



SEASON OF CREATION

Welcome to Worship!

Sunday September 19, 2021, 10:30 am

17th Sunday after Pentecost

2nd 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

Who among you is seeking the wisdom of God?

We long to hear God’s Word spoken to our hearts.

Who among you is seeking God’s bright and holy truth?

We long to learn the ways of wisdom and righteousness.

Who among you is seeking a Spirit-filled life?

We long to live lives of holiness and light.

God grants God’s wisdom generously to all who ask.

Come near, people of God!

Let us worship in wisdom and truth.

Opening Hymn: MV # 10 Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom (New Hymn)
Permission from Betty Fox NL <https://youtu.be/ssfiqOkIF8s>

Prayer of the Day

God of holy wisdom,
we are seekers on the way to a deeper wisdom and a wider vision.
Our lives are full of information and opinions,
but in the midst of it all we long to hear the voice of wisdom –
Your wisdom, God – cutting through the noise and teaching us how to live.

We are here this morning
to learn wisdom from your Word,
from your Holy Spirit, and from one another.
We have come so that wisdom can show us a
deeper, richer, wisdom-filled life
that you have promised to each of us.

Help make us ready to hear the Words spoken to our hearts this morning.
Call us to hear your wisdom and grant us the courage to respond.
In Christ's name we pray, **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.

Psalm 1 – Chris Brunelle Video <https://youtu.be/0IMybFBU-7Q>

James 3:13 - 4:8

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does

not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

⁴Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God, and God will draw near to you.

Reflection: Pastor Steven

Hymn: What does the Lord Require of You VU 701 https://youtu.be/l6ZDpTYkG_g
Used with permission, Pacific Spirit United Church

Mark 9:30-37

³⁰They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

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

Reflection: Rev. Lionel

Hymn: We are Pilgrims VU 595

The Masked Bandits

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

Gracious God,
today's scripture reminds us that words matter
and that the way we choose our words
holds within it the capacity to either harm or heal, to wound or welcome.
In this time when words are tossed around so casually,
may our words be used to build up the Body of Christ
and share love and compassion in a broken and battered world.
God in your love, **hear our prayer.**

Healing God,
we pray for those who have been hurt by words of hate:
for refugees and immigrants with or without documentation,
for women and girls who have endured words of sexism,
for people of colour who hear words of racism,
for people with disabilities who are told they are "less than,"
for elderly people who are told they are useless,
for young adults who are told they are entitled, selfish, and irresponsible.
God of the Living Word, help us speak the truth in love
and to care for one another with the words we choose to speak.
Holy and Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

God of Healing and Wholeness,
we lift up to you our words of prayer
for the people near and dear to our hearts

as we lift them up silently before you...
Holy and Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

Intercessions are offered

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray; trusting in your great love, through Jesus our brother. **Amen.**

Holy Communion

for the Season of Creation.

May the Creator be with you and with all creation.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to our Creator.

Let us give thanks to the Maker of heaven and earth.

It is right to join creation in thanking God.

Blessed are you, Creator of life -
Your presence is the living impulse in all things,
the Christ deep among us,
filling Earth—land, sea and air—
filling every element and place,
filling the grain and the grape
we share with you this day.

Your Spirit is the life impulse in all things,
Restoring the broken
Healing the wounded
Groaning in anticipation of a new creation,
stirring us to new life through water and the Spirit.

You chose to be born a human being,
to become a part of Earth,
to suffer, die and rise from death
to heal and renew all creation, through Jesus.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
ancient voices in the forest,
high voices from the sky,
deep voices from the sea
and the whole company of creation, we join in their song of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy, God of all life,
Earth and sea and sky
are full of your glory!
Hosanna in the highest!**

On the night that Jesus was betrayed, he shared a meal with his friends ...

Spirit of Life, Breath of God,
be with us as we share this meal.
May it be the gift of healing for all those in pain,
the gift of new life for all who feel empty;
and the gift of hope for those in despair.

With Christ our Saviour, we pray:
God our mother and father ...

At the Breaking of the Bread:

The gifts of the Earth, for the people of the earth
Thanks be to God.

We Share the Bread and the Cup

Prayer after Communion

**Nourishing God, we thank you for these gifts of life
which we have received at your table.
May these gifts bring us hope and healing,
so we can be agents of healing for the Earth. Amen.**

Closing Song: One More Step Along the World I Go VU 639

Ebenezer United Church Markham ON

<https://youtu.be/6kIOsTeXI-w>

Used with permission

Blessing:

Let us go forth to delight in God's law

Let us go forth to love and serve our neighbours.

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*

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 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.**

Thursday Sept 30th 7:30 pm - **Evening Prayer (on Zoom/YouTube)**
for Orange T-shirt Day

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 – Our Zoom Check-in & Bible Study is postponed until further notice.

Please send Rev. Lionel your suggestions about what you think our congregation's needs are at this time, to support our community. For example, a Tuesday 10-11 am outside bring-your-camping-chair Coffee gathering for informal socially-distanced visiting?

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

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.

Wed Sept 22, 7:30 pm Claremont SESSION meeting

Tues Sept 28, 2:00 pm Affirming Committee

Wed Sept 29, 7:00 pm Claremont OFFICIAL BOARD meeting

Our Friday Morning Book Study will reconvene this Fall, Date TBA

See below for details of our new book.

DISCERNMENT PROCESS – CLAREMONT UNITED CHURCH'S FUTURE

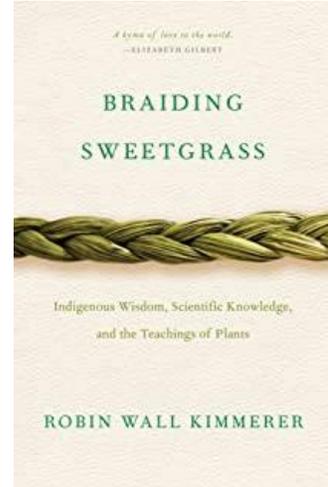
At its last meeting, Claremont United Church's Board has voted to begin a Discernment process which will use the "wisdom circle process" to discern what our future as a congregation could look like! This is a very exciting process to begin, as we seek the Spirit's guidance about our future shape & ministries.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

Our Friday Morning Book Study

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: treasureruc@outlook.com

For **Goodwood United** send to: goodwoodctreasurer@gmail.com

Thank you for your continued support of our congregation's ministry.

THANK
YOU!