



**Westminster United Church**  
**Worship Service for July 28th, 2019**  
Today's Worship Leader is Pastor Marg McCulley

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

CALL TO WORSHIP: **Psalm 85**

One: Come! Join the fellowship of God's people—  
people who gather as faithful disciples of Christ.

**All: We seek the One who frees us  
from uncertainty and doubt.**

One: Come! Join the welcome of God's people—  
people who meet together for justice and peace.

**All: We seek the One who is trustworthy,  
the One who gives us what is good.**

One: Come! Join the celebration of God's people—  
people of the One who was, and is, and shall ever be.

**All: We raise our voices in praise and honor to God, and worship the One  
who is faithful. Amen**

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

OPENING PRAYER: **Colossians 2**

One: God of grace and God of glory,

**All: Come and be known to us**

One: In our gathering together;

**All: Come and be present in the songs we sing  
and in the prayers we raise.**

One: From the busy byways of life,

**All: we come to find once again that you are always present and always  
ready to receive us.**

One: As we affirm our faith this day,

**All: Deepen the roots of our commitment, that we may learn your calling  
upon our lives.**

One: Surround us now

**All: With the love and comfort of your Holy Spirit  
and the direction and redemption of Christ. Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

✠OPENING HYMN: **"Blest Are They" (VU 896)**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: **Colossians 2**

**O Lord of mercy and compassion,  
we bare our souls before you  
in this hour of worship and prayer.**

**We have been unfaithful to you  
and have forsaken the Covenant Love  
you have shared with us.**

**For our wandering, wayward ways,  
hear our confessions of sin and selfishness  
and offer us your forgiveness.**

**We ask for forgiveness  
and the strength to behave as your true children,  
as your very people, the Church.**

**It is the redeeming Christ  
before whom we bow  
and before whom we confess our need.  
We come to you in hope of redemption. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE: **Luke 11**

Seek and you will find.  
Knock and the door will be opened to you.  
Ask and it will be given to you.

God has promised us grace and forgiveness  
in the love of Jesus Christ.  
Come home again and be the people God intended.

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

**"The Lord's Prayer" (Spoken)**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

**We spend so much time preoccupied with worries and responsibilities, with primping and consuming.**

**Today, O God, we pray that you will open us to your Word, that we may heed the voices from ages past, calling us to live in right relations with our world today.**

**Shower us with your words, like rain out of the heavens, to refresh and nourish our souls. Amen**

SCRIPTURE READING: **Psalm 85 (VU p.802)**

Once you were gracious to your land, O God,  
you restored the fortunes of Jacob;

**you forgave the offence of your people,  
and pardoned all their sin.**

You drew back all your displeasure,  
and turned from your fiery wrath.

**Restore us again, God our Saviour,  
and put away your just anger toward us.**

Will you be angry with us forever?

Will you prolong your wrath to all generations?

**Will you not revive us again,  
that your people may rejoice in you?**

*" God show us your love and mercy"*

Let me hear what you will say, O God,  
for you will speak peace to your people,  
to the faithful who turn their hearts to you.

**Surely salvation is near those who fear you,  
and your glory will dwell in our land.**

Mercy and faithfulness will meet,  
justice and peace will embrace.

**Faithfulness will spring up from the earth,  
and righteousness look down from heaven.**

You, O God, will give what is good,  
and our land will yield its harvest.

**Righteousness will go before you,  
and the paths of your feet will be peace**

*" God show us your love and mercy"*

One: This is the witness of the ancient song-writers.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM: **"The Least of These"** performed by the **"Westminstrels"**

SCRIPTURE READING: **Luke 11:1-13**

One: This is the good news of Jesus Christ

**All: Thanks be to God**

SERMON: **"Prayer As a Focus in Life"**

†HYMN: "Make Me A Channel Of Peace" ( VU 684 vs 1, chorus, vs 2, chorus, vs 3)

MINUTES FOR MISSION: **"Support for Women in Africa"**

LIFE AND WORK:

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING: **Colossians 2**

Having received the grace of God in the redemption of Christ, we live strengthened in the faith, with hearts overflowing with thankfulness. From the depths of our hearts, we offer to God the very best we have. May our offering today be a true act of worship and thanksgiving.

OFFERTORY: **"O Love That Will Not Let Me Go"**

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

†DEDICATION:

Before you, O God,  
we offer our prayers, our presence,  
our gifts, and our service.  
We lay our gifts before you  
in praise and thanksgiving  
for your many blessings.  
May these offerings  
continue the transforming work of your Spirit  
in and through our congregation. Amen.

†A NEW CREED: **(Sung)**

†CLOSING HYMN: **"O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee" (VU 560)**

† BENEDICTION: Psalm 85

As you go forth,  
know that you leave  
with the unfailing love of God.  
As you leave this place,  
know that by God's strength  
you will be able to face the challenges  
of the coming week.  
As you return to your daily lives,  
know that your pursuit of peace  
reveals to the world  
that you are God's children. Amen.

†CHORAL AMEN (**VU 967**)

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

*Postlude*

All prayers for today were derived and adapted from Ministry Matters

### ***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 look forward to joining you for worship at 5th Avenue in August!

Sunday Worship Services for August 2019 will be held at 10:00 am at Fifth Avenue Memorial United Church.

The Westminster Church Office will be closed from August 1<sup>st</sup> and re-open August 26<sup>th</sup>.

**COOKIES NEEDED for CAMP SHAGABEC!** Campers REALLY love the cookies donated each year - they look forward to them nightly around the campfire! The camp kindly asks that each of the AB/SK regions collectively send 7-10 ice cream pails of cookies if possible. It can be anytime, but we do have someone willing to transport any cookies to camp on Sunday August 4, so please leave any baking in

the WUC freezer by August 1 or call me at 403-527-5011 (Pat Ward) anytime that week for pickup if needed. Thank you!

***Update from the Joint Search Committee:***

***The Joint Search Committee is now moving onto secondary interviews with select candidates.***

***Cam Lockerbie  
Chair***

St. Barnabas Church would like to invite you all to join them on Wednesdays at 12:30 at for Communion. Together we come to the Lord's Table to share His body, His blood, His life and His love.

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](mailto: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.

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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<b><i>Elder-in-Charge:</i></b>	Donna Scharf
<b><i>Greeters:</i></b>	Linda Kisell, Donna Scharf
<b><i>Scripture Reader:</i></b>	Pat Marshall
<b><i>Minutes for Mission:</i></b>	Donna Scharf
<b><i>Coffee Hosts:</i></b>	Arlea & Wayne Harper
<b><i>Sound :</i></b>	Hayley McKim
<b><i>PowerPoint Operator:</i></b>	Kathy Nielsen
<b><i>Wheelchair Lift Operator:</i></b>	Pat Marshall