



SEASON OF CREATION

Welcome to Worship!

Sunday September 12, 2021, 10:30 am

16th Sunday after Pentecost

1st Sunday of Creation Season

**Claremont, Fairbank & Goodwood United
Churches**

Join us on Zoom or our YouTube channel: CFG Worship

Worship Leaders: Rev. Lionel Ketola and Pastor Steven Loweth

OneLicense # A-723979 CCLI # 11550809

Words of Welcome

Introit: *Mark Haas The Heavens are Telling the Glory of God*

<https://youtu.be/Qv222BaAKMU>

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.

Call to Worship

The heavens are telling the glory of God

May our worship reflect God’s glory.

The firmament proclaims God’s handiwork.

May we see each other as the handiwork of God.

Let our prayer and song and praise proclaim the love of God.

**We commune with Christians around the world,
with Christians throughout time.**

With Christians across geography and across time,

Let us celebrate in God’s presence together!

Opening Hymn: MV # 30 It's A Song of Praise to the Maker

Prayer of the Day

Holy Wisdom of God

You call to us from the depths of our hearts,
where we long for connection with you and with one another.
You call to us from busy streets and neighbourhoods,
where human pain and possibility are most urgent.
You call to us from our sacred Scriptures,
where we hear words of challenge and comfort.
Guide us, we pray, on an adventure of hope,
and help us see the world through your eyes of love and compassion,
so we may be your beloved community
where Christ Jesus is at the centre. **Amen.**

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.**

Proverbs 1:20-33

²⁰Wisdom cries out in the street;
in the squares she raises her voice.

²¹At the busiest corner she cries out;
at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:

²²"How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple?
How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing
and fools hate knowledge?"

²³Give heed to my reproof;
I will pour out my thoughts to you;
I will make my words known to you.

²⁴Because I have called and you refused,
have stretched out my hand and no one heeded,

²⁵and because you have ignored all my counsel

and would have none of my reproof,
²⁶I also will laugh at your calamity;
I will mock when panic strikes you,
²⁷when panic strikes you like a storm,
and your calamity comes like a whirlwind,
when distress and anguish come upon you.
²⁸Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer;
they will seek me diligently, but will not find me.
²⁹Because they hated knowledge
and did not choose the fear of the LORD,
³⁰would have none of my counsel,
and despised all my reproof,
³¹therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way
and be sated with their own devices.
³²For waywardness kills the simple,
and the complacency of fools destroys them;
³³but those who listen to me will be secure
and will live at ease, without dread of disaster.”

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

Reflection: Rev. Lionel

Hymn: VU # 272 Open Your Ears, O Faithful People

Used with permission from St. John's Episcopal Church, Tallahassee, USA.

<https://youtu.be/rdUsQN4L4Bs>

Another:

<https://youtu.be/zIHNxzHlxgo>

Mark 8:27-38

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” ²⁸And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” ²⁹He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three

days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

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

Reflection: Pastor Steve

Hymn: VU # 562 Jesus Calls Us

Minute For Mission

Invitation to the Offering

Sung Doxology: VU 541 Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow
The Masked Bandits

Prayer of Dedication for the Gifts

Blessed are you, wise and gracious God,
through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts.
With them we offer ourselves to your service
and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made;
for the sake of Jesus, who gave himself for us. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Holy Wisdom, crying out in the streets, inviting us to know your ways, may our hearts be open to your voice. May the church's mission be shaped and guided by your deep wisdom and vision. God in your love, **hear our prayer.**

Brother Jesus, asking us all: "Who do you think that I am?", may the answer to that question be lived out not only through our words but also in our lives. May we be your hands and your heart embracing all who are in need. God in your love, **hear our prayer.**

Spirit of life, the heavens proclaim your glory, and so do sun and sky, night and stars, and the earth on which we walk. May your mighty winds empower us to love and care for the earth and the diverse web of all creation. God in your love, **hear our prayer.**

Spirit of comfort, we hold in prayer places in our world where people are struggling at this time: the people of Afghanistan, Cuba, and Haiti; countries which are still struggling to receive first doses of the COVID vaccine; and places in our world impacted by weather disaster due to climate change. God in your love, **hear our prayer.**

Healing One, we remember all who have asked for our prayers:

Intercessions are offered

All of these prayers we offer in Jesus' name, who brings us your restoring presence, and who taught us to pray: **God our Mother and Father in Heaven ...**

Closing Song: VU # 288 Great is Thy Faithfulness

Blessing:

May we go forth pondering the challenge of Jesus this week:

–Who do we say Christ is in our lives, our community, our world?

May Holy Wisdom shine through all our pondering,

and lead us to recognize and serve our Risen Saviour in all our encounters.

May the blessing of God, Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit

be with us now and always. **Amen.**

Sung Dismissal: Go Now in Peace *Permission: Trinity United Church, Kitchener*

Church News and Announcements

Worship News

Sunday Sept 12th 10:30 am - Zoom Worship with Rev. Lionel & Pastor Steve
12:00 noon – Picnic (socially distanced) **at Claremont United church**
** Bring your own lunch, drinks & utensils, and lawn chairs.

Sunday Sept 19th 10:30 am - Zoom Worship with Rev. Lionel & Pastor Steve
1:00 pm – Picnic (socially distanced) for **Goodwood United church** members **at Shirley & Garth's home**. See the email announcement that was sent out with the address.
** Bring your own lunch, drinks & utensils, and lawn chairs.

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.

Thursdays at 10:30 am – Join us for our Thursday Zoom Check-in & Bible Study.
Enjoy a chance to connect with our church community and share stories, laughter and support for this online gathering, which is followed by our weekly bible study.

Our Friday Morning Book Study will resume in the fall, **date TBA.**
See below for details of our new book.

Joint Church Re-Opening Committee: Next meeting: **Wed Sept. 15, 7 pm.**

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DISCERNMENT PROCESS – CLAREMONT UNITED CHURCH’S FUTURE

At its last meeting, 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. ***This process will begin soon.***

Wed September 15, 7:30 pm Claremont United Church SESSION MEETING

Wed September 22, 7:00 pm Claremont United Church OFFICIAL BOARD MEETING

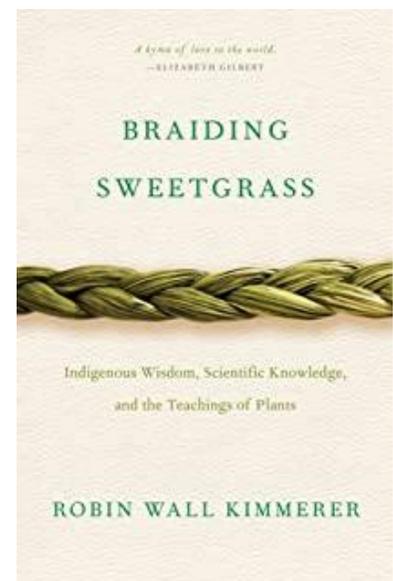
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will resume in the fall, **date TBA.**

Our New book will be:

Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants,
by Robin Wall Kimmerer.

We will set a date to start our book study once everyone has had a chance to purchase their copy.





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!