



ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

September 10th , 2021

Minister: Rev. Tim Bowman

Song Leaders: Deborah Handley & Jerry Johnson

Pianist: Donna Poncelet & Christine Schaufert



ZOOM INFO FOR REGULAR GATHERINGS:

These times and login credentials will remain the same until further notice, regardless of whether you receive an invitation.

Sunday mornings at 10:00 am.

Direct Link:

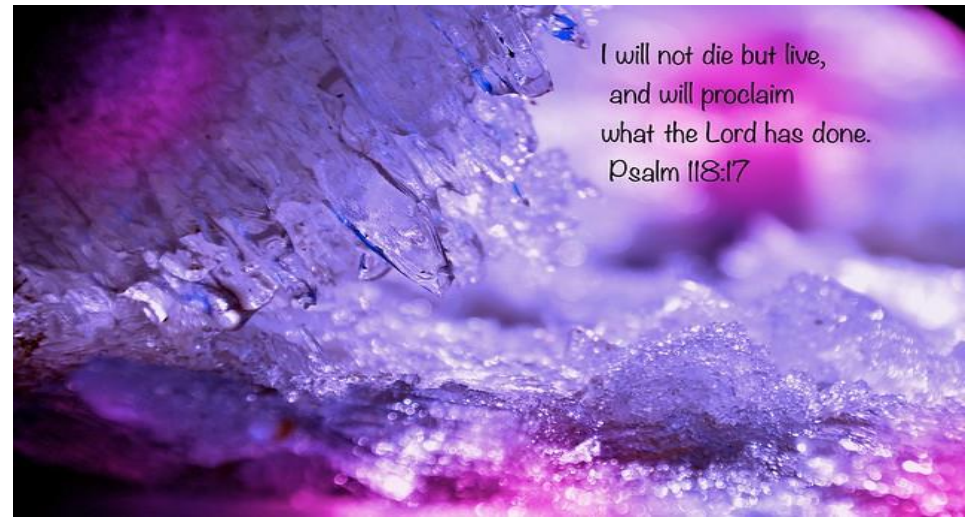
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5783186702?pwd=VUIza285T0c5T0dkK243QUNXaS9jdz09>

By phone: call 1 778 907 2071. After connecting, when asked enter the Meeting ID: 578 318 6702, and then when asked, enter the password: 839660.

Readings for September 12th , 2021

Psalm 116

Mark 8:27-38



Hymns and Music for September 12th , 2021

MV 21 - "Open our hearts"

MV 138 - "My love colors outside the lines"

MV 62 - "There is room for all"

VU 182 - "Stay with us through the night"

VU 921 - Lord's Prayer(spoken)

VU 218 - "We praise you O God" Verse 1

MV-176 - "Three things I promise"

VU 646 - "We are marching in the Light of God"

CONTACTING REV. TIM AND JEANETTE:

The office is currently closed, and Rev. Tim and Jeanette are working from home as much as possible. The office will reopen the week of September 13 unless the public health situation makes that illegal or unwise. Rev. Tim is back from study leave as of Sunday August 15, and be contacted at 778-791-3545, or bowmantimothy@gmail.com. Jeanette is also working from home as much as possible and can be reached at 1-604-799-5375. This is a Chilliwack # or mission.uc@shaw.ca

Minister's Message

Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you."

- John 20:16-17, 19.

Siblings in Christ,

This month I was going to write a theological reflection on certain social issues. But I decided that, I and perhaps you, needed a message closer to the core of our faith.

A week ago I had an appointment for an MRI. As is common for outpatient use of these machines, the appointment was early in the morning: 4 AM to be precise. As I sat in the empty waiting room, I think I came close to a panic attack. I am slightly claustrophobic, and as you may know those machines are like a torpedo tube, or more morbidly, a coffin. For some reason, I also couldn't stop thinking about the possibility of something going wrong. What if I or the techs had forgotten to account for some piece of metal in my body or clothing? What if the powerful waves of magnetic energy did something else unexpected?

I had heard about various coping techniques: count all the chairs in the room. Find all the blue things. Et cetera. This wasn't really helping. What if I had a heart attack? Yes, I was being a bit melodramatic.

Then I said to myself, aren't you a minister? Aren't you a Christian? Pray, already!

What should I pray?

I ended up just envisioning Jesus kneeling in front of me, holding my hand, looking into my eyes. The message was, "I'm here. I'm with you. You're not alone." Almost embarrassingly simple for us sophisticated, educated Christians. But in the end, that's what all of our complicated liturgies and theologies mean. You are not alone.

What made Mary realize she was in Jesus' presence? The familiar sound of his voice.

