



*Welcome to worship!*

**Sunday Nov 8, 2020,**

**23<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

*A joint online Zoom worship Service with:  
Claremont, Fairbank & Goodwood  
United Churches and friends.*

**Worship Leaders:** *Pastor Steven Loweth, DLM & Rev. Lionel Ketola, MDiv*  
Onelicense # A-723979 CCLI # 11550809

**Announcements & Today's Worship Theme: Remembrance Sunday**

**We Joyfully Gather in God's Presence**

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

There was a man named Jesus, who brought God's peace and healing into a broken and chaotic world. And he said: **I am the light of the world**

**Song for Peace:**

**Video**

**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 our 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**

In a world filled with violence and war,

**we gather together to celebrate the promise of peace.**

In a world filled with tyranny and oppression,

**we gather together to celebrate the promise of justice for all.**

In a world filled with hunger and greed,

**we gather together to celebrate the promise of plenty for all.**

Our hope is in the name of the Almighty God,

**the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of heaven and earth.**

**Prayer of the Day**

God, our refuge and strength,  
bring near the day when wars shall cease and poverty and pain shall end,  
and all the earth is enfolded in the peace and wholeness that comes from you.  
We ask this for your love's sake. Amen.

**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.**

**Eph 4:25-27, 29-32 (paraphrased)**

So from now on, there must be no more lies: you must speak the truth to one another, since we are parts of one another. Even if you are angry, you must not sin; never let the sun set on your anger. Do not say bad things about one another. Do good to your listeners. Never hold grudges or lose your temper, or raise your voice to anyone, or call one another names. Be friends with one another; be kind, and forgive as readily as God forgives you.

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

<sup>13</sup>But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup>For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. <sup>15</sup>For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. <sup>16</sup>For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup>Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation****VIDEO**

## Matthew 5:38-48

<sup>38</sup>“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ <sup>39</sup>But I say to you, Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also; <sup>40</sup>and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well; <sup>41</sup>and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile. <sup>42</sup>Give to everyone who begs from you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you.

<sup>43</sup>“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ <sup>44</sup>But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup>so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. <sup>46</sup>For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? <sup>47</sup>And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? <sup>48</sup>Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

The Gospel of Christ **Thanks be to God.**

### **Video Reflection – Remembrance Moments: Canada’s Indigenous Veterans**

Brief Reflection: Rev. Lionel

Brief Reflection: Pastor Steven

### **Video Reflection – Remembrance Moments: Canada’s Indigenous Code Talkers**

**Hymn of the Day VU #684 Make Me a Channel of Your Peace VIDEO**

### **Invitation to the Offering**

#### **Prayer of Dedication for the Gifts:**

Generous God,  
through your Son, Jesus Christ,  
you have shown us what it means to love.  
And you call us to follow Your example—  
to love our neighbours as we love ourselves.

Continue to write your law of love on our hearts.

Give us an unwavering passion for justice,  
and a tenacious faith that will not rest  
until the hungry are fed,  
the oppressed find relief,  
and the outsider finds a welcome. **Amen.**

## Veterans Love Song – Jennifer Bruce

### Prayers of the People

#### A Prayer for the Armed Forces

O God of hosts, God who calls us to be engaged in the world; we pray for those who are serving in our Armed Forces; soldiers, sailors, air personnel, and those who provide support for them. We pray for clerks and gunners, navigators and parachute packers, infanteers and public affairs officers. We pray for those who care for those who fight: for mental health nurses, doctors, and chaplains. We pray for those who put themselves in harm's way; for Search and Rescue Technicians, for those engaged in mine-clearing, for those in the air or on the high seas. Keep them safe in their tasks; keep them virtuous in their calling; preserve them from danger, and return them to those who love them.

#### A Prayer for People of Courage

We offer to you, O God, our prayers for those who seek justice and resist evil. We pray for those who need your presence and strength to stand firm; for those who are oppose the use of violence in any form in faithful response to the Prince of Peace. We pray for those are prepared to be firm to protect those in danger. We pray for those who walk with others who need strength. We pray for those who protest, those who organize letter campaigns, those who give sacrificially on behalf of others.

We pray for those who speak the unpopular truth; who protect the unpopular victims; who choose the unpopular path of peace.

We pray for those who do not let their desire for peace hinder the requirements of justice, and for those who do not let their zeal for justice override the call for peace.

#### A Prayer for Our Enemies

O God of every human being, forgive when we identify our kin too easily as enemies. Teach us to seek the good of all, and not only our own. When our cousins are acting unjustly or causing harm, help us to constrain them without hatred or evil thoughts, but to seek their good even as we resist the damage that may be caused.

We pray that those to whom we are opposed may be turned from enemy to friend. We pray that in our cause we may not fall into sin, so convinced of our own righteousness that we are unaware of our own sin. We pray that we are not so distracted by another's sin that we cannot

be convinced of their value as children of God. May we always remember your willingness to forgive, and to bless, and to call the most unlikely of saints.

Tender God, we lift up in prayer all those whose needs are close to us this day:

*Prayers of intercession are spoken*

Restoring God, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, Loving One, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your great love for all creation; through Jesus our brother who taught us to pray:

**“God, our Mother and Father in Heaven, hallowed be thy name... Amen.”**

**Closing Hymn: For the Healing of the Nations VU 678**

### [We Go Forth to Serve our Neighbours](#)

#### **Blessing:**

Go now in peace remembering these words of Jesus,  
“Blessed are the peacemakers.”

