

# Sunday Worship

## Westminster United Church

*Celebrating 125 years of ministry in the  
community Sunday, July 16 2017*

**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**10:30 am**

*Our service begins with the Prelude, inviting us to  
prepare for worship.*

### **Prelude**

### **Christ Candle is lit**

### **Welcome and News**

### **Introit**      MV 1    Let Us Build a House

*Let us build a house where love can dwell  
and all can safely live,*

*a place where saints and children tell  
how hearts learn to forgive.*

*Built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
rock of faith and vault of grace;*

*here the love of Christ shall end divisions:*

*All are welcome, all are welcome,*

*all are welcome in this place.*

Words and Music: Marty Haugen, © GIA Publications 1996. All rights reserved. Reprinted under

[OneLicense.net](http://OneLicense.net) #A-720863

**SERVING THE  
COMMUNITY**  
SINCE 1892



**WESTMINSTER  
UNITED CHURCH**

## **Call to Worship\*\***

Come into the presence of God.

Come and reflect on holy things.

Come and be inspired.

come and be encouraged.

Come and be refreshed.

Come and simply be in the presence of God.

**Thanks be to God! Amen!**

## **Prayer of Approach**

**Hymn** VU 234

Let us With a Gladsome Mind

## **Prayer of Confession\***

Holy God, in this holy moment and in this holy place, we pause...

**aware that our racing thoughts make it hard to hear your gentle whispers of encouragement in our day to day living,**

**And the aches and pains of our lives distract us from your sustaining presence.**

*... ..moment of pause to centre ourselves....*

Compassionate God, help us open our hearts and minds to you in the busy-ness of our lives and our living always....

**Help us hear your holy wisdom that surrounds us, even in the midst of chaos and clutter and anxiety-filled moments.**

**Help us be open to your calming heartbeat that reaches out to our despairing hearts.**

**Help us notice and be aware of your steady breath that is always ready to help us catch our own.**

**And help us feel your transforming love that is always ready to fill our lives with hope and vision.....**

***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.**

### Scripture Readings: Bob Gold

Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

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

**Thanks be to God.**

Hymn VU 161      I Have Called You by Your Name

### Message

**Solo**      Somebody Bigger Than You and I      by Lange, Heath, Burke  
given by Mary Ann Taylor

### 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 the Lord's Prayer**

**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, the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn VU 481 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

## Commissioning and Sending Forth

Choral Response MV 214 May God's Sheltering Wings (*sung once*)  
May God's sheltering wings,  
her gathering wings protect you.  
May God's nurturing arms,  
her cradling arms sustain you,  
and hold you in her love, and hold you in her love.

**Organ Postlude** *If departing before the end of the postlude, please do so quietly for the benefit of those remaining to enjoy the music.*

*\*\*Adapted from prayer written by Elaine Bidgood Sweet; Gathering, Pentecost 1, 2014, page 29; used with permission.*

*\*Adapted from prayer written by Gord Dunbar; Gathering, Pentecost 1, 2014, page 33; used with permission.*

### ***Lectionary Readings for Sunday July 23, 2017 from the Gathering*** **Genesis 25:19–34**

Esau gives up his birthright for Jacob's stew.

**Psalm 119:105–112** (VU p. 841)  
Your Word is a lamp for my feet.

**Romans 8:1–11**  
To set the mind on the Spirit is life.

**Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23**  
**The parable of the sower and the seed.**

#### **To Ponder**

What grounds you in your faith?  
What enables you to have the deep roots required to withstand the storms that blow your branches around?