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Ministers
Rev. A. J. Griffin
Rev. M. J. V. Shaver

FIRST UNITED CHURCH
320 East Hastings Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6A 1P4

10.30 A.M.

"COME IN TO WORSHIP"

Organ Prelude
Call to Worship
Hymn No. 269 (442) "Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah" (Cwm Rhondia)
Invocation Prayer
Unison Reading Psalm of Joy, No. 100 222 Red Hymn Book
Solo: "How Great Thou Art" Shirley Telford
Scripture Chosen by Mrs. Jean Kerr: Psalm 130, Isaiah 40: 1-5, 53: 3-6
Quartette: "Beside blue Galilee" Gabriel
Scripture: Luke 10: 29-37; 1 Cor. 13: 8-13
Pastoral Prayer
Hymn No. 131 (637) "The Lord's my Shepherd" (Amazing Grace)
Sermon "SERVICE: A CUP OF COLD WATER"
Prayer, Offering, Doxology
Hymn No. 442 (Hymnary) "Hark, hark my soul" (Galway Bay)
Benediction
Organ Postlude

"GO OUT TO SERVE"

A special welcome this morning to all former members and friends who have come to share in honouring Mrs. Jean Kerr. We are all invited to the luncheon which will follow the service.

There will also be the usual informal Coffee Hour following this evening's broadcast service.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 1979

EVENING BROADCAST SERVICE
(Heard over CKWX at 8.00 p.m.)

7.00 P.M.

Organist
Harry Stothers

Organ Prelude
Call to Worship
Hymn No. 436 "Giver of the perfect Gift" (Buckland)
Prayer of Invocation
Solo: Shirley Telford — COME TO THE WATERS HANDS
Scripture Readings: Ezekiel 13: 4-12
II Cor. 1: 3-7
John 14: 15-21
Quartette: "The New Twenty-Third" Carmichael
Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (sung)
Quartette: "Our Father, Thou in heaven above" Bach
Sermon ARE YOU COMFORTABLE?
Rev. Jack Shaver
Prayer
Hymn No. 100 "O Love, how deep"
The Benediction and Choral Amen
Organ Chimes and Voluntary
--- off the air ---
The Offering: Prayer, Organ Voluntary, Doxology
Announcements
Hymn No. 129 (681) "Unto the hills around...."
Blessing
Organ Postlude

Next Sunday, April 8, 1979

10.30 A.M. - Rev. Jack Shaver - Communion

7.00 P.M. - Rev. Art Griffin

Are you Comfortable? II Cor
JOHN

I picked the title for tonight's sermon
because it invited a little word play.

I don't intend it to ask whether you are in a
comfortable state.

But rather to ask the more painful question
of whether it's possible for you to be comforted.
Are you comfortable? as in → Is this vacuum
cleaner fixable?

I'm searching for a word to those who are
finding it a rare thing to be comforted.

Who are now weary of ~~their prolonged state~~
being comfortless.

and yet who find ^{that} much of what is offered
as comforting these days doesn't work for them.

I think we've got a world full of people like that,
whose distress runs so deep.

and is so pervasive

cannot be reached by a shallow cure.

For a start there is the clear Biblical affirmation
that there is something authentic about the
rejection of a cheap cure.

- when there is a basic fault in the wall of a city
it doesn't help to clean it with white-wash.

It is God himself who is throwing near when
you reject the comforting news of "peace past"
when there is no peace.

How can you care about people in today's world
and be comforted in ordinary ways

The only time the enemy comes is not briefly serious
as when we forget about it.

The only way the enemy comes ~~before~~ ^{anyway} but inevitably
modesty is for us to ignore it.

Nothing leads one to believe that these matters are
in good hands so that you can afford to
forget about them.

The economic situation of the world is in exactly the
state that condemns in the Bible. Has
anyone been able to point out to you where
the world is getting juster lately?

→ That is not saying there aren't a bunch of
beautiful ^{people} around, that is the tragedy - it won't
break down into good guys and bad guys, ~~either~~

~~that~~ - The tragedy is that all ~~are~~ beautiful people
are ^{also} running ~~an~~ unjust hateful operation.

If you are going to take responsibility
for that you are going to be hard to comfort.

The only way you can avoid being ~~hardened~~
by the world is to harden your heart.

Do you suppose ^{the vessel of} our upcoming election
is going to be that ~~one~~ ^{will be} just a tragic
to the poor - Prison conditions ~~are~~ ^{will be} civilized,
Native peoples of the land reduced, the French waters
reconciled. Anything but ^{any} ~~the~~ words reach the
oppressed?

Can it be said of all this that grievance
is inappropriate.

The only way you can be deeply comfortable
is the forget - I wrote that word
is to forget how difficult the left out parties
feel about it.

When we look at the world
in which free elections would come as on
measurable years - we can't blame the
governments of the world that
the years of confusion is a continual
look at what
to be accomplished
we are likely
to be accomplished

II After that start -

we soon come to the fact that no one
 can stand a chronic complainer ^{most pick} ^{out of these are}
 what can be more ungrateful ~~than~~ ^{to be} constantly
 whining away ~~constantly in the face of~~
 in self pity

we is me

all is vanity ~~paralyzing~~

in the face of all the gifts that have been
 showered on us through centuries
 of faithful serving people
 all the devout devotion,

certainly there is a kind of grieving
 that is better called whining -
 it leads - brings death

~~Call~~ to destruction - whining - grieving -
 - closes death

III The Final Biblical notion I want us to apply again

is that notion of Comforting →
 - Blessed are they that Mourn

Kind of Mourning - comforted

- Distinct from self pity

Kind of	Grief + Liberating	Fierce
	+ ~~self pity~~	Strong
	+ Heart Warming	Powerful

~~lifts up~~
~~not depresses~~
~~creates~~
~~not destroys~~

God's a griever

a man of sorrows + Woman in travail

God knows all about Love a fallen world. | Fierce Love

Kind of Grieving

lifts up - rather than depressing
 energizes - rather than paralyzes
 creates - rather than destroys

Our trouble is we aren't very good
at distinguishing our whines
from grieving in Godly Sorrow.

How often we return to this land of the Chosen
good men

Our Forgiveness

As soon as we ~~are~~ sense that all our Sorrow
is ~~the~~ Godly Sorrow ~~and~~ ~~the~~ unsufferable
become

As long as we know a fragment of Godly Sorrow
we're equipped to be laborers in His Kingdom,

Metaphor - what it is to be comforted.

- down it - I will not leave you Comfortless

- Desolate

- Orphaned

I will come to you.