



Welcome to Worship

Easter 4B

on Zoom or our

YouTube channel CFG Worship

Claremont, Fairbank & Goodwood

United Churches

Sunday April 25th 2021, 10:30 am

Worship Leaders: Rev. Lionel Ketola, and Pastor Steven Loweth

Words of Welcome

Inroit: Julian of Nowich

Linnea Good

Video

Lighting the Christ Candle

There was a man named Jesus, who brought healing and new life to all whom he met. 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 Canada’s First Nations peoples. Amen.

Collect

God of Easter

It is you who opens our eyes
to see your love.

It is you who opens our minds
to welcome your word

It is you who opens our mouths
to be your witness.

Show us your hands,
so we may reach out
to mend the broken;
Show us your feet,

so we may walk with
those the world passes by;
Show us your face,
so we may know what
our sisters and brothers look like.
We pray this in the name of the risen one. Amen

Opening Hymn: Alleluia Alleluia

VU 179

Video

We Gather Around God's Word

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.

Psalm 4

Reader: Shirley Baster

Answer me when I call, God of my justice!
Give me relief from my distress!

Have mercy!
Hear my prayer! How long will you people dishonor me before God?
How long will you love delusion and pursue lies?

Know that those who love YHWH
have been set apart by divine will—
YHWH will hear me when I call!
Tremble, and stop your sinning;
search your heart, alone and silent in your room.

Offer sacrifices of justice,
and put your trust in YHWH.

So many are asking,
“Does good even exist anymore?”
Let the light of your face, YHWH, shine on us!

You put joy in my heart—

a joy greater than being full
of bread and new wine.

In peace I'll lie down;
in peace I will sleep:
for you alone, YHWH,
keep me perfectly safe.

Luke 24: 36b-48

Reader: Shirley Baster

Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence. ⁴⁴Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.

Reflection: Rev. Lionel

Hymn of the Day: God of the Sparrow

VU 229

Minute for Mission

Video

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Prayer

Generous God,
through your Son, Jesus Christ,
you have shown us what it means to love.
And you call us to follow Your example—
to love our neighbours as we love ourselves.

Continue to write your law of love on our hearts.
Give us an unwavering passion for justice,
and a tenacious faith that will not rest
until the hungry are fed,
the oppressed find relief,
and the outsider finds a welcome. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Risen Lord, hear our cry for help –
for those surrounded by the shroud of death
for those covered by the mantle of dying
for those hemmed-in by illness, visible or veiled
hear our cry for help...
for those weighed down with worries
for those carrying the burden of distress
for those overwhelmed by isolation
hear our cry for help...

for those who are weary
for those who are tattered and worn
for those who collapse from exhaustion
hear our cry for help...

Risen Lord, hear our cry of thanksgiving –
for the graciousness with which you hear
for the patience with which you listen
for the grace with which you care
hear our cry of thanksgiving...

for the ways you accompany us through deep valleys
for the ways you lead us to still meadows
for the ways you provide all we need
hear our cry of thanksgiving...

for transforming death in resurrection life
for blessing and breaking ordinary bread
for opening our eyes to recognize you
hear our cry of thanksgiving...

Risen Lord, hear our cry for communities of faith –
that we retain memory of being together
that we embrace unity in the reality of distance
that we foresee a future side-by-side, hand-in-hand
hear our cry for communities of faith...

At this time, we remember all who have asked us for our prayers:

(Intercessions are now offered)

In the hope of new life in Christ, we offer our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy. With confidence, we pray with the words that Jesus taught us:

God our Mother and Father in Heaven, hallowed be thy name ...

Closing Song: All the Way My Saviour Leads Me

VU 635

Blessing:

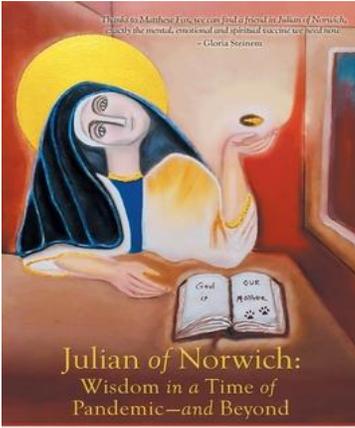
Let us go forth as witnesses
to the power and presence of the Risen Christ in our world.

May God journey with you
through brokenness to wholeness,
through fear to faith,
through sorrow to joy,
through death to life.

