



Sunday Worship

Westminster United Church

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

Sunday, Feb. 9, 2020

Epiphany 5

10:30 am

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

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*

Called to be light,

**let us carry God's hope into
the shadows of the world.**

Called to be salt,

**let us enhance the lives
of those around us, with joy.**

Called to live in God's reality,

**let us welcome everyone
as sisters and brothers in faith.**

Called to be God's people

let us sing and pray with love in our hearts, let us worship God.

Hymn VU 413

O Splendour of God's Glory Bright

Prayer of Confession*

**Holy God, it is true we break your commandments. Much worse, we break
your heart - when we point a finger at those who are different from us; when
we gossip about friends and neighbours; when we think everything is all about
us.**

**Loving God, forgive us, we pray. We yearn to know your ways, so help us open
our ears to hear those words we often ignore. We search for you in our lives,
so help us open our eyes to your wonders and see them anew. Fill our hearts
with your compassion so we can follow the path that is Jesus the Christ**

Moment of silence for personal confession.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Words of Assurance

God is gracious, merciful, and righteous;

God rebuilds our lives, repairs our mistakes, and fills our emptiness with hope and joy. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Anthem

Come, I Pray Thee

by W.H. Anderson

Children's Time - Blessing of the Pocket Prayer Shawls

(with the Tuesday Morning Knitting Group)

Affirmation of Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Without even knowing who would receive them, these pocket shawls were made specifically for each person who will receive one.

May they see the intricate love and care given to this pocket shawl, mirroring the intricate love and care that God bestows upon all people.

This shawl was made to bring comfort to someone who feels alone.

May they feel comfort in knowing that someone has prayed for them as they knit this shawl together.

This shawl was made to bring peace to someone in need of prayer.

May they feel the gift of our prayers as they hold the shawl in their hands.

This shawl was made to remind the recipient that they are connected to this community.

May they feel touched by our love, compassion and care.

PRAYER OF BLESSING**

God of creation, redemption and sustaining grace, we give thanks for this ministry so that we might see a world beyond ours. We ask that you bless these pocket prayer shawls and those who will receive them. May they feel the love, comfort and peace of your presence. And may your light shine in them and be a beacon of the hope that is promised to all of us. Amen.

The Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*Following the passing of the peace, the younger crowd is welcome to join Katelyn for **Sunday School** in the Chapel for a time of activity, story, and conversation.*

Scripture Reading: John Grivell

Isaiah 58: 1-9a

Matthew 5: 13-20

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

Thanks be to God.

Hymn VU 356 Seek Ye First the Kingdom

Message **Rev. Sherri McConnell**

Solo Safe Within Your Arms words and music by Mark Hayes
given by Jennifer Turner

Minute for Mission Easing Past Ills: Tatamagouche 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 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.**

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Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People and 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 580 Faith of Our Fathers

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.

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Organ Postlude

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***written by Rev. Sarah Weaver, preachinginpumps.com/prayer-shawl-blessing-liturgy (adapted)*

February 16 – Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Worship materials were contributed by Peggy Aitchison and Susan Young, Bells Corners U.C., Nepean, Ont.

Deuteronomy 30:15–20

Choose life.

Psalm 119:1–8 (VU p. 838 Part One)

Happy are those who walk in God's ways.

1 Corinthians 3:1–9

Not ready for solid food.

Matthew 5:21–37

Teachings on anger, adultery, divorce, and oaths.

To Ponder

Is your life in tune with God's kingdom, where compassion, justice, and integrity meet?