

Welcome to worship!
Sunday Nov 21, 2021, 10:30 am
Reign of Christ Sunday
A Celebration of our Time Together
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 history, spirituality and cultures of the First Nations who are the traditional custodians of the land where each of us is gathered today. Their relationship with the land remains central to their lives.

God of new life, ground us in love and justice so we can work toward reconciliation and fulfill our treaty obligations with the First Peoples of this land. Amen.

Call To Worship

During the past year and a half
the Spirit of God has called us together from many places;
some of us come from busy homes, some from quiet ones. Some from the city, others from
small rural communities, some live with large families, others living on their own.
And yet we are members of one family – the body of Christ.

We gather, with gratitude, for the experiences of the past year and a half, as we shared our
worship together.

We gather in Jesus' name - grateful for God's presence in our lives,
grateful for God's presence in each other,
together as one family – the body of Christ.

Let us worship together with joy!

Opening Song: We Praise You O God

VU # 218

VIDEO

https://youtu.be/4DWmVlw_-8g

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.

Thessalonians 1:1-12

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: ²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of everyone of you for one another is increasing. ⁴Therefore we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith during all your persecutions and the afflictions that you are enduring.

Colossians 3:12-21

¹²As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint

against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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

Reflection: Pastor Steve

Song: Now Thank We All Our God VU 236

The Holy Gospel According to John 18: 33-37

33 Then Pilate entered the headquarters* again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' ³⁴Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' ³⁵Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?' ³⁶Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.' ³⁷Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.'

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

Reflection: Rev. Lionel

Song: Let Us Break Bread Together Video on Computer

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.**

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.**

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

Intercessions are offered.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your love. Amen.

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.**

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!

With our Saviour Christ, we pray: **“God our Mother and Father in Heaven ...”**

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.

Video: Masked Bandits

Closing Hymn: Here I Am, Lord

VU # 509

VIDEO

We Go Forth to Serve our Neighbours

Blessing:

May the blessing of God journey with us and our communities,
May they always be a safe place,
full of understanding and acceptance,
where you can be as you are,
without the need of any mask
or pretense or image.

May this time that we had together
be known as a time of joyful discovery.
And may the blessing of God,
the peace of Jesus,
and the transforming power of the Holy Spirit,
be with you now and always. Amen

Sung Blessing: Go Now in Peace CFG Choir

Church News and Announcements



Exciting News!

**On Sunday November 28th, Advent 1,
we return to worship, in our Church Buildings!**
Goodwood United Church: 9:15 am in the church
Claremont United Church: 11:00 am in the church
**An email will be sent out with further details,
but briefly:**

- **Proof of Full Vaccination is required for in-person worship**
 - **You will be screened at the door for COVID symptoms**
 - **Seating will be physically distanced**
 - **Masks will continue to be worn during worship**
 - **Quiet singing is allowed, with masks on while seated**
- **If you are not feeling well, we invite you to worship with us on Zoom**

Sunday morning services will be broadcast **live on Zoom**.
Later Sunday afternoon, our Sunday morning service will be **uploaded to YouTube**
for viewing during the week.

We will announce **our new YouTube** channel soon, where you can view our services.



White Gift Sunday

Sunday Nov 28, 2021 - White Gift Sunday @ Claremont United Church

Hello friends and neighbours,

Brrrrr. These first frosty mornings remind us that winter is coming – time to dig out warm socks and mitts, turn up the thermostat and think of snuggling up in front of the fire with a good book. But what about those who are not fortunate enough to have warm clothing or even a warm place to call their own?

Let's celebrate the season and our church reopening by sharing our bounty with others. Herizon House tells us they really need women's pajamas and slippers of all sizes. The Back Door Mission in Oshawa has asked for warm blankets, hand and bath towels and men's boxers or briefs. Socks are always welcome too. As always, the clothing should be new.

You have stepped up every time we have asked. Let's once again demonstrate the generosity of our community.

Your gifts may be dropped off at Tracey & Steve's at 5057 William St. **before November 28th** or brought to church that day as we reopen.

If you have any questions please contact Debbie Andersen deborahlynnandersen@gmail.com or Tracey May at traceymay6788@gmail.com

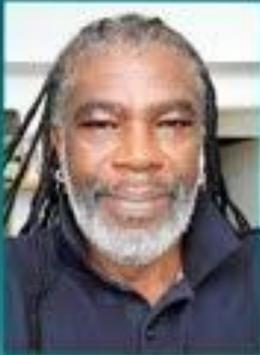
Thank you so much!

The Affirming, Mission and Outreach Team at Claremont United Church (AMO)

**CLAREMONT AND GOODWOOD
UNITED CHURCHES**

present a free online (Zoom) speaker series

Journeys to Justice



Wednesday October 20, 7.30-8.30 p.m.