May God grant you the vision, strength, and courage  
to proclaim God’s message of peace, whether welcome or unwelcome,  
for the sake of God’s beloved children in this world. Amen

**Dismissal: In Flanders Fields, from: “What did we learn, Charlie Brown?”**

**VIDEO**



#### **CHRISTMAS HAMPERS – A Fundraiser by Claremont United Church**

*Our first Christmas during the COVID-19 pandemic will soon be upon us. Who knows how it will unfold but one thing we do know is that the need will be even greater for organizations such as the food banks. For years Claremont United Church has filled 12 hampers for the St Paul’s on the Hill Christmas Hamper program, helping to make a brighter Christmas for families less fortunate than ours. This year is no different. However, because of the pandemic the “hampers” will be **virtual** so that families can do their own shopping for both food and gifts.*

*We’re hoping our small but mighty congregation will come through with money instead of items, enough to virtually fill 12 hampers, each one valued at \$50. In order for families to prepare for Christmas, we need to forward all our donated money to St Paul’s by November 13.*

How do you donate? You may do an E-transfer to Wendy Duncan at [pillowblock@gmail.com](mailto:pillowblock@gmail.com) Or, you can write a cheque to Claremont United Church (on the Memo line write – M&O Hampers). Drop your cheque in the mailbox at the back door of the church or take it to Tracey May at 5057 William St, Claremont. Or, if neither of these methods works for you, call Wendy at 905 649-2170 and one of us will pick up your donation.

As always, thanks Claremont United Church for your care, concern and generosity, If you know of anyone else who might be interested in helping please pass along. Thank you! From your Mission and Outreach Committee – Debbie, Gabrielle, Myrna, Tracey, Wendy and Lionel.

### **Affirming Committee - Volunteers Needed!**

Exciting news! Both Goodwood United Church and Claremont United Churches have voted at their recent Board meetings to begin the process of **becoming an Affirming congregation**. An Affirming congregation is a congregation which intentionally, publicly and explicitly (PIE) welcomes, affirms and advocates for the full inclusion of GLBTQ people in church and in society, along with affirming and celebrating the diversity of all people including culture and ethnicity, ability, economic status, etc. **Both churches are seeking volunteers** to serve on their congregation's affirming committee.

- **For Goodwood United Church contact: Shirley Baster**
- **For Claremont United Church contact: Debbie Andersen**

For more information see Affirm Canada's website at:

<https://affirmunited.ause.ca/affirming-ministries-program/>



## **OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Goodwood United Church: Online Community Check-in: Tuesdays at 10:00 AM, on Zoom.** Once our check-in time has come to a conclusion, the group will proceed with our weekly Bible Study / "Conversations about Life", so feel free to join us for this as well.

### **Claremont United Church:**

Tuesday Nov 10, 3:30 pm Confirmation Class on Zoom

Tuesday Nov 17, 3:30 pm Confirmation Class on Zoom

**Sunday November 22, 11:00 AM - CONFIRMATION SERVICE** during our joint Zoom Service

### **Claremont United Church: Wednesdays @ 12:00 noon - Join us for a Zoom "drop-in" meeting**

Everyone is invited to join us for these "Virtual Brock Café" Zoom gatherings to connect with our congregational community.

### **Joint BOOK STUDY GROUP for all 3 Churches: Join us on Friday mornings at 10:00 am:**

**"21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act", by Bob Joseph.** After this book we will read Bob Joseph's second book: **Indigenous Relations: Insights, Tips and Suggestions to make Reconciliation a Reality.** This group is open to all members of Claremont, Fairbank and Goodwood

United Churches, and friends. So please order your copy of both books now! *You can join us at any part during the study – ALL are welcome.*

### **PAST WORSHIP SERVICES - are being uploaded to YouTube**

**We are now live streaming to our YouTube Channel. The service will also be available for watching later. Please use this link to visit the uploaded services site.**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1HPD2ai10bo-qbNaXvNVtw>

### **Continued Financial Support for our Congregations**

Please prayerfully consider how you can continue to support your congregation's ongoing ministries during this time.

- Offerings can be **mailed to the church address** itself
- **PAR forms** (for pre-authorized debit) are available from your church treasurer
- You can send your offering by **E-TRANSFER** through your online banking. Here is where to send them:

For **Claremont United** send to: [treasureruc@outlook.com](mailto:treasureruc@outlook.com)

For **Goodwood United** send to: [goodwooductreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:goodwooductreasurer@gmail.com)

*Thank you for your continued support of our congregation's ministry.*



### **Find us online! Check out our websites!**

Check out our church websites for **new updates** during this time, including Sunday devotions, and information about coping with stress during COVID-19.

[www.claremontunitedchurch.com](http://www.claremontunitedchurch.com)

[www.goodwoodunitedchurch.com](http://www.goodwoodunitedchurch.com)



### **Find us on Facebook!**

<https://www.facebook.com/goodwoodunited>

<https://www.facebook.com/claremontunited>

**PLEASE SHARE THE POSTER BELOW!**



**Computer Savvy?  
Looking for a  
Volunteer opportunity?  
Need Co-op / Volunteer  
Hours for School?**

**Claremont, Fairbank and Goodwood United Churches  
are seeking a**

**Geek Squad / Tech Volunteer**

to help out with the technical aspects  
of our Joint Sunday morning Zoom Worship Services at 11:00 am.

Your time, efforts and skills will help ensure that the  
technical aspects of our Zoom Worship Service run smoothly.  
Your role could be carried out remotely, from home, if needed.

In return, you would get volunteer hours  
& the satisfaction of knowing you made a difference!

*Knowledge of MS Word, PPT, and Zoom would be helpful.*

**Interested? Get in touch!**

**Contact Rev. Lionel Ketola at: [lionelketola@gmail.com](mailto:lionelketola@gmail.com)**

Church phone: 905 649 1363