



# Sunday Worship

Westminster United Church

*celebrating 125 years of ministry in the community*

**Sunday Sept. 17, 2017**

**15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 a.m.**

*“As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back... Exodus 14:10*

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

*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 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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## **Greeting**

**Leader:** The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament  
proclaims God's handiwork.

**People: Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap  
nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly (Parent) feeds them.**

**Leader:** Strive first for the kingdom of God, and (God's) righteousness,  
and all these things will be given to you as well. (Excerpts Psalm 19, Matthew 6)

## **Hymn** VU 651      Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

## **Opening Prayer**

O Spirit, you swept through the ages: be among us now

**Fill us with radical amazement at the wonder of creation and  
creativity.**

Call to us that we may hear your voice in beauty, in witness, in song and in  
prayer and respond with all that we have to offer: body, mind, soul, spirit.

**Whisper to us when we doubt your goodness, our goodness and  
despair of hope in a world fraught with signs of destruction and fear**

May we hear your still small voice to "stand firm. You have only to keep  
still." Help us to experience awe this week when we ignore the spiritual gift of  
awe because we know too much to be in awe.

**In washing dishes, in the pesky backyard squirrel, in our office  
colleagues and challenges, in an evening stroll, in our acceptance of  
each other in worship.**

For we would be deeply faithful to you.

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

**People: Christ, have mercy.**

**Lord, have mercy.**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE** Know that the ground of all being, from which beauty, creation, and wisdom arise, is the ground of your being. Let your fears and anxious worries cease; turn and see the beauty and goodness from which you are formed, knowing that just to be, is a gift.

### **The Peace**

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**The Anthem** All Creatures of Our God and King arr. Mark Hayes

## **Sacrament of Baptism and Confirmation (see insert)**

**Scripture Reading:** Exodus 14:10-14 **Bob Gold**

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn** VU 449 Crashing Waters at Creation

**Sermon** Think About What You Are Doing Rev. Don McIntyre

**Solo** This We Pray words and music by Jay Althouse  
given by Nicki Kirton

## **Collection of Offerings and Offertory**

Blessed are you gracious God for the life and freedom to be your people in this world. Accept, now, these gifts we bring. Enable us to use them for the coming of Your new community of justice and shalom.

*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 191 What Can I Do**

*(words can't be published, please use the MV hymnbook)*

## **The Prayers of the People**

With your help and guidance, may we work to:

**Protect the vulnerable and those most affected by the raging fires, rainfall, flash floods, earthquakes and landslides;**

**Strengthen those who are able to offer physical, emotional, and spiritual aid. Support our partners in ministry who will continue to serve the people and the land long after the storm has passed.**

As a mother comforts and protects her young from the dangers of life, gather us, who are scattered around the world, in love. Like a loving mother, grant us true wisdom so that we may shield each other from the unimaginable powers of nature.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**spoken**

**Our Father, 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 448      We Know That Christ Is Raised

**BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH**    May the blessing of Jesus, who announced God's righteousness, of the Creator, who fills the Earth with beauty, and of the Spirit, who nurtures awe in everyone, bless, inspire, and empower you. Amen

## 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, September 24** – from Gathering, Pentecost 2  
**September 24 – 16<sup>th</sup> after Pentecost - Creation Time 3 in the Season of Pentecost**

**Proper 20** - Worship materials for September 24 were contributed by Lorrie Lowes and Janice Pound, Bells Corners U.C., Bells Corners, Ont.

**Exodus 16:2–15 - Bread and quails to feed the people.**

**Psalms 105:1–6, 37–45 (VU pp. 828–829, Parts One and Four) - Tell what God has done.**

**Philippians 1:21–30 - For me, to live is Christ.**

**Matthew 20:1–16 - Daily wages for the labourers: what's fair?**

**To Ponder**

When have you had to trust that God would provide? How did it work out?