



# Sunday Worship

Westminster Church

The United Church of Canada

*Celebrating 125 years of ministry in the community*

Sunday, October 7, 2018

Thanksgiving Sunday & World Wide Communion

*Service of Communion*

10:30 am

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

## Prelude

**Christ Candle is lit**

**Welcome and News**

**Introit MV 28 God of the Bible**

**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.***

Words: Shirley Erena Murray © 1996 Hope Publishing Company Music: Tony E. Alonso © 2001 by GIA Publications Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under [OneLicense.net](http://OneLicense.net) #A-720863

## Call to Worship/Approach

We come to you, O God,  
in thanksgiving for the gift of this beautiful land we walk on,  
**whose harvest feeds us and can feed the world.**

We come to you in thanksgiving for the gift of faith,  
**faith that we nurture and celebrate here in this place;**

faith that is lived out in the lives of your people throughout the world.

We come to you in thanksgiving for the gift of community,

**community that strengthens, challenges, struggles, supports and loves us.**

We come to you in thanksgiving for the gift of Jesus,  
**the One whose path we seek to follow.**

God of all creation, be with us now as we worship with joy and gratitude. Amen.

**Hymn** VU 220 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

*(Following our opening hymn the younger crowd is welcome to join Katelyn at the Children's Table in the Narthex for a time of activity, story, and conversation before returning to the Sanctuary for communion.)*

**Prayer of Confession**

*Moment of silence for personal reflection.*

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

**Lord, have mercy.**

**Words of Assurance\***

God's hand opens, and we are filled with good things.

**God's Spirit moves, and we are renewed.**

God's glory endures forever.

**That be to God for God's sustaining love.**

**Anthem**      A Thanksgiving Tapestry  
Helen La Rue, piano

by John Purifoy

**Scripture Readings:**      Judy Hill  
Matthew 6: 25-33

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

**Sermon**      .....so do not worry.....

**Hymn** VU 460      All Who Hunger

## **Prayers of the People**

**Minute for Mission**      A Life of Giving in Action      John Grivell

## **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 36      Glory to God

**One:** Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

**All: Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!**

**One:** To God be glory forever!

**All: To God be glory forever!**

**One:** Alleluya, amen!

**All: Alleluya, amen! x 4**

Words: French translation © 2006 David Fines Music: Arrangement © 2007 The United Church of Canada All rights reserved.  
Reprinted under [OneLicense.net](http://OneLicense.net) #A-720863

## **Prayer of Dedication\*\* (unison)**

**For these gifts, and for all your gracious gifts, we give thanks,  
Compassionate God. Turn our offerings into action for good in this  
faith community and through Mission and Service<sup>1</sup> all over the world.  
Amen.**

*(<sup>1</sup>Mission and Service of the United Church of Canada)*

## **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.**

---

*Eternal God, Maker of heaven and earth, we join with all your people to give you thanks and praise....*

*.... into your way of justice and compassion, we gather with those in every time and place to give you praise and glory:*

**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, as we proclaim the great mystery of our faith:*

**Memorial Acclamation                      VU 943**

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

*Send, Oh God... ..*

*... .. all glory is yours, God most holy,  
now and forever.*

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

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

**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 - unison**

**Holy One, may we who have gathered at this table remember that we are part of the body of Christ throughout this world, and a small part of this entire ecosystem called planet earth. May who we are, and how we live our lives, reveal the light and love of Christ to all we meet. May our hearts be open, our words be grace-filled, our lives be lived in gratitude, and our actions be life-giving. Amen.**

### **Commissioning and Sending Forth**

On this day, may we go out with joy.

On this day, may we go out with hope, and if we wish, spend time with friends, with family, and with kindred spirits. May we find time to walk along a colorful fall park path, play in a yard, read a good book, or enjoy good food.

**And then, may we move into this week and not worry about what we don't have, but live with gratitude for all we do have.**

**May we live so that we are a blessing to others.**

And as we go, may we remember that love of God surrounds us; the peace of Christ sustains us and the gift of the Spirit empowers us always,

**on this day, and every day.**

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### **Choral Response VU 623 Dear Weaver of Our Lives' Design**

**Let eyes that in the plainest cloth  
a hidden beauty see  
discern in us our richest hues,  
show us the patterns we may use  
to set our spirits free,  
to set our spirits free.**

Words: Nancy C. Dorian Words copyright 1992 Unitarian Universalist Association.

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

\*Written by Cindy Randall, **Gathering**, Pentecost 2 2018, page 44. Used with permission.

\*\*Written by David Sparks. **Gathering**, Pentecost 2 2018, page 43. Used with permission.



**Lectionary Readings    *Proper 23***  
**October 14 – Twenty-first after Pentecost**

*Worship materials for World Communion Sunday to the Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost were contributed by Gord Dunbar, Kincardine P.C., Kincardine, Ont. Gathering, PENTECOST 2 2018, page 16. Used with permission.*

**Job 23:1–9, 16–17    - Job offers his complaint against God.**

**Psalm 22:1–15 (VU pp. 744–745 Part One)    - My God, why have you forsaken me?**

**Hebrews 4:12–16    - The word of God is living, active, sharper than a two-edged sword.**

**Mark 10:17–31    - It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle.**

**To Ponder**

Who has shared your pain? Who has shared your joy?