



Photo credit Rev. Geza Szemok

Sunday Worship

Westminster Church

The United Church of Canada

Sunday, August 20, 2017

Eleventh after Pentecost

“How often should I forgive?” Matt:18:21

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

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

Organ Prelude

Lighting the Christ Candle....

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.

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Call to Worship

Leader: Christ came and comes to us so that we all might find abundant life.

People: Let us put our trust in Jesus Christ and in the love of God.

HYMN VU 149 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Gracious God, the wrongs we sometimes commit are too heavy to hide, too deep to undo, not easy to forgive.

People: We worship because we hope as we turn to You we will be reminded we are loved. Help us to trust in your unending love for us.

Leader: Forgive what our lips tremble to name; what the heart can no longer bear. Set us free from what we cannot change. Fill us with hope.

People: We take comfort believing God knows us completely. As we feel His presence and trust in God's grace we will experience freedom and new life. Be with us now to feel Your peace in our time and place

Moment of silence for personal confession.

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

People: Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Jesus said, "This is the first commandment: You shall love God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. And the second is..."

People: **Love your neighbor as yourself. Help us to hear you, O Christ.**

Leader: Let us acknowledge our brokenness and pain, trusting that God longs for us to be a whole people and invites us to fullness of life.

THE PEACE:

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Scripture Reading: Matthew 18:21-35

Given by: Carol Harvey

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN VU 560 God Who Gives to Life Its Goodness

Message 'Power to Change the Past'

Rev. Don McIntyre

SOLO Brother James Air

Malcom Archer

Given by Rebecca McIntosh

COLLECTION OF OFFERINGS AND OFFERTORY

"The fire that burns within speaks to us of Jesus' presence. May Christ use us and the gifts we bring to light the world in gratitude for hope returned, the mystery of God's grace."

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.**

PRAYER OF Dedication- Our Saviour's Prayer

Leader: Loving God, bless and transform all that we have to offer: our faltering steps, our brokenness and failures, our fears of the past
People that Your word may be written on our hearts and we may be a blessed and transformed covenant people where Your healing presence is known and we feel whole once more.

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 #665 Pass Me Not, O Gentle Saviour

Commissioning And Sending Forth May the God whose will for us is healing and wholeness, grant us joy and comfort, strength and peace. Let us go forth now praising God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.

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 AND HYMNS ON THE CARILLONIC BELLS

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