



# Sunday Worship

## Westminster United Church

*Celebrating 125 years of ministry in the community*

Sunday, July 23, 2017

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am

*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

*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\***

From the moment we open our eyes each morning,  
until we close them at night

**God is with us.**

In times when we are surrounded with struggles,  
in all the surprising places we find hope,

**God is with us.**

When we feel orphaned by the world,  
when we are welcomed into faith's family,

**God is with us.**

With thankful hearts, let us worship God.

## **Prayer of Approach**

**Hymn** VU 328      **Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring**

## **Prayer of Confession\***

**Holy God, there are so many ways we struggle in our lives. Some of us make mistakes, and then make them again and again, without ever learning or reflecting on what we might learn from them. We take pride in things that are totally unearned. We isolate and turn away from others in our anger, or we speak hurtfully to those around us. We've held our hands when hands were needed, or held our voices when words were needed. And often we look to ourselves and think we are alone in our struggles, and forget that we can always look to you for strength, courage, wisdom, comfort and hope....**

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

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

## **Words of Assurance\***

In sorrow so deep we cannot find our way out,  
God cradles us in comfort;  
in moments so shadowed we trip over our fears,  
God lights the way for us;  
in joy which cascades into our souls,  
God fills us with healing.

**Even when we cannot see it, God's hope is all around us, surrounding us with peace and healing. Thanks be to God, Amen.**

## **The Peace**

May the peace of Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## **Scripture Readings: Annette Kletke**

Psalm 139 (VU 861 with sung refrain)

Matthew 13: 24-30

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn MV 28          God of the Bible**

## **Message**

**Solo                  A Time For Everything                  by Mark Hayes**  
given by Nicki Kirton

## **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 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**

**The Prayers of the People**

**Hymn VU 606** In Christ There Is No East or West

**Commissioning and Sending Forth**

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

\*(C) Thom M. Shuman. Adapted.

***Lectionary Readings for Sunday July 30, 2017 from the Gathering***

*Worship materials for the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost to the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost were contributed by Richard Bott, Dunbar Heights U.C., Vancouver, B.C. (richardbott.com).*

**Genesis 29:15–28** - Jacob marries Leah and Rachel.

**Psalms 105:1–11, 45b** (VU p. 828 Part One) - Make known what God has done.

**or Psalm 128** - It shall be well with you.

**Romans 8:26–39** - The Spirit intercedes for us when we cannot pray.

**Matthew 13:31–33, 44–52** - Five parables: mustard seed, yeast, treasure, pearls, net.