

**Online Joint Worship for the Mid Fraser Cluster
Aldergrove, Gladwin Heights, St. Andrew's
and Trinity Memorial United Churches**

**Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 1, 2021**

Thank you for Connecting for Worship

Today's Leadership includes
Preacher: The Rev. Michael Hare
Presiding: & The Rev. Tracy Fairfield
Musician: Donna Poncelet
Song Leader: Deborah Handley & Jerry Johnson
Technical Support: Jeremy Wright

People are invited to share their prayers in the chat during the worship service

We Gather as God's People

Welcome and Announcements

Land Acknowledgement Michael

As we gather in this place, we give thanks for land on which we live, work, and play and acknowledge that is the unceded lands of the Stó:lō people. We acknowledge the commitment that they have made since time immemorial caring for the land and the waters. May we learn from them and walk with them to the time when we shall all stand reconciled before God.

Lighting of the Rainbow Candle Michael

Lighting this Candle, we remind ourselves that the Holy Spirit is available to all of God's Children. We acknowledge that many people whose sexual and gender identity is not considered the norm of our culture have been denied a place at the table of Grace. Yet the Spirit welcomes them. In humility and love let us do the same.

Lighting the Christ Candle Michael

We light this candle as a sign of God's Spirit at work in the world.

May its light brighten our spirits, may the light of God shining through us brighten the world.

Call to Worship Michael

Come into this electronically connected space – from couch or office, from comfy recliners or favourite rocking chairs, from kitchens or bedrooms. The risen Christ welcomes us all.

We come as we are – unshaven or well coifed, dressed up or in jammies, eating brunch or brushing teeth. Though separated by distance, we come as one.

Come to worship across the distance but united in faith.

We come to listen, to sing, to pray, and to rejoice.

Come, then, as we join in our prayer of the day:

Prayer of the Day **Tracy**

Loving God, as we worship together, may you forge among us deeper relationships in creative ways, may you journey with us as we learn to connect through technology, may you breathe into our souls the hope of your good news, may you teach us to thrive while staying home. Show us that your might resides in us all, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Hymn: "Morning Has Broken" VU 409

*Morning has broken like the first morning,
black bird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them springing, fresh from the Word!*

*Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.*

*Ours is the sunlight! Ours is the morning.
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!*

Children's Time: "What is a clean heart?"

Tracy (image in power point after title slide)

Hymn: "Come Touch our Hearts" MV 12

*Come touch our hearts that we may know compassion,
from failing embers build a blazing fire;
love strong enough to overturn injustice,
to seek a world more gracious, come touch and bless our hearts.*

*Come touch our souls that we may know and love you,
your quiet presence all our fears dispel;
create a space for spirit to grow in us,
let life and beauty fill us, come touch and bless our souls.*

*Come touch our minds and teach us how to reason,
set free our thoughts to wonder and to dream;
help us to open doors of understanding,
to welcome truth and wisdom, come touch and bless our minds.*

*Come touch us in the moments we are fragile,
and in our weakness your great strength reveal;
that we may rise to follow and to serve,
steady now our nerve, come touch and bless our wills.*

*Come touch us now, this people who are gathered,
to break the bread and share the cup of peace;
that we may love you with our heart,
our soul, our mind, our strength, our all, come touch us with your grace.*

Call to Confession Tracy

When we come before God to confess our sins with honesty, repentance, humility, and faith, secure in God's steadfast love, we open ourselves to the possibility of the cleansing and transformation that can bring us back into right relationship with God. Let us turn to God in prayer:

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have made mistakes and have shortcomings. Whether these things have distanced us from our relationship with you in our hearts and minds, by our words or bodies, individually or collectively, these mistakes, also known as sins, are ultimately against you, and we are deeply sorry. Teach us wisdom and forgive and heal us, that our hearts can be clean once again, so that we can better serve you and sing your praises more sweetly with a new and right spirit within us. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon Tracy

Take comfort in the assurance that whoever we are, wherever we are, God's steadfast love accepts, forgives, and redeems us.

Thanks be to God.

We Listen for the Word of God

Scripture Reading: 2 Samuel 11:26-12:15

²⁶When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. ²⁷When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son.

Nathan Condemns David

But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD, **12** ¹and the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. ²The rich man had very many flocks and herds; ³but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. ⁴Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him." ⁵Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; ⁶he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity."

⁷Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; ⁸I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. ⁹Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. ¹⁰Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.

¹¹ Thus says the LORD: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun. ¹² For you did it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun." ¹³ David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." Nathan said to David, "Now the LORD has put away your sin; you shall not die. ¹⁴ Nevertheless, because by this deed you have utterly scorned the LORD, the child that is born to you shall die." ¹⁵ Then Nathan went to his house.

Bathsheba's Child Dies

The LORD struck the child that Uriah's wife bore to David, and it became very ill.

John 6:24-35

²⁴ So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

²⁵ When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" ²⁶ Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷ Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." ²⁸ Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" ²⁹ Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." ³⁰ So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?" ³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" ³² Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is that which^[a] comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ³⁴ They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." ³⁵ Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Michael

Hymn: "Open My Eyes That I May See" VU 371

*Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!*

*Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!*

*Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!*

Prayer Introit “Lord listen to your Children Praying” VU 400

*Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love send us power, send us grace!*

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession Tracy

Prayers from the Chat Tracy

Lord’s Prayer (*said*) (VU 916 bottom: paraphrase)

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is that shall be.
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**The hallowing of your name echo
through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed
by peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done
by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**

**For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.**

(Jim Cotter)

Acknowledging our Gifts for the work of God Michael

We give thanks for your financial offerings made through cash, cheques mailed or dropped off, Pre-Authorized Remittance and online donations. Together with your donations of time and work, they are used to further God’s mission through the work of these congregations. We present these gifts as a sign of thanksgiving to God, from whom all blessings flow.

Doxology: “When We Are Living” VU 581 Vs.2

*Through all our living, we our fruits must give.
Good works of service are for offering.
When we are giving, or when receiving,
We belong to God, we belong to God.*

Offertory Prayer

We rejoice with thanksgiving for all that we have received. Multiply these gifts that we give so that the world may more deeply know fullness of life in you. Amen

Hymn: "Spirit, Open my Heart" MV 79

*C) Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving,
Spirit, open my heart.*

*God, replace my stony heart with a heart that's kind and tender
All my coldness and fear to your grace I now surrender. C)*

*Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed, may my living bring you glory. C)*

*May I weep with those who weep, share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ, may we welcome one another. C)*

Benediction **Michael**

Hymn: "Sent out in Jesus' Name" MV 212

*Sent out in Jesus' name, our hands are ready now to
Make the world the place in which the kingdom comes.*

*Sent out in Jesus' name, our hands are ready now to
Make the world the place in which the kingdom comes.*

*The angels cannot change a world of hurt and pain
Into a world of love, of justice and of peace. The task is ours to do,
To set it really free. O, help us to obey, and carry out your will.*

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