

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

**The Third Sunday of Lent
March 7th, 2021**

<p>Thank you for Connecting for Worship Today's Leadership includes Preacher: Preacher: The Rev. Tim Bowman Presiding: The Rev. Tracy Fairfield & The Rev. Tim Bowman Musician: Donna Poncelet Song Leader: Deborah Handley Technical Support: Jeremy Wright</p>
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People are invited to share their prayers in the chat during the worship service.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

**Words of Welcome, Announcements from Each Congregation and
Land Acknowledgement**

Lighting the Rainbow Candles Tim

Lighting the Christ Candle Tim

Jesus Christ spent forty days in the wilderness
in preparation for his ministry.
We find ourselves in the wilderness,
but the light of Christ is ever before us.

(the candle is lit)

The Light of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Sung Response: VU 121 - "Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery"
[General Lenten & 3rd Sunday]

*Light of life beyond conceiving, mighty spirit of our Lord,
give new strength to our believing,
give us faith to live your word, give us faith to live your word.*

*Living Water of salvation, be the fountain of each soul,
Springing up in new creation,
Flow in us and make us whole
Flow in us and make us whole..*

Call to Worship: Tracy

Friends, enter into the Presence of the Living God and discover your place.
In Christ, God is with us and for us.

Let God's passion for a just and compassionate world be yours.

Let our hearts soar with hope.

Let us worship as we once again embrace the mystery of becoming united in the
body of the Living Christ.

Opening Prayer: Tracy

Come O Great Spirit: unite us as one body in Christ.
From home and church, from close and far, bind us with your love.
Be in the midst of our prayers, our hymns and our praise.
In this Lenten journey, fill our hearts with hope for the coming of your justice for all.
Amen.

Hymn: MV 27 - "Creator God You Gave Us Life"

*Creator God you gave us life, your image formed within our
souls, yet through the mist of time and space, we search for
that which makes us whole.*

***Chorus: Through hands that paint majestic skies, and voices chanting melody,
with words that reach beyond the page, we comprehend
your mystery.***

*In ev'ry flow'r and ev'ry tree, we see your great diversity,
yet greater still we see your love, expressed in our humanity. **Chorus:***

*When with our hearts, our hands, our minds, we share our gifts with all the world,
our spirits soar beyond the veil, to touch the very face of God. **Chorus:***

Time with our Children: Tim

Hymn: VU 229 - "God of the Sparrow" (vs. 2 & 6)

*God of the earthquake, God of the storm, God of the trumpet blast
How does the creature cry Woe, How does the creature cry Save*

*God of the ages, God near at hand, God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy, How do your children say Home*

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD

We invite the children and their leaders into breakout rooms

Scripture Readings:

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

John 2:13-22

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Tim

Hymn: "May the Anger of Christ be Mine" BY **COLIN GIBSON**

*May the anger of Christ be mine, when the world grows hard and greedy;
when the rich have no care for the poor, when the powerful take the needy.*

Refrain:

***In a world of restless change standing for love and faith and justice;
in a dark, confusing time bearing the light, the shining light of Christ***

*May the pity of Christ be mine, when the out-stretched hand's not taken,
when the jobless stand in line when the lonely life forsaken. **Refrain***

*May the love of Christ be mine for the anguished, for the ailing,
for the frail disabled life, for the fallen, for the failing. **Refrain***

*May the actions of Christ be mine, bringing hope, bringing new direction.
making peace in a warring time, offering welcome, not rejection. **Refrain***

Prayer of Confession: Tracy

Holy Living Presence, we hear the words that we embody Christ in the world, but we have neglected to live out the power of this promise.

Jesus shouted against injustice. He stood with the powerless.

His actions call us be justice seekers. We are his hands, his feet and his voice in today's world, but from this calling, we cower.

Forgive us for shying away from the injustice and hiding from the suffering. Fill us with passion for a just and compassionate world. Bind us together as body of Christ. In your name, Amen.

Assurance: Tracy

Siblings in Christ, The Holy one never ceases to call the people to just relationships and reconciliation.

**God forgives and call us to new life.
Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: MV 161 - "I Have Called You by Your Name," (V 1)

*I have called you by your name, you are mine;
I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.
I will not abandon you; all my promises are true.
You are gifted, called and chosen; you are mine.*

WE RESPOND IN LOVE AND ACTION

Prayers of the People and all the World: Tim

Prayers shared from the chat: Tracy

Holy God, you hear our words; you hear our hearts. We are known and heard deeply, graciously, constantly. Confident in this grace, we speak together the words that Jesus taught us...

The Lord's Prayer [Spoken]

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.

Acknowledging Our Gifts for the Work of God & Prayer of Dedication: Tim

We bring our offerings for God's work among us in many ways:
cash and cheques mailed or dropped off;
Pre-Authorized Remittance and our online donations:
our time and our work, for God's work among us.

Doxology: VU 538 - "For the Gift of Creation"

*For the gift of creation, the gift of your love, and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.*

Prayer of Dedication: Tim

As Jesus offered himself for baptism, so we offer ourselves.
As your Spirit settled on Jesus, settle upon these gifts.

**Use them; use us; call us to your Way,
to the Cross and beyond.**

Hymn: VU 307 - "Touch the Earth Lightly"

*Touch the earth lightly, use the earth gently,
nourish the life of the world in our care:
gift of great wonder, ours to surrender,
trust for the children tomorrow will bear.*

*We who endanger, who create hunger
agents of death for all creatures that live,
we who would foster clouds of disaster,
God of our planet, forestall and forgive!*

*Let there be greening, birth from the burning,
Water that blesses and air that is sweet
health in God's garden, hope in God's children,
regeneration that peace will complete.*

*God of all living, God of all loving,
God of the seedling, the snow and the sun,
teach us, deflect us, Christ reconnect us,
using us gently and making us one.*

Blessing and Sending Forth: Tim

Sung Response: VU 318 - "Christ Be With Me"

*Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me.*

*Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.*

Postlude

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