



Sunday Worship

Westminster United Church

Celebrating 125 years of ministry in the community

Sunday, July 30, 2017

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Service of Communion

10:30 am

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

Prelude

Christ Candle is lit

Welcome and News

Introit MV 1 Let Us Build a House

*Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.*

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CALL TO WORSHIP

We come from scattered lives to this sanctuary -
**some seeking the quiet wisdom of the Spirit,
some seeking the sacred peace of the Christ,
and some seeking the grace of God's unwavering love**
Whatever we are seeking, come, let us worship God.

PRAYER OF APPROACH

HYMN VU 260 God Who Gives to Life its Goodness

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we live in a world that is so skilled at wanting to be in control and values so much being in charge,
that sometimes, Sabbath God, we do not really know how to be at rest.

We live in a world that highly values productivity and so creates harried, stress-filled lives,
so sometimes Sabbath God, we do not know how to be at peace.

Pause for a moment of quiet contemplation/reflection

Holy God, help us to let go of our many distractions, so you can act in us.

Help us calm our minds when they are over-busy, and slow our activity when it becomes endless, so that your spirit can re-inspire and re-create us.

And help us follow your call to us, not only in our doing, but in our rest with you as well.....

Moment of silence for personal reflection.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Words of Assurance

Scripture Readings: Carol Latter

Matthew 13: 31-33; 44-52

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

Thanks be to God.

Hymn MV 154 Deep in Our Hearts

Sermon

Solo This We Pray
given by Rebecca McIntosh

by Jay Althouse

Prayers of the People

Collection of Offerings

After the offering is introduced, an offertory will be played 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 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.**

Prayer of Dedication

Celebration of Communion

INVITATION

PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Peace be with you

All: And also with you

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God... ..

*... ..So it is that we join the song of all creation to
proclaim your goodness:*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hossana in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

*Mighty and tender God, in Jesus of Nazareth... ..
... .. we may so offer ourselves to you
that our lives may proclaim the great mystery of faith:*

**Christ has died.
Christ has risen.
Christ will come again.**

*Send, O God, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts... ..
... ..all glory is yours, God most holy,
now and forever.*

Amen.

*Holy God, hear us now as with one voice we say together the words Jesus
taught his followers to pray....*

**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.**

Breaking and Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion - *unison*

**We thank you God, for the gifts you give us:
for the bread of our being loved,
for the wine of our joy, and for our life together as a community called
to do your work of love and compassion. And now that we have been
renewed and encouraged at this table, surrounded and strengthened
by your Spirit, may we be wine and bread to each other and to the
world. Amen**

Hymn VU 264 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Commissioning and Sending Forth

Choral Response MV 214 May God's Sheltering Wings (*sung once*)

**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.**

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 Readings for August 9, 2017 from the Gathering

Worship materials for the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost to the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost were contributed by Richard Bott, Dunbar Heights U.C., Vancouver, B.C. (richardbott.com).

Genesis 32:22–31 - Jacob wrestles with God.

Psalm 17:1–7, 15 (VU p. 739) - Guard me as the apple of your eye.

Romans 9:1–5 - I am speaking the truth in Christ.

Matthew 14:13–21 - Feeding more than five thousand.

To Ponder

What do you hunger for? What does your congregation hunger for? What does the world hunger for? What would it look like if everyone were filled with the bread of life?