



**Welcome to worship!**

**Sunday June 7, 2020**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Church of Canada**

**A joint online Zoom worship Service with:**

**Claremont, Fairbank & Goodwood United Churches plus Guests**

*Leaders: Pastor Steven Loweth & Rev. Lionel Ketola*

Onelicense # A-723979 CCLI # 11550809

## **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.**

**Opening Hymn: We are One**

**Video**

#### **Call to Worship**

*(from GATHERING, Pentecost 1, 2015, page 78)*

To celebrate 95 years is to celebrate a long, vibrant life

**95 years of hard work, prayerful worship, and thoughtful learning;**

**95 years of calling the church, the country, the world to change and grow**

**95 years of seeking justice in chaotic times**

**and struggling to hear God's voice in a deafening world.**

To celebrate 95 years is to celebrate a long vibrant life

**But not for a church. We are still young. We are still beginning.**

**We have only caught a glimpse of what the Spirit is calling us to be.**

As we celebrate God's presence in our past and seek the Spirit's calling in our future,

**May we rejoice in the holy ground that lies before us  
We ask for wisdom, faith and trust  
We ask for courage, energy and purpose  
and the Spirit's lively guidance  
as we continue to walk this exciting road of faith together!**

### **Prayer of the Day**

**Loving God, as we gather this morning, we have a song of celebration to sing.  
As we gather to celebrate the United Church of Canada's 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary,  
ignite our spirits with passion,  
and attune all of our actions to your will,  
so that through our individual and collective acts of love and justice,  
we can embody Jesus' own love for our world. 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.**

### **Scripture Readings:**

### **A reading from the book of Genesis (18:1-15; 21: 1-7)**

**18** The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. <sup>2</sup>He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. <sup>3</sup>He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. <sup>4</sup>Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. <sup>5</sup>Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." <sup>6</sup>And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." <sup>7</sup>Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. <sup>8</sup>Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. <sup>9</sup>They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." <sup>10</sup>Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. <sup>11</sup>Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. <sup>12</sup>So Sarah laughed to herself,

saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" <sup>13</sup>The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' <sup>14</sup>Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." <sup>15</sup>But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."

**21** The LORD dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as he had promised. <sup>2</sup>Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. <sup>3</sup>Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. <sup>4</sup>And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. <sup>5</sup>Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. <sup>6</sup>Now Sarah said, "God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me." <sup>7</sup>And she said, "Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

**Thanks be to God**

**Scripture Song: Pass Me Not O Gentle Saviour**

**VIDEO**

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**VIDEO**

### **The Holy Gospel According to Matthew (9:35 - 10:22)**

<sup>35</sup>Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. <sup>36</sup>When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup>Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; <sup>38</sup>therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

**10** Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. <sup>2</sup>These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; <sup>3</sup>Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup>Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

<sup>5</sup>These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, <sup>6</sup>but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup>As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' <sup>8</sup>Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the

lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. <sup>9</sup>Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, <sup>10</sup>no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. <sup>11</sup>Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. <sup>12</sup>As you enter the house, greet it. <sup>13</sup>If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. <sup>14</sup>If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. <sup>15</sup>Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

<sup>16</sup>“See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup>Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; <sup>18</sup>and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. <sup>19</sup>When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; <sup>20</sup>for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. <sup>21</sup>Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; <sup>22</sup>and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. <sup>23</sup>When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

**Thanks be to God**

**Sermon      Rev. Lionel**

### [We Respond to the Joyful News](#)

**Hymn of the Day:** O God our Help in Ages Past

**Video**

Invitation to the Offering

### **Offering Prayer**

**We thank you God for the work and witness  
that you have called us to, as the body of Christ.**

**May the gifts that we offer bring healing and hope to our fractured world.**

**May our words and deeds bear witness to the transforming power of love and justice.**

**We ask this in Jesus' name, who calls us to join in his healing work. Amen.**

## **Prayers of the People**

Loving God, You have called us to be Your people,  
A particular people,  
Chosen and cherished  
Lavished and loved,  
Sheltered and shepherded,  
Through sunshine and storm.

Make your face shine upon us, and your whole creation, O God,  
May we draw others into the warmth of your healing presence.  
God of hope,     **We are listening for your call.**

We have a call,  
To be loved,  
and to love,  
To be shown mercy,  
and to show mercy,  
To be forgiven,  
and to forgive,  
To receive hope,  
and to offer hope ,  
To know joy,  
and share joy,  
To feel peace,  
and bring peace,  
To be made whole,  
and offer wholeness.

We have a call,  
Listen...  
Listen...  
Can we hear?  
God of hope,     **We are listening for your call.**

Tender God, we lift up to you all whose needs are close to our hearts this day ...

Into your hands, Tender God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your great love for us. All this we ask in Jesus' name, who showed us your Mothering love, and who taught us to pray: **God, our Mother and Father in heaven, hallowed be thy name ...**

**Closing Hymn:**     We Are Called

**Video**

## Blessing and Commissioning

God is still seeking and calling labourers for the harvest.  
May we go out into the world,  
proclaiming the good news of the nearness of God  
who is calling us to wholeness, healing and new life.

As we go forth to live out God's call,  
may the blessing of God,  
Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit  
be with us now and always.  
**Amen.**

**Sung Dismissal: "Go Now in Peace"**

VIDEO

## The Readings for Next Sunday:

**Sunday June 21 - Third after Pentecost (Proper 7)**

**Next week will be our "Earth Eucharist" service of Holy Communion focused on our calling to care for the Earth.**

*Please have bread and juice/wine ready for the service so we can share communion together.*

### **Next week's Readings:**

**Genesis 21:8–21**

Hagar and Ishmael sent away.

**Psalms 86:1–10, 16–17 (VU p. 803)**

Turn your ear to me, O God.

**Romans 6:1b–11**

Dead to sin; alive in Christ.

**Matthew 10:24–39**

Discipleship: lose your life to find it.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Online Zoom Book Study Group (Fairbank & Goodood United):** On Friday June 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am we will begin our book study of Rev. Lenny Duncan's book: "Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S." which addresses the theme of anti-racism. Get your copy online and read along with us and join us for our Zoom conversations. The meetings will be approx an hour and a half.

**Goodwood United Church: Online Check-in: Tuesdays at noon, on Zoom.** Once our check in time has come to a conclusion, the group will proceed with our weekly Bible Study / "Conversations about Life", so feel free to join us for this as well.

**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** with new material, so check them out!

## Continued 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 bank.

For e-transfers to **Claremont United**, sent it to: [treasurercuc@outlook.com](mailto:treasurercuc@outlook.com)

For e-transfers to **Goodwood United**, send it 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 also information about coping with stress during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[www.claremontunitedchurch.com](http://www.claremontunitedchurch.com)

[www.goodwoodunitedchurch.com](http://www.goodwoodunitedchurch.com)



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