



# Sunday Worship

Westminster Church

The United Church of Canada

*Celebrating 125 years of ministry in the community*

Sunday, August 26, 2018

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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, Lord God Almighty”, vs. 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\***

Let us follow God’s signs of grace, and open our hearts with praise and thanksgiving - the beauty of flowers, the chorus of birdsong, the glimmer of sunrise,

**invite us to worship God, creator and sustainer of life.**

The smiles and laughter of children at play,

**invite us to worship God, who yearns for us to enjoy life to the full.**

The struggle of those who are sick or enduring life’s trials,

**invite us to worship God, whose way is compassion and wholeness.**

The crying needs of our planet,

**invite us to worship God, seeker of justice and mercy for all.**

So, come, let us worship....

**Thanks be to God!**

**Hymn** VU 220 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

**Prayer of Confession\*** *(Based on Ephesians 6 passage)*

**Equip us, O God, to be your people and follow your path of peace and compassion in this world of self-serving choices and narrow vision. Help us find ways to speak the truth, even when it feels like it may cost us dearly. Give us the strength to follow Christ’s path of hope, peace, justice and compassion for all. Help us remember to**

**pray always; and that our faith can be a rock in times of trouble in our lives, and in this time of struggle in our world. And for all those moments we feel alone, out of our depth, or that we do not have the spiritual capacity to deal with what is before us, help us remember we are not alone, and that your grace is with us always....**

*Moment of silence for personal confession.*

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

### **Words of Assurance\***

This is our good news....even in our darkest moments, God will always break through with signs of hope. God will never give up on us or desert us, because God is with us for the long haul....no matter what.

**Thanks be to God! Amen!**

### **The Peace**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**Scripture Readings**      Judy Hill

Psalms 84 (*found in VU 800, with sung refrain*)

Ephesians 6: 10-20

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

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**Message**      ...*pray at all times*... ..

**Hymn VU 642**      Be Thou My Vision

### **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**      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.**

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### **Prayer of Dedication**

### **Prayers of the People**

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

**Hymn VU 421**      Lead On, O Cloud of Presence

# Commissioning and Sending Forth

## Choral Response “Amen”



## Organ Postlude

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

\*All adapted from *Prayers to Share: Year B (Revised Common Lectionary based)* by David Sparks, 2002. Wood Lake Books, Inc.

## Lectionary Readings: August 26 – Fifteenth after Pentecost - Proper 17 Gathering, Pentecost 1, 2018, page 33. Used with Permission.

*Worship materials for the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost to the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost were contributed by Fran Ota, Trillium U.C., Caledon, Ont., and Nancy Arthur Best, Queenswood U.C., Orleans, Ont.*

### **Song of Solomon 2:8–13**

Arise, my love, and come away!

### **Psalms 45:1–2, 6–9 (VU p. 769)**

Praise for the anointed hero!

### **James 1:17–27**

Be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger.

### **Mark 7:1–8, 14–15, 21–23**

Not from outside but from within is a person defiled.

### **To Ponder**

Are we quick to listen and slow to speak? Do we measure with care the words we express?