



Westminster United Church
Worship Service for October 20th, 2019
Today's Worship Leader is Rev. Dr. Bob Cruikshank

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

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: God promises us justice,

Many: and God teaches us persistence.

One: God promises us deep assurance,

Many: and God teaches us not to lose heart.

One: God promises to be with us,

Many: and God teaches us to care for each other.

All: together, let us worship our God of comfort and challenge, our God of courage and compassion.

✠PROCESSION OF CHRIST CANDLE: : **"Come Touch our Hearts" (MV 12 vss 1&5)**

OPENING PRAYER: **(Unison)**

Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit, you breathe life into all things. By your hand, all life is nourished. Your unfailing love endures forever.

You are a rock and refuge for your people, and you are trustworthy in all things. Your desire for justice and peace that accompanies it, can never ultimately be defeated.

Since you alone can bring life out of death, and restore wholeness from the brokenness of sin, we gather to praise you and rejoice in the hope you offer. Together, we proclaim that your love is the power at work in all situations, seeking goodness and revealing truth, love that will never let us go. Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

✠OPENING HYMN: **"Spirit Open My Heart" (MV 79)**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

ONE: Out of a desire to recognize the truth about ourselves, and live in right relationship with you and one another, we confess our sin:

ALL: God of mercy, you provide us with the gift of faith, but too often we lose heart quickly. You invite us to be persistent, but we forget about you and conclude that you have abandoned us.

You teach us truth, but we prefer leaders who tell us what we want to hear. Forgive us, O God. Write your law on our hearts so that all of us will know your steadfast love and goodness, which you offer for the sake of all your creation. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

ONE: God assures us with these words: "I will put my heart within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people...I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more."

Friends, hear and believe the good news:

ALL: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

INVITATION TO PRAYER: **"Open Our Hearts" (MV 21 2X)**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

"The Lord's Prayer" (Spoken)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION/UNDERSTANDING (Unison)

Inspiring God: you have given us the gift of your Word to equip us to live faithfully in your world. Open us to hear that Word for today, whether it challenges or comforts us, so that we may live with commitment as we follow Jesus, your living Word.

Scripture Reading:

PSALM 119: 97-104 (VU 840)

Teach me , O God, the perfect way of your divine commands

O how I love your law! It is my study all day long.

**Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies;
for it is always with me.**

I have gained more insight than all my teachers,
for your instruction is my study.

**I have more understanding than the aged,
for I keep your commandments. R**

Teach me , O God, the perfect way of your divine commands

I have held my feet back from every evil way,
in order to keep your word.

**I have not swerved from your judgements,
for you, yourself, have taught me.**

How sweet is your word on my tongue,
sweeter than honey in my mouth!

**Through your commandments I get understanding;
therefore I hate every false way. R**

Teach me , O God, the perfect way of your divine commands

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

All: Thanks be to God.

2 TIMOTHY 3:14- 4:5

One: This is the good news of Jesus Christ

All: Thanks be to God

Anthem "**Sanctuary**"

LUKE 18:1-8

One: This is the good news of Jesus Christ

All: Thanks be to God

SERMON "**Sprint or Marathon?**"

†HYMN: "**What a Friend We Have in Jesus**" (VU 664)

MINUTES FOR MISSION: "**A Thank-You to Ministers**"

LIFE AND WORK:

OFFERTORY:

†DOXOLOGY: "**Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands**" (VU 537 Vs 2)

‡DEDICATION:

ONE: God of the great and the small, we bring what we have to share, the fruit of our lives.

Bless our gifts and our lives so that generosity and justice will join hands to surprise and fill the world with your goodness. In Jesus' name. Amen.

‡A NEW CREED: **(Sung)**

‡CLOSING HYMN: **"Jesus Teacher Brave and Bold" (VU 605)**

‡COMMISSIONING:

ONE: This is the day that the Lord has made.

MANY: We will rejoice and be glad in it.

ONE: We will not offer to God

MANY: Offerings and service that cost us nothing.

ONE: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

ALL: We will seek peace and pursue it.

‡ BENEDICTION:

ONE: Glory be to God who made us, and to Christ who saved us, and to the Holy Spirit who keeps us in faith.

ALL: As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.

‡CHORAL AMEN **(Spiritual)**

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

Postlude

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 meeting to hear the report of the Westminster Joint Search Committee, discuss the report, and deal with a motion to approve the report will be held following worship on Sunday, November 3rd, 2019. All Westminster members and adherents are urged to attend.

Sheila McLeod, Regional Pastoral Supervisor.

Hand Chime Choir

We are hoping to put together a group of people interested in learning how to play hand chimes. You don't have to read music or know much about the hand chimes, but it could be an opportunity to make some music and have some fun!! If you are interested, talk to Anna Marie Hancock and we can determine a time to get together. Looking forward to making music with you all soon!!

PROJECT CONNECT – a free one-day event for those in need! Wednesday, October 23 from 10:00am to 3:00pm at St. John's Presbyterian Church (504-2 Street SE). Free bus rides to and from the event – bus passes available at Medicine Hat Community Housing, St. John's Church, or Salvation Army. For more information please call St John's Church Office at 403-526-4542.

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 for during October are allocated to the Haitian Coffee

Please join us in Memorial Hall for refreshments and fellowship!

Assisting with the Service This Morning

<i>Elder-in-Charge:</i>	Bob McCaig
<i>Greeters:</i>	Linda Kisell & Betty Sidlick
<i>Scripture Reader:</i>	Hayley McKim
<i>Minutes for Mission:</i>	Dawn Knowles
<i>Coffee Hosts:</i>	Vicki McCaig & Sharon Clay
<i>Sound :</i>	Pat Evans
<i>PowerPoint Operator:</i>	Pat Marshall
<i>Wheelchair Lift Operator:</i>	Pat Evans

Westminster United Church Fall Supper (Roast Beef)

Sunday, November 3, 2019

5:30 pm

Ticket Prices:

\$18.00 for Adults

\$10.00 for Children ages 6 – 12

(Children under 6 are free)

\$50.00 for Family of four or more

Tickets can be purchased at the Westminster office (101 6 Street SE) during regular office hours (Monday through Thursday 9 am – Noon and 1 pm – 4 pm), at Coffee Time on Sunday in Memorial Hall, or call the office 403-526-5247 for more information.



Hymn Request Form

(Please fill out and submit to Chris White)

Hymn Title and Hymn Number:

Reason for Request: