

Sunday Worship

Westminster Church

The United Church of Canada

Sunday, July 15, 2018

Celebrating 125 years of ministry in the community

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

Organ prelude

Lighting the Christ Candle

Welcome and News

Introit VU 315 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty Vs 1
Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Call to Worship

You will say in that day:

God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid; for God will be my strength and my song.

As a gentle rain soaks the earth may peace and love fall upon us.

Hymn VU 686 God of Grace and God of Glory

Prayer of Confession

O God of love and of grace, you know the secrets of our hearts: how blind we are to our own faults, yet harsh in judging others for their actions.

From self-righteousness that will not compromise, and from selfishness that gains from the manipulation of others, deliver us, O God.

When we have afflicted others whether by our own power or by our silent support of systems which oppress, enslave, and crush break us Lord.

When we have been rude in casting stones on other people's thoughts or ideas teach us to be better listeners.

May the life of Jesus be always visible in our bodies.

Moment of silence for personal confession.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Words of Assurance

When we open our hearts to God we open them to one another. God's unfailing love sustains and upholds where there are differences. Where the Spirit is, there is freedom and new life.

The Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Scripture Reading Liz Wijtkamp

Mark 6:14-29

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

Thanks be to God.

Hymn VU 703 In the Bulb There Is a Flower

Message 'A Gruesome Birthday Party'

Solo A Time for Everything given by Rebecca McIntosh

by Mark Hayes

By God's generosity and trust in us for all we have received we return to God gifts of money that others may know the love that is in our hearts.

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 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

Blessed are you, gracious God: you have called us into the church and away from private desires. Enable us to use these gifts as pilgrims moving together on a journey of a new creation.

We thank you compassionate God that you hear the prayers of our hearts: for those who mourn when a friend or loved one has died. In the silence of this moment we name them before YOU...

We think of how thankful we are to be surrounded by the love of family and friends. We pray for those who are lonely.

We are grateful for the care we are shown when we are sick. Your healing hand in the lives of those who love us is a wonderful gift.

We know there is no pain that does not echo in your heart. May your loving presence be a comforting reality.

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

Go and join Christ in the world, healing and speaking words of freedom, witnessing to the sacred in the midst of all of life's challenges.

Choral Response – Amen



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: July 22 – Ninth after Pentecost – Proper 11

Gathering, Pentecost 1 - 2018, page 18. Used with Permission.

Worship materials for the Eighth to the Eleventh Sundays after Pentecost were contributed by Beverly Brazier, Laurie Parker, and Carole Williams of Whitehorse United Church in Whitehorse, Yukon.

2 Samuel 7:1–14*a* Ephesians 2:11–22

David is not the one to build God's house. You are holy citizens, members of God's household.

Psalm 89:20–37 (VU p. 804) **Mark 6:30–34, 53–56**

I will sing of God's steadfast love.

Jesus teaches from a boat and heals the sick.