

Sunday Worship

Westminster United Church Over 125 years of ministry in the community – Moving forward in a tradition of service

> Sunday, February 23, 2020 Transfiguration Sunday 10:30 am

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

Prelude Christ Candle is lit Welcome and News **Introit** MV 28 God of the Bible (vs.1 and refrain)

God of the Bible, God in the Gospel, hope seen in Jesus, hope yet to come, you are our centre daylight or darkness, freedom or prison, you are our home.

Refrain:

Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise, God always faithful, you do not change. Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise, God always faithful, you do not change.

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Call to Worship*

To climb a mountain is no easy task **It takes work of the heart, hand, and mind.** To meet God, face to face, is no easy task **It takes work of the heart, hand, and mind.** In the climb and seeking, meeting and listening for God, we are changed. **As we worship and pray, our world and the world, is changed.** So let us climb, seek, meet, and listen together -**And most of all – let us worship.**

Hymn VU 296 This Is God's Wondrous World

Prayer of Confession** (unison)

Holy God, so often we find it difficult to trust in your presence. We put our hope in the "stuff" the world claims to be important, and find ourselves defeated and lost when things fall apart. You offer a love that is ready to embrace, empower, sustain and challenge us, but we do not seek it, or hold on to it; instead we look to our own means for assurance and security.

Forgive us, we pray. Call us back to the heart of your love so we may dwell there with your spirit. Help us hear the words as clearly as the disciples did on that day on the mountaintop; and help us not to be afraid, so that we may follow in the path of the One who loves us, forgives us, and opens the door to new beginnings.....

Moment of silence for personal confession.

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

Words of Assurance

This is the good news of God's love. We are God's beloved; each of us is God's beloved; with each of us, God is well pleased. We are renewed and restored, forgiven and loved.

The old has passed away, and everything is becoming new again. Thanks be to God, Amen.

Anthem God has Called Us

by Robert A. Hobby

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 for **Sunday School** in the Chapel for a time of activity, story, and conversation.

Scripture Reading: Judy Hill Exodus 24: 12-18 Matthew 17: 1-9

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn MV 135Called by Earth and SkyMessageRev. Sherri McConnell

DuetHere I Am, Lordgiven by Fred Simpson and Jennifer Turner

arr. Lloyd Larson

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 93 When Heaven's Bright with Mystery verse 4 When heaven's bright with mystery And stars still lead an unknown way, When love still lights a gentle path Where courts of power can hold no sway, There with the Magi, let us kneel, Our gifts to share, God's world to heal. Used with permission.

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the Faithful and the Lord's Prayer (unison) 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 646 We Are Marching (sung twice, english only)

Commissioning and Sending Forth

Choral Close VU 626 I Heard the Voice of Jesus (vs. 3)

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light; look unto me, your morn shall rise; and all your day be bright." I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun; and in that light of life I'll walk till travelling days are done.

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Organ Postlude

*Written by Richard Bott, in *Gathering* A/C/E/ 2017 pg. 50. Adapted.

** http://rev-o-lution.org/2014/02/21 Adapted

Lectionary Readings First Sunday in Lent March 1

Genesis 2:15–17; 3:1–7 Psalm 32 Romans 5:12–19 Matthew 4:1–11

Second Sunday in Lent March 8

Genesis 12:1–4a Psalm 121 Romans 4:1–5, 13–17 John 3:1–17 or Matthew 17:1–9