



Westminster United Church
Worship Service for November 24th, 2019
Today's Worship Leader is Pastor Sheila Mcleod
Reign of Christ Sunday

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

CALL TO WORSHIP:

You will say in that day:

God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; for the Sovereign God is my strength and my song.

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day:

Sing praises to the Sovereign God who has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Let us worship God.

✠PROCESSION OF CHRIST CANDLE: **"Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ" (MV 166 2X)**

OPENING PRAYER: **"A Prayer for the Reign of Christ" (VU 214)**

Mighty and tender God,
voice of the voiceless,
power of the powerless:
we praise you for your vision
of a community of wholeness,
a realm of peace,
in which all who hunger and thirst are nourished,
in which the stranger is welcomed,
the hurting are healed, and the captive set free.

Guide us by your truth and love,
until we and all your people
make manifest your reign of justice and compassion.

We pray in the name of your anointed one,
our servant-king,
to whom with you and the Spirit,
one Holy God, be honour, glory and blessing
this day and forever. Amen

SHARING THE PEACE

✠OPENING HYMN: **"Come, Children, Join to Sing" (VU 345)**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Holy God, in earth, sea and sky, you are there; in everything we touch; in everyone we meet; your presence is around us, and we give you thanks. You we have not touched, but trampled, in creation; you we have not met, but missed, in one another; you we have not received, but rejected, in the poor. Forgive us.

(Time for Silent Reflection and Confession)

Gentle God, mend our broken lives;
restore, revive, repair.
Recreate us in your image.
Renew your creation. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE: : **Col. 1:13-14**

Be assured our Sovereign God is with us. For as the writer to the Colossians says, "God has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."
Thanks be to God. Amen.

INVITATION TO PRAYER: "**Jesus, Remember Me**" (VU 148)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

"The Lord's Prayer" (Spoken)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

God, the words you speak have power; power to create, power to disturb, power to heal. Help us to hear your Word for us today. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Luke 1:68-79 (VU #900)

God shall fulfill the promise and bring the people peace.

Blessed be the God of Israel,
who has come to the people and set them free,
who has raised up for us a mighty saviour,
born of the house of the servant David.

Through the holy prophets of old
God promised to save us from our enemies,
 from the hands of all who hate us,
to show the mercy promised to our ancestors,
 to remember the holy covenant,
 the oath God swore to our ancestors Abraham and Sarah,
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
 free to serve God without fear,
 holy and righteous in God's presence,
 all the days of our life. R

God shall fulfill the promise and bring the people peace.

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,
 to give the people knowledge of salvation
 by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God,
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
 to shine on those who sit in darkness,
 in the shadow of death,
 and to guide our feet into the way of peace. R

God shall fulfill the promise and bring the people peace.

One: This is the Good News of Jesus Christ.
ALL: Praise to Christ, the Living Word.

Col. 1:11-20

One: This is the witness of the Church.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

Anthem:

Luke 23:33-43

One: This is the Good News of Jesus Christ.
ALL: Praise to Christ, the Living Word.

SERMON: **"Speaking out. Sharing Truth-filled Words"**

†HYMN: **"Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness" (VU 375)**

MINUTES FOR MISSION: **"We Are Family"**

LIFE AND WORK:

INVITATION TO OFFERING:

OFFERTORY:

†DOXOLOGY: **"Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands" (VU 537 Vs 1)**

†DEDICATION:

God of all peoples and God of all places, we present these offerings that they may be used to extend your liberating reign. With them we offer our varied ministries, that each of us may be part of your answer to the cries of the world.

Amen.

†A NEW CREED: **(Sung)**

†CLOSING HYMN: **"O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (VU 326)**

†COMMISSIONING:

God of power, love and wisdom: Grant us the Gospel of Jubilee, that with you, in your name, we may proclaim the Good News of liberation, freedom and unity; **the release of prisoners of division; the recovery of sight to those blinded by hatred, jealousy, greed, and power; and peace and freedom to the poor, oppressed, and lost.**

Amen.

†BENEDICTION: **Luke 1:78-79**

"By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death; to guide our feet into the way of peace." Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

†CHORAL AMEN **(Spiritual)**

†SENDING FORTH: **"Halle Halle Halle" (VU 958 2X)**

Postlude

Resources for this service adapted from: *Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for the United Church of Canada*, published by the United Church Publishing House in the year 2000. Pages 23, 40, 41, 217, 45, and 49. Opening Prayer from *Voices United*, #214.

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.

Westminster United Church will be hosting "Blue Christmas" on Sunday, December 1st at 2p.m with Rev. David Pollard leading the service

Carolfest

an evening of choirs and carols Sunday, December 8 @ 7p.m.

Featuring: Choirs from: St John's Presbyterian Unity & Victory Lutheran, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Gordon Memorial, Westminster & Fifth Avenue Memorial United The Veiner Center choir, the TarTones, Ella Hoffarth, Josie Hoffarth, Expandable Brass, and Darrel Maier
Fifth Avenue Memorial United Church 476 - 4 St SE Admission is free /
Refreshments to follow

The November/December Edition of the "Upper Room" is available on the ramp

Drive a Friend to Church

We are fine tuning our Drive a Friend plan. If you are interested in this volunteer opportunity, please contact Pat Marshall or Jennifer in the church office.

Donations at Coffee Time during November are allocated to the Champion Centre

Assisting with the Service This Morning

Elder-in-Charge:

Melanie Rattai

Greeters:

Linda Kisell

Scripture Reader:

Anna Marie Hancock

Minutes For Mission

Jen Zollner

Coffee Hosts:

Jennifer Oster

Sound :

Pat Evans

PowerPoint Operator:

Pat Marshall

Wheelchair Lift Operator:

Pat Evans

