



Welcome to worship!
Sunday Nov 22, 2020,
25th Sunday after Pentecost
Reign of Christ Sunday
Confirmation & Holy Communion

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

We Joyfully Gather in God's Presence

Lighting the Christ Candle

There was a man named Jesus, who shared God's love and healing presence 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

The spirit of God calls us from many places;
some of us come from busy homes with many people
and some of us live alone.

But we are members of one family – the body of Christ.

This last week has been different for each of us;
some of us have had joyful news to celebrate
some of us have faced grief and loss.

We are members of one family – the body of Christ.

This is why we all gather in Jesus' name -
seeking God's presence in our lives
seeking God's presence through each other.
Together we become one family – the body of Christ.

Let us worship together, as Christ's living and loving body.

Opening Song: We Praise You O God
Gabrielle Untermann & Jane Plewman

VU # 218

VIDEO

Prayer of the Day

**God of vision,
your Kingdom breaks in
through our tangled webs of power and domination
and ushers in a new day of hope.
Grant that your creation,
now divided by the power of sin,
may be united under the gentle and healing reign of Jesus,
your Anointed One, who orders all things in love, justice and peace. 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.

Ezekiel 34:11-24

¹¹For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture,

and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

Reflection: Pastor Steve

Song: VU # 211

Crown Him with Many Crowns

VIDEO

Matthew 25:31-46

³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when

was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

Reflection: Rev. Lionel

Song: Here I Am, Lord VU # 509

VIDEO

Celebration of Confirmation for Lilah Brandt & Heather Dawson

Sung Response: Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

Led by Steve & Lionel

Invitation to the Offering:

We are grateful for all of your continued support and gifts toward the ministries of our congregations. Let us pray:

Prayer of Dedication for the Gifts:

Loving God, as we prepare to gather around Jesus' table, may we hunger for justice and hunger for your Kingdom. Bless our gifts in the service of these yearnings. Amen.

Prayers of the People

As we long for the fullness of Christ's reign to come among us, let us pray for the fresh outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God of compassion, help us to hear your cry in the needs of those around us. Bless the social ministries of the church through which we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, care for the sick, and welcome the stranger, for by serving the least of these, we serve Jesus. God in your love, **Hear our prayer.**

You cause life-giving rain to fall on the just and unjust alike. Guide us in our use of creation, so we can provide for the needs of all people in ways that are sustainable for the earth.

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

Bring peace to every place where conflict rages. Heal the divisions among us, release us from systems of oppression and prejudice, and usher in your reign of love and reconciliation.

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

May your blessings remain with Lilah and Emily who have been confirmed today. Journey with them, strengthen their faith and fill them with joy as they continue to follow Jesus as his disciples. God in your love, **Hear our prayer.**

We lift up the prayers of our world and our communities at this time:

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your love. We ask this through Jesus, our brother, who taught us to pray: **“God, our mother and Father in Heaven ... Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

Blessed are you, Creator of the universe.
In great love you sent to us Jesus,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and, who on the cross, opened his arms to all.

On the night that Jesus was betrayed ...

Remembering Jesus' life and ministry,
we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has died
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, and on these gifts of bread and cup.
Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come Holy Spirit!

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Empower us to be the body of Christ for our world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth, burning with justice, peace and love.

Come Holy Spirit!

At the breaking of the bread:

The gifts of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God!

We share the bread and cup together

Post-Communion Prayer

**Loving God, you feed us with hope at your table of grace.
Send us from this table to tables throughout the world,
to love and serve in Jesus' name. Amen.**

We Go Forth to Serve our Neighbours

Blessing:

Go forth with courage!
Fall in love with living.
Wrestle with the chaos, the joy, and the pain
that's within you and within the world.
Join in the dance of life.
And may the blessing of God,
Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit
be with you now and always. Amen.

Closing Song: MV # 138

My Love Colours Outside the Lines

VIDEO

Dismissal

Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

CHURCH NEWS

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/>



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: Join us on Friday mornings at 10:00 am:

"Indigenous Relations: Insights, Tips and Suggestions to make Reconciliation a Reality. We begin this book by Bob Joseph this coming Friday November 27th. 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>

Next Sunday November 29th is the First Sunday of Advent!

Prepare for Advent by making your own Advent wreath at home.
See the attached sheet which explains how to build one.
Included is a children's colouring page.

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!

<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

Church phone: 905 649 1363