



Sunday Worship

Westminster United Church

*Over 125 years of ministry in the community –
Moving forward in a tradition of service*

Sunday, Jan. 26, 2020

Epiphany 3

10:30 am

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

Prelude

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* (*based on Isaiah 9: 1-4*)

Come out of the shadows and into God's light!

We will make a pilgrimage to God's heart.

Lay down all which is a burden to you!

**We will give our fears to God,
who is our help in every moment.**

Follow the One who will lead you to new life!

**We long to live in God's presence
every day of our lives.**

Hymn VU 218 We Praise You, O God

Lighting the Christ Candle*

We light this candle to remind us of the presence of Christ.

The light from this one candle shines for each of us.

We light this candle and remember the love of Christ.

The light from this one candle shines for all the world.

(Christ candle is lit)

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we are so aware of our insecurities, failures and limitations – especially when we trip over them in our lives. In those moments, we are filled with regret and remorse. We wish our limitations and insecurities did not hurt or disappoint others, or dampen our ability to follow your call.

Holy God, in those times, we understand the ancient words of the psalmist, *have mercy on us*. May your love become the core of our hearts, may your compassion be the words we speak, and may your hope illuminate our service in your name, as we try to follow the One who calls us to new life, Jesus the Christ.....

Moment of silence for personal confession.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

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.

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Prayer of Dedication (based on Psalm 27: 1, 4-9)

Prayers of the People 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 567 Will You Come and Follow Me

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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Postlude

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Lectionary Readings - February 2 – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Worship materials were contributed by Kim Vidal, Bells Corners U.C., Nepean, Ont.

Micah 6:1–8

What does God require of us?

Psalm 15 (VU p. 736)

Who may be a guest in God's house?

1 Corinthians 1:18–31

God's foolishness is better than human wisdom.

Matthew 5:1–12

Blessed are the poor in spirit.

To Ponder

What was Jesus' purpose in declaring that those who are grieving and in poverty are blessed?