



Congratulations to Jim Palmquist on receiving the Lieutenant Governor's Make a Difference Community Award.

# Sunday Worship

**Westminster Church**  
The United Church of Canada

Sunday, April 29, 2018  
*celebrating 125 years of ministry in  
the community*  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

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**

This morning we gather in this place of worship, this place of reflection, holy wisdom and contemplation -

**where we can lay down our fears and our anxieties,**

**to boldly sing God's praise,**

**and to become community.**

Here in this place that is like God's vineyard

we come to be nurtured, inspired, restored, and renewed in our hearts, our lives, and our faith.

**Here we seek to be so filled with love that we run to serve others, and follow in the path of Christ.**

Come, let us worship God!

**Hymn VU 256      O God Beyond All Praising**

## **Prayer of Confession (unison)\***

**God of Compassion, you call us to be one body, one community, one creation, and yet we fragment ourselves into a million selfish pieces. We insist on the right to despise our sisters and brothers, and are afraid to reach outside our comfort zones and live your compassion in our world.**

**Help us love one another so those around us recognize us as sisters and brothers, connected together by your love - not divided by our fears.**

**Help us serve one another, with a compassion which comes from our broken hearts, as we come to see that the hungry are our brothers, the immigrants are our sisters, and the homeless are our families.**

**Spirit of Grace, help us include others with that embracing welcome which comes from your inviting heart; and to find ways to forgive to those who hurt**

**us, offer peace to all who are filled with hate, and hope to those burdened by despair. In other words, help us live in the way of Jesus the Christ.....**

*Moment of silence for personal confession.*

**Lord, have mercy.**

**Christ, have mercy.**

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

Deep in our hearts, deep in our very being.....God's love is alive, beating, breathing, renewing in each of us..... God loves us, and abides in us so we can share that love with our own lives....and the resurrecting circle of life and love continues.

**Thanks be to God, Amen.**

**Anthem**          River in Judea

### **The Peace**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**Scripture Reading**          Bob Burton

1 John 4: 7-21

John 15: 1-8

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn VU 229**          God of the Sparrow

## Message

**Solo**                    I Feel the Spirit Moving  
given by Cathryn Harrison

by Mark Hayes

## 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

**The 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 606      In Christ there Is No East or West**

## **Commissioning and Sending Forth**

As we go from this place, may our lives and our living reflect the love of God, the peace of Christ and the patient wisdom of the Holy Spirit, in all that we are and all that we do, until we meet again.

**Amen.**

## **Choral Response**                      MV 214 May God's Sheltering Wings Vs 1

**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.**

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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.*

**\*c) Inspired by** Thom Shuman, Presbyterian Church USA <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca>

**\*\*c)** Thom Shuman, Presbyterian Church USA <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca> (adapted)

## **Lectionary Readings - May 6 – Sixth Sunday of Easter**

*Worship materials for the Sixth Sunday of Easter to the Seventh Sunday of Easter were contributed by Fern Gibbard, Penticton U.C., Penticton, B.C.*

**Acts 10:44–48 - The gift of the Holy Spirit comes as Peter preaches.**

**Psalms 98 (VU p. 818) - Sing to God a new song.**

**1 John 5:1–6 - To love God is to obey God's commandments.**

**John 15:9–17 - Love one another as I have loved you.**

**To Ponder -** Where are your own personal limits to accepting and loving everyone?