to Worship Psalm 125

¹ Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

² As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
so the LORD surrounds his people,

from this time on and forevermore.
³ For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest
on the land allotted to the righteous,
so that the righteous might not stretch out
their hands to do wrong.
⁴ Do good, O LORD, to those who are good,
and to those who are upright in their hearts.
⁵ But those who turn aside to their own crooked ways
the LORD will lead away with evildoers.
Peace be upon Israel!

Prayer of the Day

Bread of heaven,
You feed us in the depths
Of grief, sin and hostility.
Nourish us with your word
Through the long hours of tears,
And in the dawning awareness
Of our need for forgiveness,
So that we may be redeemed by your steadfast love. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn: Eye has not seen Marty Haugen

VIDEO

We Open our Hearts to the Spirit's Voice

One: Whether you take what is written in the Bible as fact, metaphor, myth or story,
listen now to these words for the meaning they hold in your lives today.

**All: May the Spirit bless us with wisdom and wonder, as we ponder the meaning
of these words in our lives.**

Exodus 1:8-2:10

1 These are the names of the sons of Israel who came to Egypt with Jacob, each with
his household: **2** Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah, **3** Issachar, Zebulun, and

Benjamin, ⁴ Dan and Naphtali, Gad and Asher. ⁵ The total number of people born to Jacob was seventy. Joseph was already in Egypt. ⁶ Then Joseph died, and all his brothers, and that whole generation. ⁷ But the Israelites were fruitful and prolific; they multiplied and grew exceedingly strong, so that the land was filled with them.

The Israelites Are Oppressed

⁸ Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. ⁹ He said to his people, “Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. ¹⁰ Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.” ¹¹ Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. ¹² But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. ¹³ The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, ¹⁴ and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

¹⁵ The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, ¹⁶ “When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.” ¹⁷ But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. ¹⁸ So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?” ¹⁹ The midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.” ²⁰ So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. ²¹ And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. ²² Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, “Every boy that is born to the Hebrews^[a] you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.”

2 Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ² The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. ³ When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. ⁴ His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

⁵ The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. ⁶ When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. “This must be one of the Hebrews’ children,” she said. ⁷ Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse

the child for you?" ⁸ Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. ⁹ Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰ When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses,^[a] "because," she said, "I drew him out^[b] of the water."

Gospel Acclamation VIDEO

Matthew 16:13-20

Peter's Declaration about Jesus

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah,^[a] the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter,^[b] and on this rock^[c] I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was^[d] the Messiah.^[e]

Reflection: Marilyn Elphick

We Joyfully Respond to the Good News

Hymn of the Day: On Eagle's Wings Michael Joncas

VIDEO

Invitation to the Offering

Prayer of Dedication for the Gifts

A Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

You have come close to each of us.
You have extended to us your own special love,
and have given to us such special gifts.
Thank you God for these.

Thank you for all the other gifts
that are present in these people around me.
Together we are a gifted people - Your people.

You gave us these gifts for a purpose.
They are to be used by us,
to serve the needs of others.
Give us courage, Lord, and the confidence too,
to take these gifts with us now as we go.

Open our eyes and hearts to those we meet.
Help us to see their need, and to show your love,
and to use Your gifts that are invested in us,
to bring them hope, and life.

We go now with unwrapped gifts, ready to be used.
We go as your servants,
Ready to touch others with your love.
And we don't go alone.

Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn: [Baba Yetu lyrics and translation](#)

VIDEO

Blessing and Commissioning

May the beauty of God
be reflected in your eyes,
the love of God
be reflected in your hands,

the wisdom of God
be reflected in your words,
and the knowledge of God
flow from your heart,
that all might see,
and seeing, believe.
“The Lord bless you
and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face toward you
and give you peace. ”

VIDEO

Sung Blessing Aaronic Benediction
Meditation Grateful a Love song for the world

Next Sunday's Readings:

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 1:8-2:10

Matthew 16:13-20