



Sunday Worship

Westminster United Church

Sunday Nov. 12, 2017

23th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday of Remembrance

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

Prelude

Lighting the Christ Candle

We light the Christ Candle

To remind us that the light of Christ shines on the road to peace and illuminates our most difficult hours.

Welcome and News

Introit MV 1 Let Us Build a House vs. 5

**Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured,
taught and claimed as words with-in the Word.**

**Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:**

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

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Call to Worship *

Through every generation, through times of hope and times of fear,

Through times of war and times of peace,

Through times of loss and times of joy,

You are with us, Holy God.

In the first moment of grief,

In the long empty nights,

In the chaos of war and terror, and in the search for answers,

You are with us, Holy God.

When we pause in the midst of our busy lives,

**When we remember those who suffered, those who died and those who
suffer still today,**

When we pray to you, saying “your kingdom come,”

You are with us Holy God.

In our time together this morning, as we remember and give thanks, let us also hold fast to God’s vision of peace, love and compassion for us all. Thanks be to God, Amen.

Prayer of Approach and Remembrance**

The wreaths have been laid down at the cenotaph;

the poppies have been taken off our lapels and set down for next year, or left on the tombs of the unknown soldier;

the “last post” has been played, and the band has marched home;

And here we are in this place of peace and worship, still remembering the generations who have gone before us - remembering those who returned to their families and loved ones, and those who did not.....

Silence

We remember the many from this congregation who served with courage, those who lost their lives, and all who suffered loss and grief.....

Silence

We also remember and give thanks for all who continue to serve today, who continue to put themselves in harm's way so that we may live in peace and freedom. And we remember those who have returned home from those places of war, conflict and violence – changed by their experiences forever.

Silence

Gracious God, as we gather this morning with hearts filled with humility, gratitude and respect, committing ourselves once again to remember all that has been, we also long for signs of peace and hope in our world – a world where violence and turmoil and intolerance continues....

Gracious God, inspire us to live your peace with our lives every day – through each prayer in our hearts, every choice that we make, and each action we take. In the name of Jesus, who came to show us the way, Amen.

Hymn VU 678 For the Healing of the Nations

Prayer of Confession

Moment of silence for personal reflection.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Words of Assurance

The Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Anthem

Reading *To an Unknown Dead on Armistice Day*

by Dr. C.W. Strong, M. O. 44th C.E.F.

Scripture Reading: Doug Abra

Haggai 1: 15b-2:9

Matthew 25: 1-13

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

Thanks be to God.

Hymn MV 176 Three Things I Promise

Message

Solo How Great Thou Art

arr. Craig Courtney

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.

Offertory

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.

Prayer of Dedication

The Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer (Sung, VU 959)

Hymn VU 684 Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Commissioning and Sending Forth

Choral Response VU 639 One More Step

One more step along the world I go,
one more step along the world I go,
from the old things to the new,
keep me travelling along with you:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.

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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 for Sunday, November 19 – from Gathering

Twenty-fourth after Pentecost - Proper 28

Judges 4:1–7 - The judge Deborah speaks God's word to the general Barak.

Psalms 123 (VU p. 847) - We lift our eyes to you, O God.

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11 - The day of God will come as a thief in the night.

Matthew 25:14–30 - The parable of the talents.

To Ponder

In your job, do you work mostly out of your talents or often in areas that challenge you?