

CREATION SEASON 2020

STANDING ON HOLY GROUND:

RESTORING OUR COMMITMENT TO GOD AND ALL OF CREATION

September 20, 2020 / 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Lead minister: Rev. Lori Megley-Best | Musician: Dianne Nichols

We Gather

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle

(Candlelighter: Jiyu)

Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn: * VU 415 – God, We Praise You for the Morning (vs. 1,2,5)

- ① **God, we praise you for the morning; hope springs forth with each new day, new beginning, prayer, and promise, joy in work and in play.**
- ② **God, we praise you for creation, mountains, seas, and prairie land. Waking souls find joy and healing in your bountiful hand.**
- ⑤ **God, we praise you for the Saviour, come that we may know your ways. In his loving, healing, guiding, Christ is Lord of our days.**

The Passing of the Peace

*May the Peace of Christ be with you. / **And also with you.***

* **Korean: Christo-ui pyoung-hwa-ga dahng-sin-gwa hahm-keh ha-shi-girul.**

(그리스도의 평화가 당신과 함께 하시기를)

Sharing the Peace *(in breakout groups)*

What is one joy and challenge in your life right now?

Scripture for Time with Creation – **Psalm 52:8**

But as for me, I am like a green olive tree in the house of God;

I trust in the lovingkindness of God forever and ever.

Gathering Time

Hymn: * Take Off Your Shoes *(Chorus)*

**Take, take off your shoes. You're standing on holy ground.
Take, take off your shoes. You're standing on holy ground.
The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof
From the waters beneath to the heavens above
Take, take off your shoes. You're standing on holy ground.
You're standing on holy ground.**

We Hear Good News

Scripture Reading in Korean: **John 15:1-5**

(Reader: Chohee Won)

Scripture Reading: **John 15:1-5**

*I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. **(This is a story of our faith. / Thanks be to God.)***

Sermon

Time for Silence

Hymn: * VU 588 – Many Are the Light Beams (vs. 1,2,4)

- ① **Many are the lightbeams from the one light. Our one light is Jesus. Many are the lightbeams from the one light; we are one in Christ.**
- ② **Many are the branches of the one tree. Our one tree is Jesus. Many are the branches of the one tree; we are one in Christ.**
- ④ **Many ways to serve God, the Spirit is one, servant spirit of Jesus. Many ways to serve God, the Spirit is one; we are one in Christ.**

We Respond

Offering / Offering Prayer

Glorious God.

We seek to walk gently on your good earth.

We are committed to living with respect in creation.

Help us to be good stewards of earth, water and air.

We offer ourselves and these gifts

for the care and renewal of Creation and our church.

Renew us with your Holy Spirit.

In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Sung Response: * MV 143 – We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky (vs.1)

**We cannot own the sunlit sky, the moon, the wildflow'rs growing,
for we are part of all that is within life's river flowing.**

**With open hands receive and share the gifts of God's creation,
that all may have abundant life in ev'ry earthly nation.**

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

*Hymn: ✱ Praise God Ev'ry Way You Can (vs. 1-4)

(Chorus) **Praise God ev'ry way you can.**

Give thanks, woman, child and man.

- ① **Praise God for the sky above. Give thanks for the friends we love.
Praise God for the water clear. Give thanks for each breath of air. (C)**
- ② **Praise God for the fire warm. Give thanks for a safe home.
Praise God for the growing earth. Give thanks for the gift of birth. (C)**
- ③ **Praise God for this holy flesh. Give thanks when it's laid to rest.
Praise God for the world we see. Give thanks for the mystery. (C)**
- ④ **God, you are a soaring bird. God, you are the final word.
God, you are a mighty rock. Shelter for a wandering flock. (C)**
(©1995 Linda Clare Breitag. Seasons of the Spirit. Vol. 4, p. 36)

Commissioning and Benediction

Sending Song: ✱ MV 42 – Praise God for This Holy Ground (vs.1)

**Praise God for this holy ground, place and people, sight and sound.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God's goodness is eternal.**

Postlude

STANDING ON HOLY GROUND:

Restoring Our Commitment to
God and All of Creation

CREATION SEASON 2020



🌍 WAYS TO WORK ON COMMITMENT 🌍

During the Season of Creation, we will participate in activities and action to help us deepen our relationship with Creation. As we take the time to connect with Creation, we trust that God will be at work in our hearts and minds, enabling us to embrace Creation as our neighbour and love it in the way Jesus asks us to. Here are few ways to connect:

🍁 Congregational Fieldtrips 🍁

On Wednesdays, join us to spend some undivided time in nature. We will gather outside, do some exploring and end with a short worship. Everyone is welcome. We will be following social distancing guidelines. Please stay home if you feel ill or have been in contact with someone who is.

September 23rd, 7:00pm, Kwomais Park, labyrinth: We will walk the labyrinth at dusk, with candles and the eagles.

September 30th, Time and location TBA. We will spend time together stargazing.

