



Ice Castle at The Forks, Winnipeg, photographer unknown

# Sunday Worship

**Westminster United Church**

*celebrating 125 years of ministry in the community*

**Sunday, Jan. 21, 2018**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

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

## **Prelude**

### **Lighting the Christ Candle**

As we gather to worship, we begin with the lighting the Christ Candle, and we remember these words from the gospel of John –

**“The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness cannot overcome it.”**

## 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\*

We enter this space for worship,  
**called by God to share our lives.**

We enter this space for worship,  
**called by God into Sabbath rest.**

We enter this space for worship,  
**Letting go of the week that has gone.**

We enter this space for worship,  
**to be inspired and encouraged,**

We enter this space for worship,  
**To remember we are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God!**

Friends, Let us worship together this morning.

## Prayer of Approach

**Hymn** VU 264      Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

## Prayer of Reflection/Confession\*\* (unison)

Gracious God, you who are the Spirit of Life, we admit that often we don't want to listen to those whispers of holy wisdom all around us. It seems easier to follow our own way and remain in our corners of relative comfort and security instead. Help us move out of our "comfort zones" to a place of compassion and empathy. Help us move us away from our own fears of the unknown and the uncomfortable so that we can walk in the ways of justice for

**all. Help us hear your constant call into your ministry of love, wholeness, compassion and peace. In the name of Jesus the Christ we pray.....**

*Moment of silence for personal reflection.*

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

## **ASSURANCE**

### **Anthem King of Heaven**

by Craig Courtney

*Please join with the choir singing "Praise my Soul the King of Heaven" on Nathan's cue.*

Henry F. Lyte, 1834 and  
I Chronicles 16:23-25a, 27-29

Craig Courtney  
*Quoting LAUDA ANIMA  
by John Goss, 1869*

*(Please sing when directed)*

Musical score for the Anthem 'Praise my Soul the King of Heaven'. The score is written in 2/4 time and begins with a forte (f) dynamic. The lyrics are: Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to the throne thy tribute bring; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, ever - more God's praises sing. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the ever - last - ing King.

#### *Choir Alone:*

*Father like, God tends and spares us;  
Well our feeble frame God knows;  
Mother like, God gently bears us,  
rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Widely yet God's mercy flows.*

#### *Congregation:*

*Angels in the heights, adoring, you  
behold God face to face; Saints  
triumphant, now adoring, gathered  
in from every race.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise with us the God of grace.*

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## **The Peace**

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**Scripture Reading:** Katherine Abra

**Mark 1: 14-20**

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn VU 652**      **Be Still, My Soul**

## **Message**

**Solo**      **The Lord's Prayer**  
given by Cathryn Harrison

by A. H. Malotte

**Minute for Mission**    “Family Resources Close to Home” - John Grivell

## **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 49**    **When We Seek Language**

**When we seek language to praise you, O God,  
all we can utter seems stale, tame, or odd.**

**Tongue-tied and word-lost, we struggle to find  
Phrases that slight neither heart, soul, nor mind:**

**Infinite intimate unbounded friend,  
cosmic companion who loves without end,  
Nearer than heartbeat, more subtle than breath,  
Keener than insight, and stronger than death.**

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## **Prayer of Dedication**

## **The Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (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, the power, and the glory,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Hymn VU 569      You Call Us Out**

## **Commissioning and Sending Forth**

**Choral Response VU 93 Vs. 1 When Heaven's Bright with Mystery**

**When heaven's bright with mystery**

**and science searches nature's art,**

**When all creation yearns for peace**

**and hope sinks deep in human hearts,**

**appear to us, O Holy Light,**

**lift from our eyes the shades of night.**

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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.*

\* *Seasons of the Spirit* Seasons FUSION Advent/Christmas/epiphany 2011-12 p.128 (adapted)

\*\* <http://rev-o-lution.org/2015> (adapted)

## **Lectionary Readings**

January 28 – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

*Worship materials for January 28 to February 11 were contributed by John Moses and Sarah Keddy, Aylesford U.C., Aylesford, N.S.*

### **Deuteronomy 18:15–20**

God will raise up a prophet after Moses.

### **Psalm 111 (VU p. 833)**

The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom.

### **1 Corinthians 8:1–13**

Concerning food offered to idols.

### **Mark 1:21–28**

A man with an unclean spirit is healed in Capernaum.

### **To Ponder**

Have you ever been a stumbling block or an impediment to another's faith? How? Have you ever helped someone find faith or grow in faith? How?