May the blessing of God,
Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit
Be with you now and always.
From fear to faith,
And fill us with a spirit of joy.
Amen.

Sung Dismissal: Go Now in Peace

Church Announcements Next page



Julian of Norwich: Wisdom in a time of Pandemic

A Sermon Series based on the book by Matthew Fox

Rev. Lionel & Pastor Steve will be leading this 7 week Sermon Series based on Matthew Fox's book. There will be a break mid-way when Rev Lionel and Pastor Steve are away on Study leave from May 16-23. After the series is complete you may enjoy ordering the book to further reflect on it.

April 25 - Week 1 "Facing the Darkness"

Preacher: Rev. Lionel
Scriptures: Psalm 4, Luke 24: 36b-48

May 2 - Week 2 "Goodness, Joy & Awe"

Preacher: Pastor Steve
Scriptures: Psalm 23, John 10:11-18

May 9 – Week 3 "The Divine Feminine"

HOLY COMMUNION / Mother's Day

Preacher: Rev. Lionel
Scriptures: Isaiah 66:13, Matthew 23: 37-39, Luke 15: 1-3, 8-10

(Rev. Lionel & Pastor Steve are off on Study Leave from Sun May 16 – Sun May 23 inclusive)

May 30 – Week 4 "God and Creation are One"

Preacher: Pastor Steve
Scriptures: Isaiah 6: 1-3, Psalm 19: 1, Psalm 26,

June 6 – Week 5 "Expanding our Vision: Beyond Dualism"

Preacher: Rev. Lionel
Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 1:10, Galatians 3:28, John 17: 1a, 11, 20-23

June 13 – Week 6 "Trusting our Sensuality"

Preacher: Pastor Steve
Scriptures: Psalm 139: 1-6 13-18, Genesis 1: 1-5, 26a, 27-31a.

June 20 – Week 7 "The Power of Love over Evil"

HOLY COMMUNION

Preaching: Rev. Lionel & Pastor Steve
Scriptures: Psalm 98, John 15:9-17

Goodwood United Church - Weekly Programs & 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.

Online Community Check-in: Thursdays at 10:30 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!

Book Study: Fridays at 10:00 am on Zoom – See Below for details of our Lent Study.

CLAREMONT UNITED CHURCH - Weekly Programs and Meetings

Mission & Outreach Committee - Tuesday April 20th @ 3:00 pm

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, catch up with each other and to share support.

Thursday May 28, 7:30 pm – Claremont SESSION Meeting

A reminder for Session members about this meeting!

Check out our new YouTube channel - CFG Worship

- **Join us for worship either on Zoom, or on Youtube**
- **Watch past services uploaded to our YouTube channel**

Go to **Youtube.com** and search **CFG Worship**.

And if you can, please click the subscribe button ... Our goal is to get 100 subscribers, then we can get bonus stuff to boost our YouTube channel!

So please subscribe!

Join our **BOOK STUDY GROUP** for all **3 Churches & friends:**

Friday Mornings at 10:00 AM on Zoom.

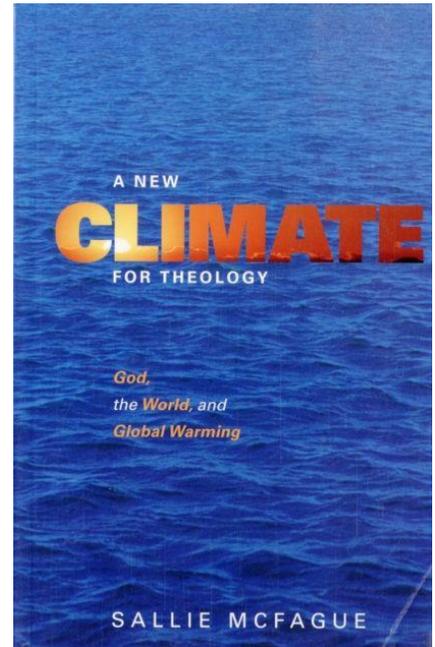
We are currently reading: **UNSETTLING the WORD: Biblical Experiments in Decolonization.**

On Friday May 28, we will begin our new book:

A New Climate for Theology: God, the World, and Global Warming,

by Sallie McFAGUE. It is an excellent book, so please join us!!

The book is available from Blue Heron in Uxbridge, if you want to support a local book store, or you can also get it from other dealers such as Amazon, or Chapters Indigo, so order yours now in time for May 28.



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.

**THANK
YOU!**