



Rejoice

Sunday Worship

Westminster United Church
celebrating 125 years of ministry in the community

Sunday Oct. 15, 2017
19th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Prelude

Christ Candle is lit

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

In the coldness of empty space, a sun shines.

On an ordinary planet, life springs in rich abundance.

In a sacred place.....this sacred place.....people gather to sing and pray

We come as we are - with our struggles, our joys, our burdens, our questions.

It is good to be together. Come, let us worship God....

Opening Prayer

Hymn VU 228 Sing Praises to God

Prayer of Confession

We come before you O God, filled with our worries. We worry about ourselves; we worry about family and friends; we worry about our world; we worry about so much. It can seem so natural to worry, that we forget you are always with us.

You offer comfort when things feel unsettled and shaky, you offer comfort from our fears – real or imagined, and you offer release from our anger when it becomes bitter or consuming. Yet it is often hard for us to remember or notice these gifts. Instead, we shut down, lash out or turn away from one another... and in so doing we turn away from you and your abiding presence in our midst.....

Moment of silence for personal reflection.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Words of Assurance

This is our good news....even in the deepest, darkest most difficult places... God is with us,
and we are not alone.

The peace which passes all understanding is always there for us
and we are not alone

God never gives up on us, even when we turn our backs on God.

God still waits for us to turn back.

God is always with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God, amen

The Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Anthem Hymn of Assurance
with flautist Charmaine Bacon

arr. Howard Helvey

Scripture Readings: Judy Hill

Philippians 4: 1-9

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

Thanks be to God.

Hymn MV 30 It's a Song of Praise to the Maker

Message ...rejoice in God always....

Solo More Love
given by Nick Urquhart

arr. Tom Fetke

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

Hymn VU 232 Joyful, Joyful We Adore You

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, October 22 – from Gathering

Twentieth after Pentecost - Proper 24

Exodus 33:12–23 God speaks to Moses face to face as a friend.

Psalm 99 (VU p. 819) God is a ruler who delights in justice.

1 Thessalonians 1:1–10 We always give thanks to God for you.

Matthew 22:15–22 Give to God the things that are God's.

To Ponder

Whose image do you bear? How do you see yourself as made in God's image?