



Welcome to worship!
Sunday August 16, 2020
11th Sunday after Pentecost

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

**Worship Leader: Marilyn Elphick, Reg.N, M.Div.,
Th.M**

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Announcements & Today's Worship Theme

We Gather to in Joyful Celebration

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 my 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 Psalm 133 Psalm of Ascent

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity

It is like the precious oil on the head running down the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robe.

It is like the dew of Hermon which falls on the mountains of Zion

For there the Lord ordained his blessing, life evermore.

Amen

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. ~ The Book of Common Prayer

Opening Hymn: O God, Our Help in Ages Past

VIDEO

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.

Genesis 45:1-15

Joseph Reveals Himself to His Brothers

45 Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. ² And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. ³ Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as

your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ ¹² And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. ¹³ You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” ¹⁴ Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Gospel Acclamation

VIDEO

Matthew 15:10-28

Things That Defile

¹⁰ Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand: ¹¹ it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” ¹² Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” ¹³ He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴ Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind.^[a] And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” ¹⁵ But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” ¹⁶ Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸ But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”

The Canaanite Woman’s Faith

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶ He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸ Then

Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."
And her daughter was healed instantly.

Reflection: Marilyn Elphick

[We Joyfully Respond to the Good News](#)

Hymn of the Day: Kari Jobe - Be Still My Soul (In You I Rest) [Lyrics]

VIDEO

Invitation to the Offering

Prayer of Dedication for the Gifts

A Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

You have come close to each of us.
You have extended to us your own special love,
and have given to us such special gifts.
Thank you God for these.

Thank you for all the other gifts
that are present in these people around me.
Together we are a gifted people - Your people.

You gave us these gifts for a purpose.
They are to be used by us,
to serve the needs of others.
Give us courage, Lord, and the confidence too,
to take these gifts with us now as we go.

Open our eyes and hearts to those we meet.
Help us to see their need, and to show your love,
and to use Your gifts that are invested in us,
to bring them hope, and life.

We go now with unwrapped gifts, ready to be used.
We go as your servants,
Ready to touch others with your love.
And we don't go alone.

Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn: The Irish Blessing - over 300 churches from our island sing a blessing over Ireland and beyond ...

VIDEO

Blessing and Commissioning

May the beauty of God
be reflected in your eyes,
the love of God
be reflected in your hands,
the wisdom of God
be reflected in your words,
and the knowledge of God
flow from your heart,
that all might see,
and seeing, believe.
“The Lord bless you
and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face toward you
and give you peace. ”

Sung Blessing: Open the Eyes of My Heart (Duffley)

VIDEO

Next Sunday's Readings:

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 1:8-2:10

Matthew 16:13-20