



Sunday Worship

Westminster Church

The United Church of Canada

Sunday, July 7, 2019

4th after Pentecost

**“I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want,
but I do the very thing I hate.” Romans 7:15**

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

Our service begins with the Prelude, inviting us to prepare for worship.

Organ Prelude

Lighting the Christ Candle

Welcome and News

Introit VU 315 Holy, Holy, Holy

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

O God pour out Your spirit of grace and love.

Deliver us from cold hearts and wandering thoughts

with steady minds and burning zeal to worship You in spirit and in truth.

Hymn VU 559 Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we confess that we have sinned.

Even though we want to do what is right,

we did not always succeed this week.

Not only did we fail to do what was right,

but at times we consciously chose to think and act

in ways we knew were wrong.

We are truly sorry,

and we ask for your forgiveness.

Moment of silence for personal confession.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Words of Assurance (based on Romans 7:24-25)

Friends, hear this:

Through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ,
we have been set free from the power of sin!

It no longer needs to control us.

So be at peace: your sins are forgiven!

Go out, and live in the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God!

The Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Scripture Reading Annette Kletke

Romans 7:15-25, Matthew 11:16-19,25-30

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn VU 371 Open My Eyes, That I May See

Message Imitating Those Who Swear Rev. Don McIntyre

Solo It Is Well with My Soul by Craig Courtney
given by Rebecca McIntosh

Collection of Offerings

As God's people we learn about good and evil. There are different ways of serving and different expressions of the same Spirit. Let us offer our gifts as we rely on this congregation to uphold us in our ministry.

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.

Offertory

Offering Doxology VU 236 Now Thank We All Our God verse 3



All praise and thanks to God for all that has been gi - ven, the
Son, and Spir - it blest who dwell in high - est hea - ven, the
one e - ter - nal God, whom heaven and earth a - dore; for
thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Lord grant us patience to smooth the way on which we discover your Kingdom in the face of our shortcomings.

Grant us a clear vision that in our history we may have clear eyes to see the world as it is and ourselves and all people as we are. Take away laziness of thought and give us hope to go on encouraging and believing in what you intended us all to be.

We pray for children who may grow in wisdom of what is good and bad behavior and to experience Your love in the way they live. Help us to be a good example of Your presence in their lives.

We pray for those whose spirit is crushed, who have limited ways of expressing their sorrow or frustration.

You are both comfort and challenge as Your peace dwells in our hearts in all that we say and do as we reflect Your love and grace always.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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 333 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Commissioning and Sending Forth

Renewed in the life of Christ by sign and action, live your lives in Him, rooted in his Body, established in faith and healed by His holy spirit in you. May God guard us and shelter us in all that we say and do, now and forever.

Choral Response Three-Fold Amen

A - men, a - men, a - - men.

Organ Postlude

Lectionary Reading *Gathering*, PENTECOST 2019, page 13. Used with permission.
Worship materials for the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost to the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
were contributed by Leigh Sinclair, Robertson-Wesley U.C., Edmonton, Alta.

July 14 – Fifth after Pentecost - Proper 10

Amos 7:7–17

God holds a plumb line in the midst of God's people.

Psalms 82 (VU p. 799)

God judges in the midst of the divine council.

Colossians 1:1–14

The word of God is bearing fruit in you.

Luke 10:25–37

The parable of the Good Samaritan.

To Ponder

Compassion is the basic “colour scheme” or guide in our faithful living: the compassionate way must be followed even when it means breaking cultural taboos or role expectations.

July 21 – Sixth after Pentecost - Proper 11

Amos 8:1–12

God will turn feasts to mourning and songs to lamentation.

Psalms 52 (VU p. 777)

Why do you boast of evil?

Colossians 1:15–28

Paul, the servant of the gospel.

Luke 10:38–42

Jesus visits Mary and Martha.

To Ponder

The *discipline of patience* is essential in faithful living: the patience to realize that in different seasons of our lives, we will need to ask for help or be the help others need; the patience to acknowledge what we do not yet know or understand; and the patience to ask for clarity—to understand before we seek to be understood (as St. Francis of Assisi would say).

July 28 – Seventh after Pentecost - *Proper 12*

Hosea 1:2–10

Hosea's marriage is a metaphor for Israel's relationship with God.

Psalm 85 (VU p. 802)

God restores fortunes and pardons sin.

Colossians 2:6–15, (16–19)

Buried in baptism, raised in faith.

Luke 11:1–13

Jesus teaches the disciples to pray.

To Ponder

One aspect of our primary “wardrobe” as Christians is an intentional prayer practice. The regular practice allows us to grow a faith that is made known in *quiet strength (meekness)*. This means that we can faithfully acknowledge our limitations while praising God's great ability to create and sustain.