



*Welcome to worship!*

**Sunday January 24<sup>th</sup> 2021**

**Third Sunday after Epiphany**

*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*

**Musicians this Sunday:** Gabrielle Untermann and Jane Plewman, and Alex Hyunh Do.

### **We Joyfully Gather in God's Presence**

#### **Words of Welcome**

#### **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.**



#### **Call to Worship**

The invitation is given to every person by Jesus Christ:

"Come to me! Follow me! Be my disciples!"

**We come to this place, to this time, at the invitation of Jesus Christ.**

In the name of Christ,

**we accept the invitation to discipleship.**

In the name of Christ,

**as his disciples, we worship and praise God.**

In the midst of a world where cruelty abounds,  
**we proclaim the God of Compassion.**

In the midst of despair that threatens to swallow up whole lives, whole peoples,  
**we proclaim the God of Hope.**

In the midst of indifference and apathy,  
**we proclaim the God of Love.**

Come, let us worship together and share our witness of God's living presence in the world.

Opening Hymn: Tell Me the Stories of Jesus VU 357 - Alex

### **Prayer of the Day**

**Jesus Christ, our Saviour,  
alive and present in our world,  
help us to follow and find you  
in those ordinary places  
where we live out our lives.**

**Speak into your lives.  
Call us into a deeper commitment,  
a deeper compassion,  
a deeper way of being present to our world.**

**We ask this in the name of the One  
who calls us to bring good news to all,  
Jesus our brother. 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.**

### **Jonah 3:1-10**

**3**The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." <sup>3</sup>So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. <sup>4</sup>Jonah

began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!"

<sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

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

**Reflection: Rev. Lionel**

**Scripture Hymn: What A Friend We Have in Jesus VU 664** *Gabrielle Untermann & Jane Plewman*

## **Mark 1:14-20**

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." <sup>16</sup>As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." <sup>18</sup>And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup>As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup>Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

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

**Reflection: Pastor Steven**

**Hymn of the Day: Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore      VU 563**

### **Affirmation of Faith**

**We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,**

**who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.  
We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.**

### **Prayers of the People**

Loving God

You walk along the shorelines of our lives  
and meet us where we are at -  
in our places of work and study and play,  
in our solitude and in our relationships,  
in our struggles and in our joys,  
and you embrace us with an unconditional love  
as your disciples.

Strengthen us by your Spirit,  
and open our hearts  
so we can hear your Spirit  
challenging us to grow  
in new ways as your disciples.

Inspire and broaden our imaginations  
so we can see the world through your eyes ...

risking new ways of reaching out in love  
with the message of your love for our world.

Calm our fears, and fill us with passion for our calling as your people.  
God in your love, **hear our prayer.**

Christ the healer,  
we come to you lifting up in prayer  
all who have asked us for our love and prayers:

*Prayers of intercessions are offered*

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

Tender God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your great love for all of your creation. We ask this in Jesus' name, who taught us to pray: **"God, our Mother and Father in Heaven ... Amen."**

### **Minute for Mission Invitation to the Offering**

#### **Prayer of Dedication for the Gifts:**

Loving God,  
as the disciples offered their whole selves to you when they chose to follow Jesus,  
we offer you, this day, our selves, time, our possessions, signs of your gracious love.  
With these gifts we dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made;  
through Christ our Savior. Amen.

**Closing Hymn:** Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song VU 641 <https://youtu.be/1MTkKFkZORw>

#### **Blessing & Commissioning**

Jesus walks along the shorelines of our lives -  
he sees us, embraces us, and empowers us to be his disciples.  
May we go forth to bring good news to an aching world.  
May the blessing of God,  
Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit  
be with you now and always. Amen.

**Sung Dismissal: Go Now in Peace**

**VIDEO**



## Upcoming Programs & Meetings - GOODWOOD UNITED CHURCH

**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**. To find out how to connect with this group on Zoom, contact Shirley Baster.

### UPCOMING MEETINGS for Goodwood United Church:

**Board Meeting:** Tuesday Feb 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

**Annual General Meeting:** Thursday March 11, at 7:00 pm on ZOOM.

\*\* Please get your AGM report to Dar Christie **by Feb 15**. Thanks!

## Upcoming Programs & Meetings - CLAREMONT UNITED CHURCH

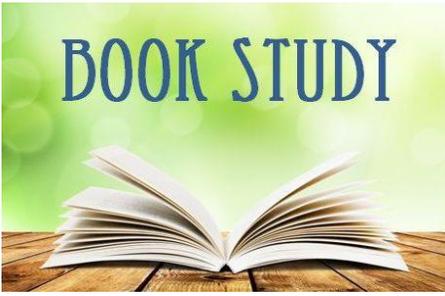
**Wednesdays @ 12:00 noon - Join us for a Zoom “drop-in” meeting. Resumes Wed January 6<sup>th</sup>.** Everyone is invited to join us for these “Virtual Brock Café” Zoom gatherings to connect with our congregational community.

### UPCOMING MEETINGS for Claremont United Church:

**Official Board (Financial) Meeting:** Wed Feb 10, at 7:30 pm on ZOOM

**Annual General Meeting:** Wed March 3, 7:30 pm.

\*\* Please get your AGM Report to Rev. Lionel by **Feb 15**. Thanks!



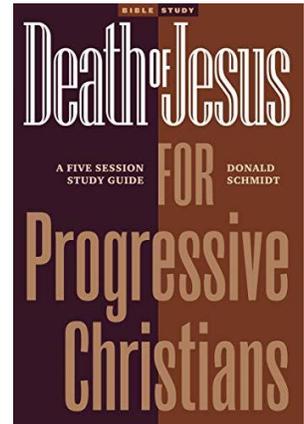
**Joint BOOK STUDY GROUP for all 3 Churches & friends:** Friday Mornings at 10 AM

Beginning Friday January 8<sup>th</sup> to Friday Feb 12 we will read:  
**Unsettling the WORD: Biblical Experiments in Decolonization**, Steve Heinrichs Editor.  
(Available online through a variety of bookstores).

### 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)



**YOUTUBE** – Watch 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: [treasureruc@outlook.com](mailto:treasureruc@outlook.com)

For **Goodwood United** send to: [goodwooductreasurer@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.claremontunitedchurch.com)

[www.goodwoodunitedchurch.com](http://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](mailto:lionelketola@gmail.com)**

**Church phone: 905 649 1363**