🍁 Creation Challenges – Scavenger Hunt 🍁

Over the Season of Creation, we will have missions for everyone to participate in to reconnect with nature and maybe notice or learn something you haven't before. Be sure to tune in during the Gathering Time of our services as that is when you will find out the week's mission. There are PRIZES for everyone who completes every mission we set out!

Week 1:

Go out into nature and listen for a distinctive bird call. Listen to it a few times if you can. Then head online and try to figure out what bird made that call! Can you learn to copy it? Send an email to Robyn (cuc.cyg@gmail.com) and let her know what your bird does in the winter.

Week 2: Find a sign of new life in Creation right now.

Week 3: Find a sign of a creature's hard work



🍁 Take a Personal Field Trip into a Forest Near You 🍁 (as soon as the smoke clears out)

CONNECT WITH GOD AND CREATION

LEARN THE PRACTICE OF FOREST BATHING

God has given us the gift of healing through the forest. Recently, science has been discovering those gifts- the benefits of spending time amongst the trees. Forest bathing is the practice of spending time in the forest- not by hiking through it, but by slowing down and getting to know it.

We all know how good being in nature can make us feel. We have known it for centuries. The sounds of the forest, the scent of the trees, the sunlight playing through the leaves, the fresh, clean air — these things give us a sense of comfort. They ease our stress and worry, help us to relax and to think more clearly. Being in nature can restore our mood, give us back our energy and vitality, refresh and rejuvenate us.

SO HOW DOES ONE GO ABOUT FOREST BATHING?

First, find a spot. Make sure you have left your phone and camera behind. You are going to be walking aimlessly and slowly. You don't need any devices. Let your body be your guide. Listen to where it wants to take you. Follow your nose. And take your time. It doesn't matter if you don't get anywhere. You are not going anywhere. You are savoring the sounds, smells and sights of nature and letting the forest in.

The key to unlocking the power of the forest is in the five senses. Let nature enter through your ears, eyes, nose, mouth, hands and feet. Listen to the birds singing and the breeze rustling in the leaves of the trees. Look at the different greens of the trees and the sunlight filtering through the branches. Smell the fragrance of the forest and breathe in the natural aromatherapy of phytoncides. Taste the freshness of the air as you take deep breaths. Place your hands on the trunk of a tree. Dip your fingers or toes in a stream. Lie on the ground. Drink in the flavor of the forest and release your sense of joy and calm. This is your sixth sense, a state of mind. Now you have connected with nature.

Take some time, once the smoke has cleared, to do some forest bathing. Listen to Creation, listen for God's voice. Take this time for prayer. Allow yourself to be cared for by God and Creation. This is a Covid-friendly activity!

(adopted from <https://time.com/5259602/japanese-forest-bathing>)

Announcements for September 20, 2020



CLOVERDALE & HAZELMERE UNITED CHURCHES

☎ 604-574-5813 / Office Hours: Mon – Fri, 9 am – 2 pm

www.cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca / chuc@telus.net

CLOVERDALE UNITED CHURCH & OFFICE: 17575 - 58A AVE. SURREY, V3S 1N1

HAZELMERE UNITED CHURCH: 1614 - 184 ST. SURREY, V3S 9V2

Lead Minister: Rev. Lori Megley-Best (lori.megley-best@telus.net)

Children and Youth Leader (CUC): Robyn Garland (cuc.cyg@gmail.com)

Intercultural Ministry Coordinator (CUC): Chohee Won (chorry5242@gmail.com)

Office Administrator: Susie Kim (chuc@telus.net)

A WEEK AT A GLANCE:

Sun, Sept 20: Creation Season 3 (16th Sunday after Pentecost)

Live-stream on Zoom at 10:30 am

Mon, Sept 21: *(Office closed for the day)*

Tue, Sept 22: Bible Study – 10 am (C)

CUC Council Meeting – 6:30 pm (C)

Wed, Sept 23: Congregational Fieldtrip – 7 pm (Kwomais Park)

Registration deadline for Outdoor Service – 10 am

Sun, Sept 27: Creation Season 4 (17th Sunday after Pentecost)

Indoor Service at CUC / Live-stream on Zoom at 10:30 am

< Mission Statements >

Hazelmere: *To praise God together, celebrate our heritage, grow in faith and reach out to others.*

Cloverdale: *To thrive in faith through relationship with God, one another and the community.*

To serve others as Jesus would.

☩ Offerings at CUC Last Sunday: \$2,681.00

- Offerings required each week to cover expenses: \$2,115.00

☩ ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICES

Our worship services are offered in few different ways – live-stream on Zoom, pre-recorded service, and in-person service (twice a month). Please read the “Service info” emails from the church on Fridays or check out the website for updates. If you are not receiving emails, please contact the church office to sign-up.

☩ BIBLE STUDY AT 10 AM ON TUESDAY

Join us for Bible Study on Tuesday mornings at 10 am in the Upper Hall at CUC. Please contact Rev. Lori or the church office if you would like to join.

