



Westminster United Church
Worship Service for July 7th, 2019
Today's Worship Leader is Pastor Sheila McLeod

"We are a faith community building relationships with God, all people, and our world."

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: We have gathered to worship God.

All: We have come seeking comfort, inspiration, community and insight.

One: We have come to open ourselves to the power of God's presence among us and in us.

All: We have come to offer up the seasons and turnings in our lives. We have come to ask God's help in our learning and in our growing.

One: Let us worship God.

†PROCESSION OF CHRIST CANDLE: **"Lord Prepare Me" (MV 18 2X)**

OPENING PRAYER:

All: Wondrous God: you touch our lives with healing and with justice; new life is your gift. We praise you for the Good News, ours through Jesus Christ. May this time worshipping you nourish us with your promise of meaning and purpose. May this time with you empower us to carry your goodness into the coming week. We pray in Jesus' name, our Source and Saviour. Amen.

CELEBRATIONS:

SHARING THE PEACE

†OPENING HYMN: **"I Come with Joy" (VU 477)**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

All: Powerful, Loving God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord.

One: O God of love and grace, you know the secrets of our hearts.

All: Remember, O God, your tender care and love unfailing. Do not remember our sins and offences, but remember us in your goodness, in accordance with your endless mercy. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

One: To all who turn from sin in sorrow, to all who turn to God in hope, this is God's word of grace: we are accepted, we are forgiven, we are loved. This gift we have from God.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

TIME WITH CHILDREN: "***Giraffes Can't Dance***" by ***Giles Andrea and Parker-Rees. American Publisher: Orchard Books, New York, 2001.***

INVITATION TO PRAYER: "**Come to My Heart**" (VU 661 vs3)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

"The Lord's Prayer" (Spoken)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

All: Holy One, through the prophets and apostles you offer us words of life, which in faith become the Living Word. Be with us, opening our ears and hearts, as we listen to your Word this morning. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING:

1 Kings 21:1-10, 15 - 21a); Psalm 5:1-8;

Hymn: "**Dance with the Spirit**" (MV 156)

SCRIPTURE READING:

Gal. 2:15-21; Luke 7:36 - 8:3

SERMON: "**Self- knowledge: The 1st Step to Living in Grace**"

†HYMN: "**Though I May Speak**" (VU 372)

MINUTES FOR MISSION: "**Dialogue on Reconciliation**"

LIFE AND WORK:

OFFERING PRAYER:

OFFERTORY:

†DOXOLOGY: "**As Those of Old**" (VU 518 vs 3)

†DEDICATION:

All: You, O Lord, satisfy our needs, not our greed. Help us live as signs and instruments of your coming kingdom's justice and righteousness. And may these representations in money of our time and talent, presented to you today, show us the extent of our striving to live as your people, anticipating your coming kingdom. May they help our neighbours to meet their needs. Amen.

†A NEW CREED: (Spoken)

†CLOSING HYMN: **"'Tis the Gift to be Simple" (VU 353)**

†COMMISSIONING/BENEDICTION:

One: May we move again into our communities and into the world remembering who we are and to whom we belong.

All: May God bless us and keep us. May God's face shine upon us and be gracious to us. May God look upon us with kindness and give us peace. Amen.

†SENDING FORTH: **"You shall Go Out With Joy" (VU 884 2X)**

CHORAL AMEN **(VU 967)**

Postlude

Resources for this service adapted from "Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada", publisher: United Church Publishing House, 2000. Pages 21, 25, 30, 24, 37, 43, 46, 47, 73 & 71. Also from "Disciplines 2016 - The Upper Room". Pages 200 & 197.

Announcements

Help us keep the air we share healthy and fragrance-free. The chemicals used in scented products can make some people sick, especially those with asthma, allergies and other medical conditions. Please do not wear perfume, cologne, aftershave and other fragrances.

The Peace Candle is lit as a reminder to Christians to pray for and work for world peace.

A warm welcome to all our friends from 5th Avenue Memorial United Church worshipping here today. We hope you will be here with us often in July and we look forward to joining you for worship at 5th Avenue in August.

Update from the Joint Search Committee:

The Joint Search Committee received a good number of applications from qualified candidates.

We short-listed them, and then conducted initial interviews via Skype on June 17 and 20.

Each candidate was impressive.

Our next objective is to reconvene the Joint Search Committee in early July to review our interview notes for each candidate, and then decide our next steps. This may require secondary interviews with select candidates.

***Cam Lockerbie
Chair***

It is now time to consider signing up to be on PAR (Pre authorized remittance) the holiday season is coming up and we don't attend on a regular basis, but the expenses of the church don't stop so we need your funds all year around. The donation you select comes out of your bank account on the 20th of the month and is put in Westminster's bank account the same day. It is so easy that you will wonder why you didn't do this sooner. The forms are in all the pews. Just fill that in & give us a voided cheque. For more information, contact Donna Scharf at 403-526-1555 or rdscharf@shaw.ca

The WUC Mission & Outreach Committee will be collecting cash donations to be allocated towards the Medicine Hat Food Bank on the First Sunday of every month. Sunday Worship Services for July 2019 will be held at 10:25 am at Westminster United Church.

The July/August Edition of the Upper Room is available on the ramp.

Donations at Coffee Time for during July are allocated to the Champion Centre

Please join us in Memorial Hall for refreshments and fellowship!

Assisting with the Service This Morning

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| <i>Elder-in-Charge:</i> | Marg McCulley |
| <i>Greeters:</i> | Linda Kisell, Al Piotrowski & Lynne Graff |
| <i>Scripture Reader:</i> | Anna-Marie Hancock |
| <i>Minutes for Mission:</i> | Jen Zollner |
| <i>Coffee Hosts:</i> | Arlea & Wayne Harper |
| <i>Sound :</i> | Pat Evans |
| <i>PowerPoint Operator:</i> | Kathy Nielsen |
| <i>Wheelchair Lift Operator:</i> | Pat Marshall |