



## **Welcome to worship!**

**March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 / Lent 4**

**National Affirming**

**PIE Sunday**

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

*Worship Leaders: Pastor Steven Loweth, DLM & Rev. Lionel Ketola, BA, M Div.*

Onelicense # A-723979 CCLI # 11550809

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

#### **Words of Welcome**

**Debbie Andersen**

Welcome to this special worship service.

Today is the annual Sunday when the United Church of Canada celebrates all of the Affirming ministries within the United Church. Today is also a day of celebration for congregations such as our three churches which have begun a new journey. All 3 of our churches have started the Affirming educational process. So whoever you love, whatever your gender identity, sexual orientation, culture or ethnicity, or ability, you are welcome here. We are glad you have joined us for worship. So let us join together in worship.

**Introit: God Be in My Head VU 430**

**Video**

**God be in my head, and in my understanding;**

**God be in mine eyes, and in my looking;**

**God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;**

**God be in my heart, and in my thinking;**

**God be at mine end, and at my departing.**

#### **Lighting the Christ Candle**

There was a man named Jesus, who brought hope and healing to all he met.  
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 is 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.**

## **Opening Song: MV 1    Let Us Build A House**

### **A Reading from Ephesians 2:13, 14, 19a.**

<sup>13</sup>But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

<sup>14</sup>For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both Jews and Gentiles one people and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us.

<sup>19</sup>So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God...

A Slice of Pie: Video by Karen Marks

## **Prayer of the Day**

*Adapted from a prayer by Richard Watson*

Stigmatized God,

In Christ you tasted the pain of rejection  
and bore the fear and prejudice of others.

Empower us by your love

so we can bring strength to the weary,

hope to the despairing

and the fullness of life to the exhausted;

through Christ, who holds all creation together in love. Amen.

### **A reading from the Gospel of John 15:9, 12-14**

<sup>9</sup>As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.

<sup>12</sup>"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you.

A slice of Nature: Video by Rev. Lionel Ketola

**Hymn: MV # 145 Draw the Circle Wide**

**John 10:14 – 16**

<sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me, in the same way Abba God knows me and I know God – and for these sheep I will lay down my life. <sup>16</sup>I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

A Slice of Pie: Video by Debbie Andersen

**1 Corinthians 12:12-21, 26.**

<sup>12</sup> Christ is like a single body, which has many parts; it is still one body, even though it is made up of different parts. <sup>13</sup> In the same way, all of us, whether Jews or Gentiles, whether slaves or free, have been baptized into the one body by the same Spirit, and we have all been given the one Spirit to drink.

<sup>14</sup> For the body itself is not made up of only one part, but of many parts.

Video Message: Pastor Steve and Rev. Lionel

**Hymn of the Day: Hymn: VU # 602 Blest Be the Tie that Binds VIDEO**

**Offertory Prayer**

*Let us pray:*

**Loving God,**

**We offer to you what you have first given us –**

**our selves, our time, our possessions – signs of your gracious love.**

**Receive all of our gifts for the sake of the One**

**who emptied himself for us – Jesus our brother. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People**

*By Jann Aldredge-Clanton, USA*

Wise and wonderful Creator of infinite variety,

Forgive our petty striving to squeeze you and your creation into our conventions.

Lady Wisdom, Sophia, flower of richest and rarest beauty,

forgive our ignorance and prejudice that keeps us from seeing your sacredness in all of life.

Though you have created us with wondrous diversity,

we have tried to restrict one another  
into limited ways of being and doing, and we are all the losers.  
Forgive us and heal us of our racism, homophobia, sexism, classism,  
and all other evils that keep us from celebrating your diverse creation.  
God in your love, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for the celebrations of International Women's Day which took  
place this past week.

Holy One, each life has been shaped and touched by women.  
Women's stories may have been ignored or forgotten,  
but, today, we claim their worth.

We give thanks for all women who have been part of your holy story,  
all women who form a tree of life.

For leaders and liberators like Miriam, Deborah, and Esther,  
for poets and prophets like Huldah, Anna, Mary, and Hannah,  
for apostles and activists like Mary Magdalene, Lydia, and Priscilla,  
for the named and the nameless, all vital to the story.

For women whose gifts of strength, imagination, wisdom and compassion  
have been a tree a life for us, we give thanks.

God in your love, **hear our prayer.**

Healing God, one year ago, March 11, 2020, the WHO declared COVID-19 a global  
pandemic. We hold in prayer all who grieve the death of loved ones; all who are  
ill or dying; all who continue to struggle with long term effects of COVID. We lift  
up the frontline workers and medical researchers who have worked, past  
exhaustion, to offer compassion, care and hope to all who suffer.

