



Sunday Worship

Westminster United Church

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

Sunday, Jan. 12, 2020

Baptism of Jesus

10:30 am

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

Organ Prelude

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.**

*Words Shirley Erena Murray © 1995 Music Tony E. Alonso © 2001 All rights reserved. Reprinted under
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Lighting the Christ Candle*

We light this candle to remind us of the presence of Christ.

The light from this one candle shines for each of us.

We light this candle to remind us of the love of Christ.

The light from this one candle shines for all the world.

Opening Prayer

We are called by God,
each and every one:

**Young and old, slow and fast; tall and small,
know-it-alls and eager learners,
long-timers and new seekers,
and everything in between.**

God calls us and God works through each and every one of us -
and so we come here to worship and respond with our lives. Amen.

Hymn VU 313

God Whose Almighty Word

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Each day O God, you call to us with many opportunities to serve, to love, to befriend, to act. But often we are unable to hear your voice in the midst of the noise we create ourselves: the noise of our busyness and our distractions; the noise of violence and our world's lack of compassion; even the noise of our own voices. Forgive us, O God. Help us find ways to turn from those distractions and listen for your voice in our lives.....

Moment of silence for personal confession.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Words of Assurance

Anthem Consecrated Lord to Thee

by Lloyd Larson

Children's Time

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.*

The Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Scripture Reading: Shannon MacFarlane

Matthew 3: 13-17

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

Thanks be to God.

Hymn VU 380 She Comes Sailing on the Wind

Message Rev. Sherri McConnell

Solo Laudamus Te by W.A. Mozart given by Jennifer Turner

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 Glory to God (1st time one voice, second time all voices)

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

+
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, hal - le - lu - jah, ha - le - lu - jah!

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Prayer of Dedication**

*(**written by the Right Reverend Richard Bott, moderator of the United Church of Canada)*

For all that we are –

Thank you, God of love.

For all that we have –

Thank you, God of love.

For all that we are becoming –

Thank you, God of love.

Now. Forever.

We offer our thanksgivings, Amen.

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 **MV 79 Spirit, Open my Heart**

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.

Organ Postlude

*Written by Jeanne Wilson. *Gathering*, Advent/Christmas/Epiphany 2019-2020, page 47. Used with permission.
(adapted)



Lectionary Readings

January 6 – Epiphany (Monday)

Worship materials for January 6 to January 26 were contributed by Catherine Tovell, Kilworth U.C., Komoka, Ont.

Isaiah 60:1–6

Arise, shine; for your light has come.

Psalms 72:1–7, 10–14 (VU p. 790 Parts One and Two)

God's anointed defends the poor.

Ephesians 3:1–12

Boldness and confidence through faith.

Matthew 2:1–12

The visit of the Magi.

To Ponder

When has light been a negative experience for you? When has dark been positive?
How do those experiences inform your reading of Isaiah?

January 12 – Baptism of the Lord Sunday

Isaiah 42:1–9

God's servant brings justice.

Psalms 29 (VU p. 756)

Ascribe to God all glory and strength.

Acts 10:34–43

Peter's sermon to the Gentiles.

Matthew 3:13–17

Jesus is baptized.

To Ponder

What is the purpose of baptism in the 21st century?

January 19 – Second Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 49:1–7

The mission of God's servant.

Psalms 40:1–11 (VU p. 764)

I waited patiently for God.

1 Corinthians 1:1–9

I thank God for you.

John 1:29–42

Simon and Andrew become disciples.

To Ponder

In this digital age, what does it mean to receive a call? What about a spiritual call?