



Welcome to worship!

May 10th, 2020, 11:00 am

The 5th Sunday of Easter

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

Leading today:

Marilyn Elphick – Fairbank United Church

Onelicense # A-723979

Lighting the Christ Candle

There was a man named Jesus, who embodied God's healing presence in such surprising ways. And he said: **I am the light of the world**

Acknowledgement of the Land

Today we begin our worship by acknowledging that the land on which we are leading this worship is the traditional territory of the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation. God of justice, **Help us to embody your call to reconciliation with our First Nations in tangible, loving ways. Amen.**

Announcements & Today's Worship Theme

Opening Hymn: Let Us Build a House

Video

**1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive;
built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome, All are welcome in this place.**

**2 Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

**3 Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus is revealed in time and space,
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

**4 Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

**5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

Call to Worship

Today we once again enter our virtual gathering space.

A space where we worship together in spirit and in truth.

We pray, sing, and listen to God's Word despite the fear that pervades our community.

We trust Christ's peace, a peace given freely, despite our doubts and fears.

We know the Holy Spirit is among us, blowing with a hopeful wind of change.

We feel the presence of Christ, the one who died and rose again, and brings us eternal life.

We submit to God's leading in this time of transformation.

We experience the joy of Easter morning when we celebrate all God has in store for us.

Prayer of the Day

Meet us on this dusty road, O God -

in the place where our lives and your story connect.

Renew our hope.

Set our hearts ablaze with your Word.

Feed us with your risen presence,

and inspire us to tread the road again

so we can share the good news of your resurrection;

through Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life. Amen.

Sharing of the peace _____ (at this point you will be unmuted so you can respond together)

May the Peace of Christ be with you all

And Also with you

Community Hymn: Mothering God you Gave us Birth

Video

Word

Whether you take what is written in the Bible as fact, metaphor, myth or story, listen to these words now, for the meaning they hold for you on this day.

May the Spirit bless us with wisdom and wonder, as we ponder the meaning of these words in our lives.

Acts 7: 55-60

⁵⁵But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶“Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

Holy Wisdom Holy Word

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Video

Holy Gospel of John 14:1-14

¹⁴“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” ⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves.

¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

Hymn of Response: Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

Video

Invitation to the Offering

Prayer of Dedication for the Gifts

Creator God, we give you thanks for all your gifts to us—
for daily food, for health, for each breath we take,
for freedom to choose, and for the gifts of your word, your power and your love.
Our hearts are truly thankful,
when we consider how you have entrusted so much to us.
May we be worthy of that trust—
may we be a people who are unafraid to live
as fully and as richly as you want us to live. Amen

Prayers of the People

To the Moms Who Are by Hannah Kardon

To the Moms who are struggling, to those filled with incandescent joy.
To the Moms who are remembering children who have died, and pregnancies that miscarried.
To the Moms who decided other parents were the best choice for their babies, to the Moms who
adopted those kids and loved them fierce.
To those experiencing frustration or desperation in infertility.
To those who knew they never wanted kids, and the ways they have contributed to our shared world.
To those who mothered colleagues, mentees, neighborhood kids, and anyone who needed it.
To those remembering Moms no longer with us.
To those moving forward from Moms who did not show love, or hurt those they should have cared
for.
Today is a day to honor the unyielding love and care for others we call 'Motherhood,' wherever we
have found it and in whatever ways we have found to cultivate it within ourselves.

*God in your Mercy **Hear our Prayer***

Shepherd of our Souls, our Holy Gate, Your calm pasture is always open to us for spiritual shelter and
encouragement. As You know us each by our names, kindle our desire to hear Your voice deep within
us and follow Your call to salvation and abundant life.

God in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Living Christ, guide us out of the blindness of the “normal” and routine to discover the everyday
newness of Creation around us. Open our hearts to Your Constant Presence open our eyes to see Your
Way to Eternal Life, and open our souls to accept and live into Your gift of Salvation.

God in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

We pray for all the front line workers, for those who supply us with food and essential needs. Keep
them strong during this pandemic.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Merciful and loving God, comfort the sick, the dying and those who have died. Send comfort to their families and friends. We pray especially those in Long term care facilities and those who care for them.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

We pray for all those on our hearts and minds at this moment.....

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Holy God, we uplift these prayers to you as we pray the words taught to us..... **Our Father and Mother in Heaven, hallowed by thy name.....**

Closing Song: God of Grace and God of Glory

VIDEO

Blessing and Commissioning

Lord God,
we rejoice in your greatness and power,
your gentleness and love,
your mercy and justice.
Enable us by your Spirit
to honour you in our thoughts,
and words and actions,
and to serve you in every aspect of our lives;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sung Blessing: Go Now in Peace

Video

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Goodwood United Church: Online Check-in: Tuesdays at noon, on Zoom. Instead of our regular “Conversations about Life” Bible study, our group wanted to offer the congregation an opportunity to connect via Zoom for a social hour to connect and check in with each other.

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” gatherings to connect with each other and check in with our congregational community.

Check out our websites! Both Goodwood United Church and Claremont United Church websites are updated so that they reflect some of the online Zoom ministries / programs which we are offering. As well, both websites have new pages dedicated to resources related to grief and coping with COVID-19.



Find us online! Check out our websites!

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

www.claremontunitedchurch.com

www.goodwoodunitedchurch.com



Find us on Facebook!

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Continued Support for our Congregations

During these weeks when our churches are not meeting for public worship, please prayerfully consider how you are able to continue supporting our congregation with its continued financial obligations. Offerings can be mailed to the church address itself, or contact your church’s treasurer for PAR forms. Thank you for your continued support of our congregation’s ministry.