God in your love, **hear our prayer.**

Tender God, at this time, we lift up our prayers for all who are in need:

*Intercessions are spoken*

*Into your hands, Loving God, we commend all for whom we pray; trusting in your  
great love for us, through Jesus who taught us to pray:*

***God our Heavenly Parent, hallowed be thy name ... Amen.***

### **A Reading from Psalm 133<sup>1</sup>**

How wonderful it is, how pleasant,  
for God's people to live together in harmony!

<sup>2</sup>It is like the precious anointing oil  
running down from Aaron's head and beard,  
down to the collar of his robes.

A Slice of Pie: Riverside United Church

Video

### **Blessing and Commissioning**

How wonderful it is – indeed! – when God's people  
dwell together in love and harmony.

It's like refreshing morning dew –

It heals our wounds.

It nurtures our diversity.

It blesses our lives.

May we go forth to be this blessing,  
in the name of the Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit! Amen!

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

*For more information about PIE day,  
check out the website: [www.pieday.ca](http://www.pieday.ca)*

***Church Announcements  
on the pages below***



# Pledges for Plumpies

## A Lent Fundraiser for UNICEF



## What are Plumpies?



Each donation of \$10.00 will provide a child suffering from malnutrition with enough Plumpy'Nut for one week. Plumpy'Nut is a "miracle food" – a paste made of peanuts, powdered milk, sugar and oil, with added vitamins and minerals. Three 500 calorie packs a day can restore a malnourished child to health in a few weeks. Plumpy'Nut requires no added water or refrigeration, can be eaten with fingers and is tolerated by malnourished bodies. All monies raised will go to UNICEF to purchase and distribute this edible miracle.

## How does this Fundraiser work?

Decorate a jar or basket for Lent to put your Pledges in. Each Sunday of Lent, write down what you have pledged to donate to Plumpies for that week and put it in your Lent jar / basket. **At Easter, add up your pledges and send your donation** to your congregation. All monies will be forwarded to UNICEF Canada's Plumpy'Nut program.

How to send your money: Send your donation to the church, or send your donation by interac e-transfer to:

for Goodwood United Church: [goodwooductreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:goodwooductreasurer@gmail.com)

for Claremont United Church: [treasurercuc@outlook.com](mailto:treasurercuc@outlook.com)

## Goodwood United Church Weekly Programs & Meetings

**Online Community Check-in: Tuesdays at 10:00 AM, on Zoom.** Join us for an opportunity to connect and find supportive community through our regular weekly check-in meetings. At the conclusion of our check-in time, we move into our weekly “Conversations about Life / Not your Typical Bible Study” group. Feel free to join us!

**The Knit-Wits: Wednesdays at 10:00 am.** This is **Goodwood United Church’s** weekly **ZOOM group** for Knitting, crochet and other needle craft. This group facilitates our congregation’s **Prayer Shawl Ministry**. They will keep you in stitches! To find out how to connect with this group on Zoom, contact Shirley Baster.

**Book Study: Fridays at 10:00 am on Zoom – See Below for details of our Lent Study.**

## CLAREMONT UNITED CHURCH Weekly Programs and Meetings

**Wednesdays @ 12:00 noon – Join us for a Zoom “drop-in” meeting. Resumes Wed January 6<sup>th</sup>.** Everyone is invited to join us for these “Virtual Brock Café” Zoom gatherings to connect with our congregational community. ! Thank you to Debbie Andersen who will host this coming week’s gathering, while Rev. Lionel is away on study leave.

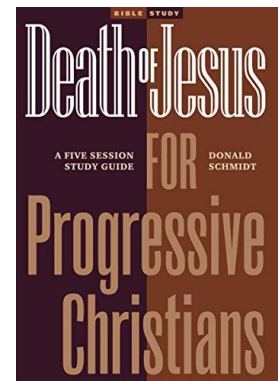
## **Join our joint BOOK STUDY GROUP for all 3 Churches & friends:**

**Friday Mornings at 10 AM on Zoom.**

### **Join our Lent Book Study (5 weeks)**

Beginning the first week in Lent (Friday Feb 19<sup>th</sup>) we will read:  
**The Death of Christ for Progressive Christians, by Donald Schmidt.**

You can order your copy through: [www.woodlakebooks.com](http://www.woodlakebooks.com)



## Join us for Worship on YOUTUBE

Join us for worship LIVE, Sunday Mornings at 10:30 am on YOUTUBE, or watch recordings of our Sunday service anytime during the week.

See this Link (Fairbank United's YouTube channel):

<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: **treasurercuc@outlook.com**

For **Goodwood United** send to: **goodwooductreasurer@gmail.com**

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

