



Gladwin Heights United Church

3474 Gladwin Road,

Abbotsford , B.C. V2S 7B4

Church Office: 604-852-3984

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Website: www.gladwinheightsunitedchurch.org

February 2021

Minister: Rev. Tim Bowman

Music Director: Rita Green

Musician: Jacob Greenan

Custodian: Rick Frier

Church Administrator: Jeanette Chassie

BOARD MEMBERS

Chair – Gayle LaPointe

Secretary – Gina Hartley

Treasurer – Muriel Thomas

M & P Rep – Sandi Dahm

Pastoral Care & Outreach – Arlene Kropp

Property Inside – Len & Carlene Stein

Property Outside – Daryl & Ellen Alstad

Sunday Morning Coordinator – Gladys Banks

UCW President – Carlene Stein

MEMBERS OF JOINT COMMITTEES WITH ST. ANDREW'S

Joint Board: Gayle LaPointe, Arlene Kropp, Gladys Banks

Joint M & P: Lois Chatham, Sandi Dahm

Joint Worship: Rita Green, Carlene Stein, Arlene Kropp

TRUSTEES

Secretary – Lois Gordon

Charles Bailey

Jan Green

Ross Gordon

Epiphany, Year B:



January 2021 LECTIONARY

Fifth after Epiphany – February 7, 2021

- Isaiah 40:21-31
- Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
- 1 Corinthians 9:16-23
- Mark 1:29-39

Transfiguration Sunday – February 14, 2021

- 2 Kings 2:1-12
- Psalm 50:1-6
- 2 Corinthians 4:3-6
- Mark 9:2-9

First Sunday in Lent – February 21, 2021

- Genesis 9:8-17
- Psalm 25:1-10,
- 1 Peter 3:18-22
- Mark 1:9-15

Second Sunday in Lent – February 28, 2021

- Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
- Psalm 22:23-31
- Romans 4:13-25
- Mark 8:31-38 or Mark 9:2-9

Minister's Message

"A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

"So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father."

- Matthew 10:24-27

Siblings in Christ,

On Sunday, January 31st, several people entered the Zoom worship of a Lower Mainland United Church, somehow bypassing the waiting room, and threatened the presider.

It set me to thinking. We open our doors on Sunday mornings; we advertise our location and worship times; we post links to our Zoom worship services. We make a point of inviting all and sundry, and when we move to restrict entry via locked doors or online precautions, we feel a tinge of wrongness. Why? What is it about public worship that situates it near the core of Christian practice?

In Palestine in the First Century, everything was done in public. Doors and windows were open all day, enabling passers-by to see inside. A closed door implied conspiracy, but we are not ashamed of our ministry. From our first days, Christianity had an instinct to be public. To be sure, many Christians had to meet in secret due to persecution, which likely furthered the idea that Christians were conspirators up to no good. But the way of Jesus is one of proclaiming God's love to all people and challenging unjust practices and conspiracies against the poor and powerless. A faith that is all about witnessing to the active love of God is necessarily shouted, not whispered. As Jesus said, no one lights a lamp and then hides it under a basket.

Finally, the God who we proclaim is in intimate relationship with every flower, tree, and bird. When we face persecution, then, God is alongside us. When we are attacked, God is with us. Even when we die, as the sparrows do, we die in the presence of God.

Blessings to you and on your ministry,

Tim