

Watch this week's service on YouTube by clicking: [Remembrance Sunday Worship Video](#)

For Children: A New Cool School video is available by clicking here: [Cool School Video 3](#)

You are welcome to share this with others but please note that you must use the link provided. It is not available by search.

Would you like to follow along with today's bible reading on the video? Click here: [Micah 4:1-4](#)

For news and events please have a look at the **Life & Work** insert: <https://charleswoodunited.org/media/life-work/>

If you would like to **support the ministry** of Charleswood United Church please visit:

www.charleswoodunited.org/donate. Thank you to all those who have continued to contribute regularly.

Please enjoy our online worship and feel free to share with others. The **link for sharing** is: <https://youtu.be/R048CS5bqyA>

Dear Friends

Welcome to worship for Sunday, November 8, 2020.

As I write this it appears that there is going to be a change in leadership in our neighbour to the south. I say *appears* because when a people are so divided, when rhetoric is so divisive, when it becomes so easy to look on a neighbour as an enemy, when compassion for the other is lost, when systems of governance and civil order are undermined, when the sin of false witness is embraced as a virtue, and when there is a seemingly endless supply of money to dispute and litigate election results, then *change* is not going to come easily.

But there is remarkable resilience in democracy and as long as the will of the people and the rule of law are evident then hopefully the change expressed by those who vote will prevail. For our part it seems to me there are two things we can do. The first is to honour one another in Canada and respect the differences among ourselves, remembering that the preservation of our democracy should not be taken for granted. The second thing we can do is hold our neighbour in prayer. All of them, the powerful and the powerless, the angry and the fearful, the ones close and the ones far away. Pray for an end to hatred and violence and distrust.

This may sound like an odd disconnect but I was thinking that if we were worshipping together on Sundays, then the US election is one of those things many of us would be talking about with one another before church and over coffee. I miss those conversations. They are an integral part of our life together as a community of faith. And of course, there are many other things we would be talking about this week including:

- Our recognition of the three members of our congregation who were in active duty during World War 2. As you remember veterans from your family and nation this November 11 please also think of Bud Snarr, Gordon Saunders, and Len Van Roon with gratitude.
- If we were together we would be praying for Liz Stewart who passed away recently and for peace and comfort among her family. We also pray for Olga Morrow whose son Richard died last week and for Shelley McKinnon whose son Jonathan died in October. Blessings on these very dear people.

- If we were together we would undoubtedly be holding up in prayer all those dedicated servants who are working in our health care system as an unprecedented number of hospitalizations from Covid in Manitoba seems to be imminent. Theirs is a high calling and worthy of our gratitude, admiration, and cooperation.
- If together we would be celebrating the wonderful response to our call for volunteers to help with Christmas Hampers. The letter went out on Tuesday and by Friday all the slots were full. We are still in need of drivers (curbside drop-off) for Hamper delivery on Saturday, December 12. Everything you need to know about our Christmas hamper program including the grocery list and how to donate can be found by clicking here: <https://charleswoodunited.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/2020-White-Gift-Master-Poster.pdf>
- While we are talking about Christmas you should know that the organizers of the annual Women's Advent Service are undeterred by the challenges of the pandemic and are working on the development of a video Women's Advent Service which will be posted and distributed on Monday, November 30.

If we were together we would be talking about all this and so many other things. We will talk soon.

Grace and peace,

Michael