What reassured the disciples in their fear and grief? Jesus' simple presence.

So that's what I would like to suggest to you today:

COVID is scary. The debates around it are frustrating. And you are not alone.

Returning to our own worship services is complicated and perhaps frightening. And you are not alone.

You or your children or your grandchildren are going back to school. Who knows what the new school year may bring? And you are not alone.

I think it's going to a tough month for many of us. But we'll get through it together. Peace be with you, my friends: you are not alone.

Yours in Christ,
Tim.

Announcements

Vacation

Hi everyone,

So, my vacation did not go as planned and I will be leaving our church to move back to Alberta. My last day with Gladwin will be October 14th. It has been a pleasure working and getting to know everyone! God bless you all.

Romeo (Retired Old Men Eating Out)

Yeah!!!!!! The men from the Romeo group can finally meet in person again!!!! All men from all congregations are invited to this breakfast meeting every other Friday at 8:00 am. The next meeting is on Friday, September 17, 2021 Why not join and have some great breakfast company? The breakfast is held at JoJo's Bana Restaurant in Abbotsford.



October 2, 2021. FUNdrive with Value Village

Calling on all Soft Goods!

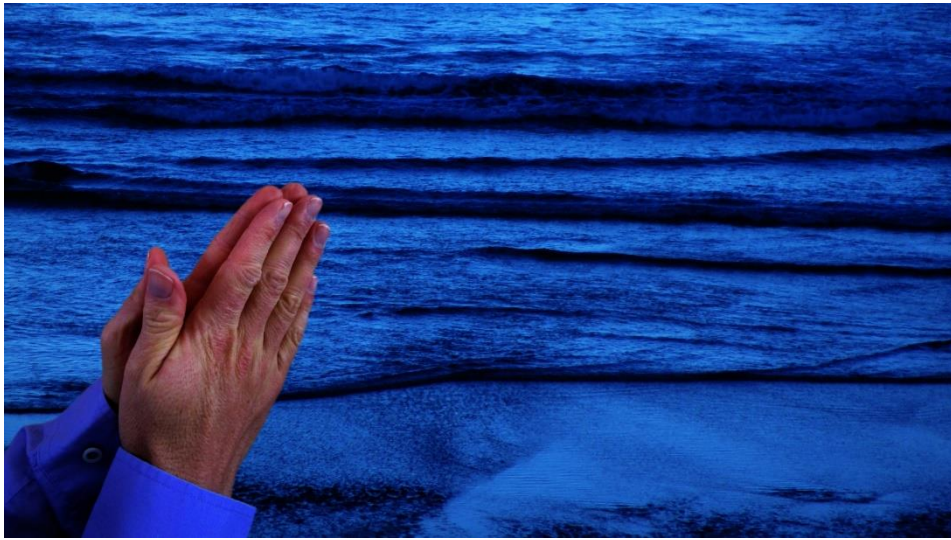
We are collecting Soft Goods, which include any type of material such as clothing, footwear, belts, scarves, handbags, linens, towels, drapes and anything else you can think of. Items need to be CLEAN, but can be torn, frayed and stained for recycling, repurposed or for resale.

Please tell your family, friends and neighbors and let's keep these items out of our landfill! Beginning the week of September 14 Jeanette will be in the Gladwin office from 9-2:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays if you would like to drop off donations at the church. Or Ellen will be at the church on October 2 from 9-11.

Any questions, ask Ellen 604-853-9501

Meet & Eat is back!

We're meeting at noon on Wednesday, September 15 at Boston Pizza. If any lady can join us, let Myrna know @ (604-826-6313) We'd be very happy to see you.



Our Prayer List

The result of Prayer is Life. Prayer irrigates the Earth and Heart. Author Unknown

Please hold these people and families in your heart and prayers:

Chiko
John, Aroon and family
Shay
Cyril
Greta and family
Bernice
Sally and family
David,
Annie,
Marilyn,
Devon and family,
Paulette and family,
Loa
Lynea and family
Ron
Barb

Blessings Linda B.

Earthquake Relief for Haiti

The United Church of Canada has the ability to work with partners to provide relief for earthquake victims in Haiti.

The attached website provides an easy way for people to donate, or they can write a cheque to St. Andrew's for "Haiti relief" and we can forward it.

<https://united-church.ca/news/appeal-haiti>

DOG SITTER WANTED:

Reliable, experienced, energetic person to care for a small, spirited dog on occasion, from half days to a full week or more. Person must be able to go for 30 minute leash walks twice a day. One other dog is okay. I am willing to pay \$35 a day. Please call Julia at 778-666-5220 or email me @ jkrohan@gmail.com