



# **Sunday Worship**

## **Westminster United Church**

*Over 125 years of ministry in the community –  
Moving forward in a tradition of service*

**Sunday, Feb. 2, 2020**  
**Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**  
**and the Sacrament of Communion**  
**10:30 am**

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

**Organ Prelude**

**Christ Candle is lit**

**Welcome and News**

**Introit** MV 28 God of the Bible (vs.1 and refrain)

**God of the Bible, God in the Gospel,  
hope seen in Jesus, hope yet to come,  
you are our centre daylight or darkness,  
freedom or prison, you are our home.**

**Refrain:**

**Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,  
God always faithful, you do not change.**

**Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,  
God always faithful, you do not change.**

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### **Call to Worship\***

From the corners of this neighborhood and across the city,  
from the confusion of life,  
from the pain and hurt of loss,  
from the loneliness of our hearts,  
from the uncertainty of change,  
from the unexpected moments of grace,  
**Gather us in, O God.**

To feed our minds,  
to fire our imagination,  
to free our hearts,  
to inspire our living,  
to deepen our faith,  
**Gather us in, O God.**

**Hymn** VU 223                  Eternal, Unchanging, We Sing

### **Prayer of Confession\*\***

God the Holy Spirit,  
You are the restless breath of love that sweeps through the world.  
You move where you will, breaking down barriers,  
Stirring hearts to change, making all things possible.

Inspire each one of us to hunger and thirst for justice!  
**Come, Spirit of God,**  
**Sweep through our world bringing great change.**  
**May the bounty of your goodness be shared more justly,**  
**So all may share in the rich blessings of your creation.**  
**And, for us, bring transformation in our praying and living,**  
**So that we may act justly, love mercy,**  
**And walk humbly with you all the days of our lives.....**

*Moment of silence for personal confession.*

Lord have mercy.  
**Christ have mercy.**  
Lord have mercy.

## **Words of Assurance**

**Anthem**                      Let us Break Bread Together                      by John Helgen

*Following the Anthem, the children are welcome to join Katelyn in the Chapel for Sunday School, and are invited to return during the service of communion.*

**Scripture Reading:**              Susie Conrad  
Micah 6: 1-8  
Matthew 5: 1-12

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Message**                      Rev. Sherri McConnell

**Hymn** VU 896                      Blest Are They

**Prayers of the People**

**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** VU 93 When Heaven's Bright with Mystery verse 4

**When heaven's bright with mystery  
And stars still lead an unknown way,  
When love still lights a gentle path  
Where courts of power can hold no sway,  
There with the Magi, let us kneel,  
Our gifts to share, God's world to heal.**

*Used with permission.*

**Prayer of Dedication**

### Celebration of Communion

Communion Setting E (VU 942-43)

**The Invitation**

**The Passing of the Peace**

May the Peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and Praise.**

*Blessed are you, gracious God... ..*

*... ..sharing our joy and sorrow, healing the sick, feeding the hungry, and setting the captive free. And so it is with grateful hearts that we join in the song of all creation to proclaim your goodness once again -*

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

**VU 942-43**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might;**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.**

**Heav'n and earth are full, full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the Highest, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

*Mighty and tender God, it is in Jesus of Nazareth  
that we witness the fullness of your grace.....*

*.....waiting in hope for his coming again, and the return of compassion and  
justice to all the earth, as we proclaim the mystery of our faith -*

**Memorial Acclamation**

**VU 943**

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*Holy God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts,  
so that all who share in this bread and this cup, may live as the body of Christ:  
light, life, and love in the world -*

**Great Amen**

**VU 943**

**Amen, amen, amen, amen.**

*Holy God, hear us now as with one voice we say together the words Jesus taught  
his followers to pray -*

**The Lord's Prayer**

**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,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **Breaking and Sharing the Bread and Cup**

### **Prayer after Communion**

Gracious God, though we live in a world of need,

**Here we have experienced your goodness  
and hungered for a world more just.**

Though surrounded by brokenness, alienation and isolation,

**here we have heard your call  
to be a community of compassion.**

Though daily we touch our own limits, feel stretched, discouraged or fatigued,  
**here we have received the fullness of your grace.**

Send us forth, Oh God,

**in faith, in hope, and in love. Amen.**

Hymn VU 642            Be Thou My Vision

## **Commissioning and Sending Forth**

**Choral Close VU 626 I Heard the Voice of Jesus (vs. 3)**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"I am this dark world's light;  
look unto me, your morn shall rise;  
and all your day be bright."  
I looked to Jesus, and I found  
in him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk  
till travelling days are done.**

Words and music, public Domain.

## **Organ Postlude**

*\*Rex Hunt liturgies website February 2, 2014 (adapted)*

*\*\*Third Space website. <http://third-space.org.uk/blog>*

**February 2 – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

*Worship materials were contributed by Kim Vidal, Bells Corners U.C., Nepean, Ont.*

**Micah 6:1–8**

What does God require of us?

**Psalm 15** (VU p. 736)

Who may be a guest in God's house?

**1 Corinthians 1:18–31**

God's foolishness is better than human wisdom.

**Matthew 5:1–12**

Blessed are the poor in spirit.

**To Ponder**

What was Jesus' purpose in declaring that those who are grieving and in poverty are blessed?