Rev. Michael Blair

General Secretary, General Council
United Church of Canada

Being the Beloved Community

An exploration of the opportunities and
practices of a transformational community

Tuesday November 16, 7.30-8.30 p.m.

Rev. Junia Joplin

Associate Pastor,
Metropolitan Community Church of Toronto

In Front of Everybody

A trans pastor reflects on life in the pulpit
and out of the closet



Tuesday December 7, 7.30-8.30 p.m.

Dianne Saxe

Former Ontario Environmental Commissioner,
Deputy Leader, Green Party of Ontario

Climate Health and Social Justice

There can be no climate health without
social justice, and there can be no social
justice without climate health



*And there's more
a second series is being scheduled for early next year
.... so stay tuned!*

Further information and to register (numbers limited)
affirmingministry@gmail.com

Goodwood United Church - Weekly Programs and Meetings

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.

Thursday Mornings from 10-11 am - "Coffee Fellowship in the Church"

Join us in the church basement for a safe, socially distanced gathering for coffee & conversation in the church basement. All COVID-19 precautions will be observed.

Book Study Group – Friday mornings at 10:00 am (see below for details)

Sunday November 28, 9:15 am – We worship in our church building for Advent 1

Claremont United Church - Weekly Programs and Meetings

Wednesdays at 10:00 am – Join us for our Online Zoom Check in

Enjoy a chance to connect with our church community and share stories, laughter and support for this online gathering.

Discernment Process – Please sign up to participate in a Wisdom Circle!

Earlier this year, our Claremont United Church's Board has voted to begin a Discernment process which will use the "wisdom circle process" to discern what our future as a congregation could look like! This is a very exciting process to begin, as we seek the Spirit's guidance about our future shape & ministries.

We are now ready to begin hosting Wisdom Circles. **Please sign up to participate in this process by sending an email to Rev. Lionel at claremontunitedchurch@gmail.com.**

Participants should expect to be involved in a monthly meeting for approx. 6 months' time. You will remain in the same group for the duration of the process. **Please indicate whether you would prefer to attend a daytime or evening meeting for your circle.** Once we hear back from a good number of our members, we will announce the first meeting times. Looking forward to your involvement! Rev. Lionel

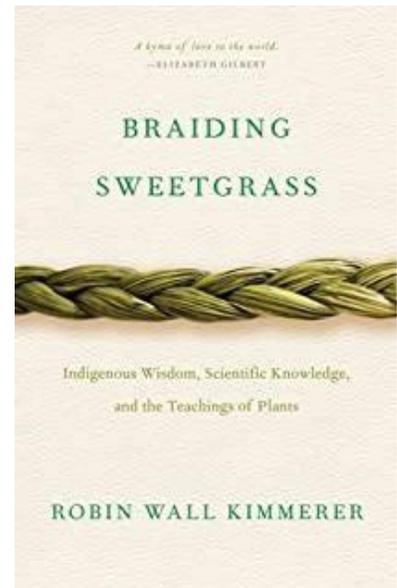
Join us for our

Friday Morning Book Study

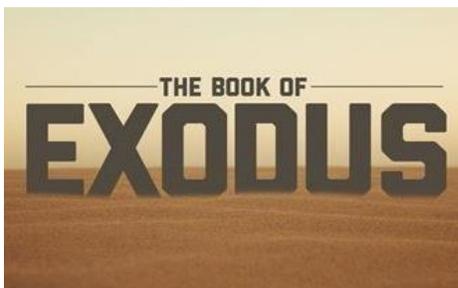
Friday mornings at 10:00 am, on Zoom.

To get the Zoom link please contact Rev. Lionel.

Join us as we read: **Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants, by Robin Wall Kimmerer.**



A word to newcomers: Don't worry about joining us part way through – we are taking the book chapter by chapter with a slow reflective pace, and each chapter has its own unique theme. So there is no “right” time to join our study. So join us as we enjoy this very inspiring book!



An Invitation to a Zoom Bible Study: The Book of Exodus, online, led by Rev. Kim at Mount Zion United Church

Rev. Kim Lawrence, serving at Greenwood-Mt. Zion United Church, has invited Goodwood and Claremont United members who are interested to join them for their Zoom Bible study – this is a 6-week Bible Study which is exploring the 2nd half of the Book of Exodus.

Time: Thursdays, 7-8 pm, on Zoom.

To join, email Rev. Kim Lawrence at: mountzionunitedchurch@gmail.com



Join us for Worship on our YouTube channel - [CFG Worship](#)

- Join us for worship either on Zoom, or on YouTube, Sundays at 10:30 am
- Watch past services uploaded to our YouTube channel Go to [Youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search [CFG Worship](#).

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.

THANK
YOU!