



Welcome to worship!

Sunday Sept 6, 2020

14th Sunday after Pentecost

***A joint online Zoom worship Service with:
Claremont, Fairbank & Goodwood United Churches
and Guests***

Worship Leaders:

Pastor Steven Loweth & Rev. Lionel Ketola

Onelicense # A-723979 CCLI # 11550809

Announcements & Today's Worship Theme

Introit: Where Two or Three are Gathered in My Name MV 14

Where Two or Three are Gathered in My Name

I am There..... I am There X3

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.

Call to Worship

Sisters and Brothers from God - open your eyes!

Look around!

The presence of God is here—

among us with Christ our Brother and Saviour.

God's saving grace is close at hand—
nearer than you know.

So friends, let us open our hearts and minds to the Spirit,
and worship God together!

Prayer of Approach

Loving God,

You who are our root, our life, and our freedom.

Our lives are held in You -

though we easily forget.

In a world filled with much pain, anxiety and fear,
remind us that you created us in love,
and that you have a dream for us.

Enable us to live our lives
rooted in your grace,
and filled with love and compassion for our neighbours near and far.

Open our hearts to the cries of those around us.

Teach us to be your beloved community.

We pray this in Jesus' name,
who stands at the heart of our gathering. Amen.

Opening Hymn: We Are One

VU402

VIDEO

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.

Exodus 12:1-14

12The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ²This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. ⁴If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the

whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. ¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. ¹⁴This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Reflection: Rev. Lionel Ketola

Scripture Song: O God our Help in Ages Past VIDEO

Romans 13:8-12

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

Matthew 18:15-20

¹⁵“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if

two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

Reflection: Pastor Steven Loweth

[We Joyfully Respond to the Good News](#)

Hymn of the Day: My Love Colours Outside the Lines MV 138

VIDEO

Invitation to the Offering

Prayer of Dedication for the Gifts

Loving God,

As Paul encouraged us to “Owe no one anything, except to love one another; For the one who loves another has fulfilled the law”, we offer up these gifts in that same spirit.

May these gifts bring love and healing to our world; In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

[Prayers for the People](#)

Holy and Wonderful God,

The Summer has flown by.

The days are already noticeably shorter, the nights a little cooler.

In this first week of September, we pray to you God.

Help us to continue to notice the beauty all around us.

Help to see the transformations of our trees and plants as they prepare to slumber.

As our calendars now begin to fill up once again, and the summer holidays

Come to a close, help us to also schedule you into our lives.

When we are able, help us to offer a physically distances smile, virtual hug,

Perhaps an errand or even a ride to those of us who are struggling.

We pray for teachers, students and parents as a new school year begins. Be with them in any fears and anxieties they may be experiencing during this time. Bless our school boards and government leaders so they can be guided by wisdom to create safe learning environments for all.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to Marilyn Elphick who led worship services during Rev. Lionel & Pastor Steve's vacation, and to Leslie Sedore and Elizabeth Cunningham who made themselves available for emergency pastoral coverage during that time.

Two Fall Book Study Group Groups – buy your book now!

Beginning Thursday Sept 10th, at 7:00 pm: Lenny Duncan Book Study Group: This fall, Rev. Lionel and Pastor Steve will jointly co-facilitate another 6 week book study group to read & study Rev. Lenny Duncan's book: **"Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S."** It's an excellent, challenging and thought-provoking exploration of anti-racism and white privilege. The study begins Thursday Sept 10th at 7pm and run each Thursday for six weeks. It will take place on Zoom. Open to all members of Claremont, Fairbank & Goodwood United churches, and friends.

Beginning Friday October 2, 10:30 am: Book Study Group: 21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act, by Bob Joseph. After this book we will read Bob Joseph's second book: **Indigenous Relations: Insights, Tips and Suggestions to make Reconciliation a Reality.** This group is open to all members of Claremont, Fairbank and Goodwood United Churches, and friends.

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" Zoom gatherings to connect with our congregational community.

East Central Ontario Regional Council Meeting: September 25 – 27, 2020. Visit the ECORC website for more information if you are a region representative for your congregation.

Past Services are being uploaded to Youtube

We are now live streaming to our YouTube Channel. The service will also be available for watching later. Please use this link to visit the uploaded services site.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1HPD2ai10bo-qbNaXvNVtw>

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. *next page*.
Send e-transfers for **Claremont United** to: **treasurercuc@outlook.com**
Send e-transfers for **Goodwood United** to: **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

www.goodwoodunitedchurch.com



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