



Welcome to worship!
Sunday November 1, 2020,
All Saints Sunday

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

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

Announcements & Today's Worship Theme

[We Joyfully Gather in God's Presence](#)

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 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](#)

By God's grace, we are running a race.

We are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses...

Patriarchs and matriarchs,
prophets and saints.

We thank you for their example.

For their lives of courageous faith.

By God's grace, we are running a race ...

In the good company of loved ones now resting in you...

Loved ones who guided us and nurtured our faith.

By God's grace, we are running a race...

In the good company of followers of the Way of Jesus in every country, the global body of Christ; the sheep of your fold, the saints of your redeeming.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely,
and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us,
looking to Christ,
the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. Alleluia!

Opening Hymn: He Leadeth Me VU # 657

Musician: Alexandra Huynh Do

1. He leadeth me, O blessed thought!
O words with heav'nly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain:

**He leadeth me, He leadeth me,
By His own hand He leadeth me;
His faithful foll'wer I would be,
For by His hand He leadeth me.**

2. Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom,
Sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
By waters still, o'er troubled sea,
Still 'tis His hand that leadeth me.
3. Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,
Nor ever murmur nor repine;
Content, whatever lot I see,
Since 'tis my God that leadeth me.
4. And when my task on earth is done,
When by Thy grace the vict'ry's won,
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
Since God through Jordan leadeth me.

Prayer of the Day

God of life,

Your saints are one with you in the mystical body of Christ.

**Give us grace to follow the example of their lives,
until we come to those inexpressible joys
which you have prepared for those who love you;
through Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

Prayer of Confession

By: Beth Merrill Neel (Adapted)

God is gracious and merciful and knows our needs even before we speak them. Still, we engage in confession, admitting to God all that rests uneasily in our hearts. Confident of God's love, let us make our confession, first in silent prayer.

A Silence is kept

Let us pray:

Holy God, we will be honest: this is really hard. It is really hard to wear masks, to avoid public gatherings, to spend so much time watching screens. We're losing patience and we're losing hope and we're losing our grip on faith. We're caught between the selfishness of wanting to do whatever we want without regard for others, and wanting to be helpful and generous. Please help us. Help us to lean on you and each other when things get hard and when we get depressed. Remind us every day that you are always with us. Encourage our hearts, and help us to be your people, your saints, in these strange days; through Jesus Christ, who holds us in your grace. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hear the good news!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

God has set you free from your past!

So rejoice in this good news!

God's Spirit is bringing healing and wholeness and new life into our world and into our lives. Thanks be to God! 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.

Revelation 7:9-17

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing, "Amen! Blessing and

glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; ¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

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

Reflection: Pastor Steven Loweth

Scripture Hymn: Blessed Assurance *Musician: Alexandra Huynh Do*

VU # 337

1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of the Spirit, washed in Christ's blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour all the day long.

2 Perfect submission, perfect delight!
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. [Refrain]

3 Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Saviour am happy and blessed;
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with God's goodness, lost in Christ's love. [Refrain]

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia, Alleluia.
Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Matthew 5:1-12

⁵When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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

Reflection: Rev. Lionel Ketola

Scripture Hymn: O God our Help in Ages Past *Music: Alexandra Huynh Do*

VU p. 806

**1. O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.**

**2. Under the shadow of thy throne,
still may we dwell secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.**

**3. Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received its frame,
from everlasting, thou art God,
to endless years the same.**

**6. O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come;
be thou our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.**

Invitation to the Offering

Prayer of Dedication for the Gifts:

**Tender God, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us –
our selves, our time, our possessions – signs of your gracious love.**

Receive them for the sake of the One who emptied himself for us, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Prayers for the People: “Set in the Company of Saints” *by Christine Jerrett*

Tender God, you are our God and we are Your people,
and we are grateful that You have claimed us as your own.
You have set us in the company of saints past and present,
among those who have made bold witness to Your goodness and grace.

Your Word opens up new futures
where we see no way forward.
You know the places in our hearts
where we are afraid
— afraid of a future we cannot control;
— afraid of losing health and independence
— afraid for the well-being of our children
— afraid that past mistakes will ruin our future

Write the stories of your people deep into our hearts
so that we may learn to trust you beyond our fears.
Give us hearts and minds and spirits
ready to trust and follow wherever your Spirit leads,
confident that you will not lead us
beyond your loving embrace.

We ask in Jesus' name, whose outstretched arms welcome us
and hold us securely in your grace.
God in your love, **hear our prayer.**

Tender God, we take this time to lift up the people and the places in our world which are in
our prayers: *Prayers of Intercessions are offered*
God in Your Mercy, **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:

Sung Lord's Prayer *Music: Gabrielle Untermann & Jane Plewman* **VU pg. 959**

**Our Father, in heaven
Hallowed be your name
Your kingdom come, your will be done
On earth, as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
As we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil**

**For the kingdom and the power
And the glory are yours
Now and forever.**

Closing Hymn: For All The Saints

VU # 705 (v. 1, 2, 3, 5).

Musicians: Gabrielle Untermann and Jane Plewman

**For all the saints, who from their labours rest,
All who by faith before the world confessed,
Your Name, O Jesus, be forever blessed.
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**You were their Rock, their Fortress and their Might;
You were their Captain in the well fought fight;
You in the darkness drear, their one true Light.
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in within your great design
Alleluia, Alleluia!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day;
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;
as God to glory calls them all away
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Blessing

We are God's saints

Blessed and beloved of God, and sent out -
filled with the Spirit to dream dreams
and share the vision the Gospel

And as we go forth to live out that calling, may the blessing of God
Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit be with us, now and always. Amen.

Sung Blessing: "Go Now in Peace"

Musician: Alexandra Huynh Do

**Go now in peace, Never be afraid
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love
and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen, amen, amen.**



CHRISTMAS HAMPERS – A Fundraiser by Claremont United Church

Our first Christmas during the COVID-19 panemic 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 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:

For Claremont United Church contact: Debbie Andersen

For more information about Affirming Congregations, go to the website of Affirm Canada at:

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



OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS – THIS WEEK

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: 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: NO STUDY GROUP Next Week (Fri Nov 6) when Rev. Lionel is away on Study leave, and RESUMES the following week on Friday (Fri Nov 13th). **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

For **Goodwood United** send to: 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

www.goodwoodunitedchurch.com



Find us on Facebook!

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<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

Church phone: 905 649 1363