



Leuthold, Julie. *Tree of Hope*,  
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# Sunday Worship

**Westminster Church**

The United Church of Canada

*Celebrating over 125 years of ministry in the community*

**Pentecost 11**  
**August 25, 2019**  
**10:30 am**

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

## Organ Prelude

## Lighting the Christ Candle

## Welcome and News

**Introit** VU 315 Holy, Holy, Holy Verse 1  
**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!**  
**Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;**  
**holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,**  
**God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

## Call to Worship\*

O God, some of us come this day, bound by the world:  
**and we seek your liberating hope.**

Some of us come this day, O God, burdened by life;  
**and we seek to lighten our hearts, and laugh again.**

And some of us come this day, O God, weighed down by anxiety;  
**and we seek to learn new dance steps to follow.**

Holy One, smooth our crumpled living this day;  
**as we worship, sing and pray. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\*from *Prayers for All Seasons, Year C*, p. 124–125; edited by Michael Schwartzentruber and Ellen Turnbull (adapted and changed).

**Hymn** VU 242 Let All Things Now Living

## Prayer of Confession\* (unison)

**Loving God, we know sometimes we close ourselves to you, and  
ignore your call—especially when it comes to us through  
unexpected voices.**

**Help us to fully open our hearts, minds and spirits to your loving ways.**

**Help us to hear your whispered dreams for us, and to find the courage to follow your path of new life, abundance and peace.**

**And help us to remember that nothing is impossible with God.**

*Moment of silence for personal confession.*

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

**Lord, have mercy.**

\*Written by Heather McClure, *Gathering Pentecost 1 2019 (Year C)*, p. 42. (Used with permission; adapted.)

## **Words of Assurance**

We are loved. We are forgiven. God's love and grace is with us always, thanks be to God. Amen!

## **The Peace**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **Scripture Reading**

Jeremiah 1:4–10

Luke 13:10–17

Reader: Annette Kletke

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn** MV 161 I Have Called You by Your Name

**Message**

Rev. Sherri McConnell

**Solo**      How Can I Keep from Singing?  
(Given by Erica Wiebe)

by Allan Bullard

### **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)**

Let us pray:

**Holy One, accept these gifts, and the gifts that are our lives;  
and with these gifts may the hungry be fed,  
the lonely find comfort,  
and the despairing find hope.  
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People**

**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,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Hymn**    VU 703    In the Bulb There Is a Flower

### **Commissioning and Sending Forth**

#### **Choral Response**    Three-Fold Amen



A musical staff in G major (one sharp) showing a three-fold Amen response. The first two phrases are "A - men," and "a - men," each consisting of a half note followed by a quarter note. The third phrase is "a - - - men." where the first "a" is a half note, followed by a long dash, and then "men." is a half note. A slur is placed under the "a" and the dash.

### **Organ Postlude**

**Lectionary Readings**    (*Gathering, PENTECOST 2019, p 28. Used with permission.*)

*Worship materials for the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost to the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost were contributed by Bill Steadman, St. Andrew's U.C., Sudbury, Ont.*

## **September 1 – Twelfth after Pentecost (Proper 17)**

### **Jeremiah 2:4–13**

The people have forsaken living water.

### **Psalm 81:1, 10–16 (VU pp. 796–797 Part Two)**

God will feed you wheat and honey.

### **Hebrews 13:1–8, 15–16**

A list of instructions on living mutual love.

### **Luke 14:1, 7–14**

Those who exalt themselves will be humbled.

### **To Ponder**

Who is honoured in our society and why? Who did Jesus honour and why?