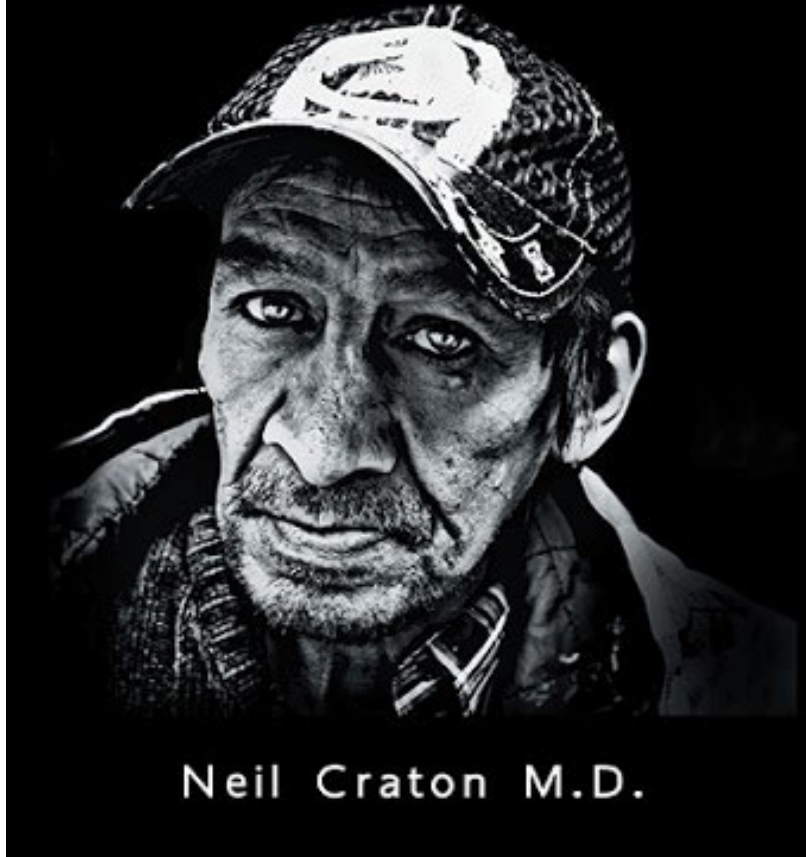


# WISDOM FROM THE HOMELESS

Lessons a doctor learned at a homeless shelter



Neil Craton M.D.

## Sunday Worship

**Westminster United Church**

*celebrating 125 years of ministry in the community*

**Sunday Oct. 20, 2019**

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

**Guest Speaker, Dr. Neil Craton**

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

**Organ Prelude**

## Lighting the Christ Candle

### Welcome and News

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

**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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#A-720863

### Call to Worship

God of our present moments, our days past, and our lives always, be with us this day.

**Lift our spirits and free our minds.**

Open our hearts and minds to your wisdom that whispers to us in unexpected places, and calls to us through the lives of friends and strangers we meet.

**Be with us now Holy God, as we worship today. Be with us always.**

**Amen.**

**Hymn** VU 642 Be Thou My Vision

### Prayer of Confession

O Love that will not let us go;

**You show us the depth and breadth of your love in the path of Jesus Christ.**

Yours is a love that searches out the lost and welcomes them home. Your love invites the outcasts and the unlovely to sit and feast at your shared table, and brings wholeness and healing to all.

**Yet often we lose our way and lose sight of the path you call us to follow - our anxieties and sorrow limit us; our fears and arrogance stop us from asking for help; our despair and anger prevent us from moving outside our comfort zones.**

**Holy One, be with us in our struggles. Grant us the strength and courage to continue following your path of peace, even when we falter. Help us remember that your Spirit of love and compassion surrounds us always.....**

***Moment of silence for personal reflection.***

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

## **Words of Assurance**

**Anthem**      Sing to the Lord

by Alice Parker

## **Children's Time**

### **The Peace**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*Following the passing of the peace, the younger crowd is welcome to join Katelyn at the **Children's Table** in the Narthex for a time of activity, story, and conversation.*

**Scripture Readings:**

Janice Anderson

Luke 15: 11-32

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn MV 154**

Deep in Our Hearts

**Message**

Dr. Neil Craton

**Solo** "Sheep May Safely Graze"

by J.S. Bach

given by Jennifer Turner

**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** VU 236 Now Thank We All Our God Verse 3

**All praise and thanks to God for all that has been given,**

**the Son, and Spirit blest who dwell in highest heaven,**

**the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore;**

**for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.**

**Prayer of Dedication\*\* (unison)**

**Gracious God, we offer our gifts**

**from the work of our hands to the work of your church,**

for the encouragement of all people and creation,  
and with the love of Christ in our hearts.

**Bless these gifts, and our lives, Amen**

*\*\*Written by John van de Laar (adapted); found on [www.sacredise.com](http://www.sacredise.com)*

## The Prayers of the People

### The Lord's Prayer (Unison, spoken)

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 512      Lord, You Give the Great Commission

## Commissioning and Sending Forth

### Choral Response Three-Fold Amen

A - men,      a - men,      a - - men.

## Organ Postlude

**Lectionary Readings** (*Gathering, PENTECOST 2 2019, p 17. Used with permission.*)  
*Worship materials to All Saints' Day were contributed by Karen Boivin, City View U.C., Nepean, Ont.*

October 27 – Twentieth after Pentecost - Proper 25

**Joel 2:23–32**

Abundant rain, full threshing floors.

**Psalms 65** (VU pp. 782–783)

God crowns the year with goodness.

**2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18**

I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race.

**Luke 18:9–14**

The Pharisee and the tax collector go to pray.

**To Ponder**

Personally, do you feel that you are in the place of abundance or of emptiness?