



Sunday Worship

Westminster
United Church

*celebrating 125 years of ministry
in the community*

Sunday, Feb. 4, 2018
5th Sunday after Epiphany
Sacrament of Communion

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

Prelude

Lighting the Christ Candle

As we gather to worship, we begin with the lighting the Christ Candle, and we remember these words from the gospel of John –

**“The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness cannot overcome it.”**

Welcome and News

Introit MV 1 Let Us Build a House vs. 5

**Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard, and loved and treasured,
taught and claimed as words with-in the Word.**

**Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:**

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

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Call to Worship

We gather to worship God,
whose spirit infuses our imaginations,
whose love lifts and nudges us,
who calls us to be co-creators and builders of the kingdom
Let us worship this morning,
Amen

Prayer of Approach

Hymn VU 374 Come and Find the Quiet Centre

Prayer of Reflection/Confession* (unison)

Merciful One,
grant us grace to be mindful today,
aware of your constant, loving presence.
Grant us wisdom to listen for your voice.
Open our hearts to your beauty and glory in everything.
Help us see your light in all we meet,
and remind us we all have times of struggle.
Help us to see with clear eyes,
without judging or reacting.
Help us to be patient with weakness,
and forgiving of ourselves and others.
Nudge us to learn from every mistake,
to be courageous in the face of fear,
and to seize every chance to show love.
Ever-present Love-Most-Holy, keep us mindful this day
of your mysterious grace, and your goodness and mercy
that is with us always.
In the name of Christ we pray.....

Moment of silence for personal reflection.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Assurance

Anthem Ave Verum

Mozart

Nathan's Notes for Sunday, February 4th

Ave Verum k. 618 is among the last pieces Mozart composed. It was finished just weeks before Mozart was commissioned to compose the Requiem k.626, and shows off Mozart's incredible skill and sensitivity when setting text to music. This text is normally sung or spoken during the Catholic mass, when the bread is raised and blessed. This text has been set by several composers, most notably by Edward Elgar and William Byrd.

*Ave verum corpus, natum
de Maria Virgine,
vere passum, immolatum
in cruce pro homine
cuius latus perforatum
fluxit aqua et sanguine:
esto nobis praegustatum:
in mortis examine.*

*O Jesu dulcis, O Jesu pie,
O Jesu, fili Mariae.
Miserere mei. Amen.*

Hail, true Body, born
of the Virgin Mary,
having truly suffered, sacrificed
on the cross for mankind,
from whose pierced side
water and blood flowed:
Be for us a foretaste [of the Heavenly
banquet]
in the trial of death!

O sweet Jesus, O holy Jesus,
O Jesus, son of Mary,
have mercy on me. Amen.

Scripture Reading: Janice Anderson

Isaiah 40: 21-31

Mark 1: 29-39

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

Message

Hymn MV 94 Love Knocks and Waits

Prayers of the People

Collection of Offerings

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

Offertory

Offering Doxology MV 49 When We Seek Language

When we seek language to praise you, O God,
all we can utter seems stale, tame, or odd.
Tongue-tied and word-lost, we struggle to find
Phrases that slight neither heart, soul, nor mind:
Infinite intimate unbounded friend,
cosmic companion who loves without end,
Nearer than heartbeat, more subtle than breath,
Keener than insight, and stronger than death.

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Prayer of Dedication

Celebration of Communion

Communion Setting E (VU 942-43)

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.....*

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

Though surrounded by brokenness and alienation

here we have heard your call

to be a community of compassion.

Though daily we touch our own limits, and can feel 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 675 Will Your Anchor Hold

Commissioning and Sending Forth

Choral Response VU 93 Vs. 1 When Heaven's Bright with Mystery

When heaven's bright with mystery

and science searches nature's art,

When all creation yearns for peace

and hope sinks deep in human hearts,

appear to us, O Holy Light,

lift from our eyes the shades of night.

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

* c) Steve Garnaas-Holmes, posted Feb 1, 2018 www.unfoldinglight.com (adapted).

Lectionary Readings

February 11 – Transfiguration Sunday

2 Kings 2:1–12 - Elijah is taken up into heaven.

Psalm 50:1–6 (VU p. 775) - God summons the earth.

2 Corinthians 4:3–6 - The light of knowledge shines in our hearts.

Mark 9:2–9 - The Transfiguration of Jesus.