



Welcome to worship!

Sunday August 30, 2020

13th 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 105

¹ O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.

² Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.

³ Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

⁴ Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually.

⁵ Remember the wonderful works he has done,

his miracles, and the judgments he has uttered,

Prayer of the Day

Creator, you loved us into existence, we bless you and worship you with all our hearts, minds and souls. We come to you as we are with all our concerns, joys and questions. Help us to understand your will for us and give us the strength to carry that out.

In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen

Opening Hymn: The Servant Song

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 3:1-15

Moses at the Burning Bush

3 Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. **2** There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. **3** Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." **4** When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." **5** Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." **6** He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

7 Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, **8** and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. **9** The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. **10** So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." **11** But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" **12** He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.

The Divine Name Revealed

13 But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" **14** God said to

Moses, "I AM WHO I AM."^[a] He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" ¹⁵ God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD,^[b] the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 16:21-28

²¹ From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

The Cross and Self-Denial

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

²⁷ "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Reflection: Marilyn Elphick

We Joyfully Respond to the Good News

Hymn of the Day: Eye has not Seen Marty Haugen

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

Canticle of the Turning

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. ”

Sung Blessing: Siyahamba

Next Sunday's Readings:

Exodus 12:1-14

Psalms 149

Matthew 18:15-20