



Sunday Worship

Westminster Church

The United Church of Canada

Sunday, May 26, 2019

Easter 6 and

The sacrament of Baptism

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

* indicates invitation to stand, as you are able.

Our service begins with the Prelude, inviting us to prepare for worship.

Organ Prelude

Lighting the Christ Candle

Welcome and News

Introit MV 28 God of the Bible Verse 1, plus 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. (2x)

Call to Worship*

Come, all who are on a journey of faith, and all who are on a journey of exploration.

**Come, all who know the story,
and those who long to hear it for the first time.**

Come, you who belong to the family of God, and you who seek to join it, or are curious what it means

**Come, let us worship together and let our lives be changed by the
Spirit in our midst!**

**Julie Gvillo, Point of Contact Easter 6C May 2019 (adapted)*

Hymn VU 223 Eternal, Unchanging, We Sing

Prayer of Confession (unison) **inspired by John 14:23-29*

Holy God, we confess that we are reluctant to let go of our fears and worries. We let our anxieties control our actions, instead of being led by your spirit of peace. Free us from our stubbornness, and whatever troubles our hearts. Help us open our hearts to your grace and trust in you, so that we may know your peace and see the blessings you offer all around.....

Moment of silence for personal confession.

Words of Assurance

and strengthened by the Holy Spirit for the work of the church in the world.

PROFESSION OF FAITH AND PROMISES

Do you believe in God, Source of love;
in Jesus Christ, love incarnate;
and in the Holy Spirit, love's power?

Parents/Godparents/representative of church respond:

I DO, BY THE GRACE OF GOD.

Will you share your faith with your child, growing with her in faith, hope and love, encouraging her by your words and actions in the way of Jesus Christ?

Parents/Godparents/representative of church respond:

I WILL, GOD BEING MY HELPER.

CONGREGATIONAL COMMITMENT *(stand as you are able)*

Let us pledge to these persons our support and care:

AS A BAPTISED AND BAPTISING PEOPLE, WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO SUPPORT AND UPHOLD YOU WITHIN THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH.

May God grant us all the grace to live our baptism.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH, A NEW CREED (VU 918)

**We are not alone; we live in God's world.
We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND POURING OF WATER

Gracious and Holy God,
we bless you for the gift of life, and within it, the gift of water.
Over its unshaped promise, your Spirit hovered at Creation.
By water, comes the growth of the earth.
Through water, you led the children of Israel to freedom.
In the waters of the Jordan, your Child Jesus was baptised.
Now may your Spirit be upon us and what we do,
that this water may be a sign for all of new life in Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen.

THE ACT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE

THE BLESSING *(VU 965, sung by all)*

**The Lord bless thee, and keep thee:
the Lord make his face shine upon thee,
and be gracious unto thee:
the Lord lift up his countenance upon thee,
and give thee peace. Amen.**



Following the baptism, the younger crowd is welcome to join Katelyn at the **Children's Table in the Narthex for a time of activity, story, and conversation.*

Scripture Reading Bob Gold

Acts 16: 9-15

John 14: 23-27

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Message Peace and Blessings

Hymn MV 155 Unbounded Spirit, Breath of God

Collection of Offerings

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.

Offertory

Offering Doxology MV 154 Deep in Our Hearts

**Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;
deep in our hearts there is a common song;
deep in our hearts there is a common story,
telling Creation that we are one.**

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Prayer of Dedication (unison)

**Holy God, bless these gifts and the gifts that are our lives,
So that your kingdom may come, your will be done,
and your peace be made known to all - now and forever. Amen.**

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 236 Now Thank We All Our God

Commissioning and Sending Forth

Choral Response You Shall Go Out with Joy x2

**You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
there'll be shouts of joy,
and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands!**

**And all the trees of the field will clap their hands, (clap, clap)
the trees of the field will clap their hands, (clap, clap)
the trees of the field will clap their hands (clap, clap)
while you go out with joy.**

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Organ Postlude

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

Lectionary Reading

Worship materials for the Fifth Sunday of Easter to the Seventh Sunday of Easter were contributed by Catherine Tovell, Kilworth U.C., Komoka, Ont.

May 30 – Ascension Day (Thursday)

Acts 1:1–11

The Ascension of Jesus to Heaven.

Psalm 47 (VU p. 771)

Clap your hands, all you people!

or **Psalm 93** (VU pp. 812–813) God rules in majesty and strength.

Ephesians 1:15–23

I never cease giving thanks for your faith.

Luke 24:44–53

Another version of the Ascension story.

To Ponder - What does it mean to “hurry up and wait”? So often, this is what we have to do. How do you cope with waiting?

June 2 – Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:16–34

Paul and Silas are freed from prison.

Psalm 97 (VU p. 817)

God reigns; let the earth be glad.

Revelation 22:12–14, 16–17, 20–21

I am coming soon.

John 17:20–26

Jesus prays that they all may be one.

To Ponder - Eighty percent of all communication is non-verbal. Or, as the old saying goes, “Actions speak louder than words.” What are we saying as individuals and as congregations with our non-verbal communication?