☩ RESERVATIONS OPEN FOR INDOOR WORSHIP AT CUC ON SEPTEMBER 27

We will be having an INDOOR SERVICE in the sanctuary of Cloverdale United on September 27 at 10:30 am. Just as the outdoor services, reservations are strictly required. ***Please sign up by Wednesday, Sept. 23, 10 am*** by email with your name and the number of members joining.

☩ CUC UPPER HALL OPEN FOR CHURCH MEETINGS (BY PRE-BOOKING ONLY)

The Upper Hall at CUC is now open to any groups who wish to meet in-person. Please note that it is **only available by pre-booking** through the church office. Please call or email Susie if you wish to arrange a meeting.

☩ VOLUNTEER ACCOMPANIST NEEDED

If you have a musical talent (piano, guitar, etc.) you would like to share during worship services in September, or if you know anybody who are able, please contact the church office ASAP. Thank you!!

☩ CUC COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – SEPTEMBER 15, 2020

1. Heavy smoke forced us to have an impromptu indoor service last Sunday and Council is happy to announce that it was a success! We have a planned indoor service slated for Sept. 27. Please reserve your seats by Sept. 23.
2. We have an indoor worship safety plan in place.
3. Doug Zulke has volunteered as our Health and Safety Steward. Thank you, Doug!

☩ THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU

Council of CUC wishes to thank all of you for your continued efforts to support the church through your weekly offerings. It does make a difference!

☩ WAYS TO MAKE DONATIONS TO CHURCH

1. **Go on PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance).**
2. **Mail them in.** Consider mailing in post-dated cheques.
3. **Donate online from our website**, powered by CanadaHelps.
4. **Donations to Hazelmere United** can be made by e-transfer to hazelmereunitedchurch@gmail.com

If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

☩ ELL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed for ELL classes starting October 5th. Classes are held every Mondays, Wednesdays (9:30 – 11:30 am) and Thursdays (9:30 – 11:00 am). Classes will be held online or offline, depending on the circumstances. Contact Chohee (chorry5242@gmail.com, 778-321-8393) for any questions.

✝ BROADVIEW SUBSCRIPTIONS

If you would like to have BROADVIEW (formerly the United Church OBSERVER) magazine mailed to your house, please contact the church office to start a new subscription.

CURRENT SUBSCRIBERS – Please check your emails and reply by Sept. 27.

DEADLINE FOR RENEWAL OR NEW SIGN UP – SEPT 27, 2020

Each annual subscription costs the church **\$25.00**. If you are able, please pay for your subscription by cheque or cheque with "BROADVIEW" written on the memo line. You can drop it or mail it to church office. Thank you.

✝ BROADVIEW



Broadview is our exceptional magazine based on Spirituality, Justice & Ethical Living, supported by an 11 member cross Canada Board comprised of 3 Ordained Ministers, 1 former Moderator & 10 laypersons.

2020 highlights

- National Magazine Awards top award Editor Grand Prix to our editor, Jocelyn Bell
- Canadian Christian Communicators Association 21 awards including 14 First Place

Sample summer articles focussed on issues important to all Canadians

- Medical Assistance in Dying – access for Alzheimer patients
- Sixties Scoop – survivors of Residential Schools seek healing
- Arctic Meltdown – climate change's drastic impact on our far north
- Dead End – refugees (including many children) seeking sanctuary in U.S. refused help
- What I Need from White People – Black Lives Matter - UC staffer Adele Halliday plea for white people to become actively anti-racist
- Pandemic – how United Churches are responding to Covid-19
- How to Grow a Church – thriving congregations share their experience increasing attendance and participation in times of overall decline

Please contact Dianne Nichols (lst3kids@gmail.com), Board Member, for any questions.

✝ NARAMATA CENTRE ALL ACCESS PASS



The All Access pass is your doorway engage in opportunities for learning, growth and spiritual transformation while building an inclusive and welcoming space online. In this time of distance and separation, the Naramata Centre strives to flourish beyond our physical grounds, and experience connection and community in new and exciting ways.

Our congregation has purchased an All Access Pass to Naramata Centre Online Programs to the end of 2020. Anyone in our pastoral charge can take any of the courses for free. Here is a link to view the programs. Contact the church office if you have any questions.

<https://www.naramatacentresociety.org/online-programs-1>

✝ BREAK THE SILENCE: THE POWER OF ACTIVE WITNESSING

Sunday, September 27, 2020 - 1:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.

OR Sunday, October 4, 2020 - 1:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.

Have you ever witnessed a racist incident but didn't know what to say or do and felt conflicted and regretful about not responding? This workshop will help participants develop their "response-ability" or readiness to respond to such incidents.

The first part of the session engages participants in experiential learning activities and an understanding of the theoretical underpinnings of prejudice, discrimination and oppression. The second part involves learning a wide range of verbal and behavioral responses when someone is being victimized by an offensive and disrespectful remark or inequitable treatment.

Participants will shift from passive bystanders to active witnesses and will feel more equipped and empowered to respond to racism on an individual basis. Together, we can break the silence and make an ethical commitment to collectively fight prejudice, discrimination and oppression of any form in society.