



Sunday Worship

Westminster Church

The United Church of Canada

Sunday, July 1, 2018

***Celebrating 125 years of
ministry in the community***

*Words printed in **bold type** are to be spoken by the congregation.*

Organ Prelude

Lighting the Christ Candle

Welcome and News

Introit VU 315 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, Vs 1

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

Call to Worship

As we gather, we recognize that a history of a people is not all glory. The history of Canada has both joy and sorrow, both triumph and tragedy.

We have much to celebrate, much to lament, and much to dream.

Come, let us gather in the presence of God, our Creator.

Come, let us worship the Creator in whom we, and all of creation, are one.

Come, let us open our hearts in thanksgiving.

Come, let us be filled with the Spirit's vision as we worship today.

Hymn VU 288 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Prayer of Confession

Creator of First Peoples, pioneer, and saddlebag preacher; Light of immigrant, loyalist, and seeker: we live with history and we love your presence in it.

We trace our roots to your creative powers.

We embrace one another as children of your Spirit.

As we celebrate our history today, help us remember all of it:

that which makes us proud and that which makes us ashamed;
that which reveals our closeness to your Word and that which reveals our distance.

Remind us of your constant presence: forgiving, restoring, recreating, and making all things new. Hear us, Redeemer God, as we dwell for a moment in your goodness. Amen.

Robin Wardlaw, Glen Rhodes United Church in Toronto, Ont.

Moment of silence for personal confession.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Words of Assurance

God made us; we are created in God's image of the Divine. Christ has redeemed us; we are a people and nation forgiven. The Holy Spirit sustains us; be open to the future with confidence and hope. Be assured God will be there to bless and to guide.

The Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pass the peace and ask, "Where are your ancestors from?"

Scripture Reading

Lamentations 3:22-33

Bob Gold

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

VU 332 The Church's One Foundation

Message

"Lament, but Keep the Faith"

Rev. Don McIntyre

Collection of Offerings and Offertory

After the offering is introduced, an offertory will be played by the organist and the collection taken. Thank you for your gift, whether given today or through other means of supporting ministry at Westminster Church.

Offering Doxology MV 42 Praise God for This Holy Ground, Vs 1

**Praise God for this holy ground,
place and people, sight and sound.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
God's goodness is eternal.**

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Prayer of Dedication (unison)

God of all peoples and God of all places we present these offerings and with them our varied ministries that each of us as Canadians and Christian may be a part of your answer to the cries of the world.

Prayers of the People

Gracious and Loving God, in whom all of creation and all peoples live and move and have our being, we gather to celebrate the 151th year since the Confederation of Canada.

We gather in gratitude for the richness of this land that extends from sea to sea to sea:

For the First Peoples, who discovered this land millennia ago, and for the wonderful tapestry of Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultures that make up our nation, making us all richer for the diversity,

we offer our gratitude to you, Creator of Life.

For a country in which we are free and safe to cast our vote, and where we can give voice to what we believe. For what our country has offered the world through inventions from both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, such as a cure for scurvy, canoes and kayaks, medicinal insulin, the Canadarm, the IMAX movie system, walkie-talkies, toboggans, snowshoes, life jackets, maple syrup, the snowmobile, the electric wheelchair, the prosthetic arm, the garbage bag, the caulking gun, the Robertson screw, and many sports and games such as Trivial Pursuit, ice hockey, lacrosse, basketball, and five-pin bowling,

we offer our gratitude to you, Creator of Life.

We gather in lament for the painful parts of our 151-year history: for the devastation caused to the Indigenous Peoples through colonization of this land, the overuse of natural resources;

this we lament, God-who-enters-into-suffering.

For seizing people's property and money and confining them in internment camps (Ukrainian Canadians during and after the First World War and Japanese Canadians during and after the Second World War), naming them as "enemy aliens" rather than seeing them as devoted Canadians,

this we lament, God-who-enters-into-suffering.

For those who have suffered devastation in both natural and human-made disasters in Canada,

this we lament, God-who-enters-into-suffering.

To this we commit ourselves as your faithful people, Loving God.

For a country where we care for the land, the environment, and the creatures, and live with respect in creation, making wise use of our natural resources and understanding that we are one with all of creation,

to this we commit ourselves as your faithful people, Loving God.

On this anniversary of the Confederation of Canada, we give thanks, we lament, and we dream, gathering all of our prayers together as we pray the words of Jesus:

The Lord's Prayer (*spoken*)

**Our Father/Mother, 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, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn VU 242 Let All Things Now Living

Commissioning and Sending Forth

Let us go forth from this time of worship,
recommitted as followers of the Way of Jesus
to working for reconciliation and right relations,
open to the wisdom of God's Spirit guiding us day by day

Choral Response VU 524 O Canada

**O Canada! Our home and native land!
True patriot love in *all of us* command.
With glowing hearts we see thee rise,
the True North strong and free!
From far and wide, O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
God keep our land glorious and free!
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.**

Organ Postlude

If departing before the end of the postlude, please do so quietly for the benefit of those remaining to enjoy the music.

Lectionary Readings: July 8 – Seventh after Pentecost – Proper 9

Gathering, PENTECOST 2018, page 17. Used with Permission.

Worship materials for the Fourth Sunday to the Seventh Sundays after Pentecost were contributed by Don Uhryniw and Arlene Gray of Emmanuel United Church in Peterborough, Ont.

- 2 Samuel 5: 1–5, 9–10** David is anointed king.
Psalm 48 (VU pp. 772–773) God be praised in the city of Zion.
2 Corinthians 12: 2–10 My grace is sufficient; my power made perfect in weakness.
Mark 6:1–13 Jesus, rejected in Nazareth, sends out the 12 to teach.

To Ponder

What does the word “revelation” mean to you? How do you believe the Holy is revealed?