

Sunday Worship

Westminster United Church

celebrating 125 years of ministry in the community

Sunday, April 8, 2018 2nd Sunday of Easter

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 –

"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Welcome and News

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

Call to Worship*

An Affirmation of Faith (A New Creed) VU p. 918

We are not alone. we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil. to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Approach

Hymn VU 164 The Day of Resurrection

Prayer of Reflection/Confession (unison)

In Christ you came among us, God, not to condemn but to seek and to save that which was lost.

In Christ you called us, not because we were righteous but while we were yet sinners.

In Christ you showed us the truth – about yourself, about ourselves – the truth which sets us free.

We turn to you now: Forgive us; lift us; enable us to begin anew.

Moment of silence for personal reflection.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Assurance

Anthem Hark, Ten Thousand Harps and Voices by Craig Courtney

The Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Scripture Reading: Annette Kletke

John 12: 12-16 John 20: 19-31

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

Thanks be to God.

Hymn VU 185 You Tell Me That the Lord Is Risen

Message

Solo We Have Seen the Risen Lord words and music by Stan Pethel given by Wes Rambo

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.

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

The Prayers of the People and 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.

Hymn VU 161 Welcome, Happy Morning

Commissioning and Sending Forth

Choral Response MV 214 May God's Sheltering Wings Vs 1

May God's sheltering wings,

her gathering wings protect you.

May God's nurturing arms,

her cradling arms sustain you,

and hold you in her love, and hold you in her love.

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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.

Lectionary Readings – April 15 – Third Sunday of Easter

Worship materials for the Second Sunday of Easter to the Fifth Sunday of Easter were contributed by Geoffrey Wilfong-Pritchard, St. Andrew's U.C., Edmonton, Alta.

Acts 3:12-19 - Peter preaches in Solomon's Portico.

Psalm 4 (VU p. 727) - Answer me, when I call, O God.

1 John 3:1-7 - We are children of God.

Luke 24:36b-48 - Jesus invites the disciples to touch his hands and feet.

To Ponder

What opens our minds?