



Westminster United Church
Worship Service for January 26th, 2020
Today's Worship Leader is Marg McCulley

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

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Ministry Matters)

The Lord is our light and our salvation!

Why should we be afraid?

The Lord is the stronghold of our life!

What have we to fear?

Let us shout with joy to God!

Let us sing and make music before our God

†PROCESSION OF CHRIST CANDLE: **"Will You Come and Follow Me" (VU 567 vs 1&5)**

OPENING PRAYER: (Ministry Matters)

**O God, our light and our salvation,
shelter us in your love.**

**O God, our stronghold,
protect us from danger.**

**We come with shouts of joy
to worship you this day.**

**We come with song and music
to celebrate your love.**

**We come with longing
to seek your presence.**

**Be with us now, O God,
as we sing your praises. Amen**

SHARING THE PEACE: **(Matthew 4)**

The light of Christ shines brightly in the darkened places of our lives, bringing healing and hope. The light of Christ shines brightly in the faces of our neighbors. Look for that light as we share Christ's peace.

†OPENING HYMN: **"We Are Pilgrims (The Servant Song)" (VU 595)**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (Ministry Matters)

**God of light,
we live in the darkness of despair:**

worried about our lives,
concerned for our health,
fearful that we are lost from you.
The yoke of our burdens lies heavy upon us:
our unwillingness to forgive,
our fears of one another,
our reluctance to share what we have,
our divisions and quarrels.
We long to turn from the dark
and live in the light.
We yearn to leave what is evil
and follow the paths of righteousness.
Shine the light of your love upon us
and transform us with your love,
that your promised realm may draw near. Amen.

INVITATION TO PRAYER: **"Called by the Earth and Sky" (MV 135 vs 4)**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

"The Lord's Prayer" (Spoken)

The light of God's love
shines into the dark places of our world,
healing its brokenness,
and bringing hope to places of despair.
The light of God's love
makes us a forgiven people.
Thanks be to God

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: (Ministry Matters)

The light of God's love
shines into the dark places of our world,
healing its brokenness,
and bringing hope to places of despair.
The light of God's love
makes us a forgiven people.
Thanks be to God

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Psalms 27:1, 4-9; (VU 754)

God is my light and saving health, I shall not be afraid.

God is my light and my salvation, whom then shall I fear?

God is the stronghold of my life,

of whom shall I be afraid?

When the wicked close in to devour me,

it is they, my enemies and my foes, who stumble and fall.

If an army should encamp against me,

my heart shall not be afraid;

if war should arise against me,

even then I will not be dismayed. R

God is my light and saving health, I shall not be afraid.

One thing I have asked of God, for which I long:

that I may dwell in God's house all the days of my life,

to gaze on your beauty, O God,

and to seek you in your temple.

For in the time of trouble you will give me shelter;

you will hide me under the cover of your tent,

you will set me high upon a rock.

And now you have raised my head

above my enemies round about me.

Therefore I will offer in your dwelling

a sacrifice with great gladness. R

God is my light and saving health, I shall not be afraid.

Hear my voice, O God, when I call; have mercy and answer me.

Your face, O God, I seek.

Do not hide your face from me;

do not reject your servant in anger,

you who have been my helper.

Do not cast me off, or forsake me, O God my saviour.

Though my father and mother forsake me,

my God will take me up. R

God is my light and saving health, I shall not be afraid.

Teach me your way, O God,

lead me on a level path,

safe from those who lie in wait for me.

Do not give me up to the will of my enemies,

for liars and false witnesses arise against me.

I believe that I shall see God's goodness

in the land of the living.

Wait for God; be strong, and take courage;

yes, wait for God! R

God is my light and saving health, I shall not be afraid.

One: This is the witness of ancient song-writers
All: Thanks be to God.

1 Corinthians 1:10-18;

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

HYMN: **"All People That on Earth do Dwell"**(VU 822)

Matthew 4:12-23

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

SERMON:

†HYMN: **"Just As I Am" (VU 508)**

MINUTES FOR MISSION: **"Special Days at Camp Whitney!"**

LIFE AND WORK:

INVITATION TO OFFERING: (Ministry Matters)

Beside the lakeshore, long ago, Jesus called to his disciples: "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people!" Jesus calls to us today: "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." The ministry begun by the Sea of Galilee continues in our day when we proclaim the good news of God's love. Let us give with joy as we follow Jesus.

OFFERTORY:

†DOXOLOGY: **:"O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word" (VU 84 vs 3)**

†DEDICATION

O God,
we have seen your glory,
felt the touch of your love,
and felt your presence with us.
With joyful hearts,
we offer you our gifts.
Having heard your call,
we offer you our lives and our service. Amen.

†A NEW CREED: **(Sung)**

†CLOSING HYMN: **"This Little Light of Mine"** (Public Domain)

†COMMISSIONING: (Ministry Matters)

Jesus, the light of the world, calls us to follow.
Go and tell the news of God's love.
Cast the nets of grace wide,
that all may see the glory of God.
Go forth and shine with God's light!
May God—Source, Word, and Spirit—
bless you with the radiance of love.

†CHORAL AMEN **(VU 974)**

†SENDING FORTH: **"Go Tell It on the Mountain"** (VU 43)

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.

It has been a busy few weeks at Westminster! Much appreciation and thanks goes out to:

Pat and Stan Bohnet for donating the updated church sign

The Westminster United Church Choir for cleaning out the Roger's Room

The Ministry and Personnel Committee for cleaning out and preparing Rev. Lynn McKinney's office

Last but not least, all of those who have donated and volunteered goods and time towards the Minister's pantry and unpacking project

A potluck lunch to welcome Rev. Lynn McKinnon will be held on February 16th in Memorial Hall

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on February 23, 2020. A reminder that reports need to be submitted to the church office for inclusion in the 2019 Annual Report. Please email your reports to reception@westminsteruc.com by January 29th at the latest.

We are seeking representatives for the Board of Elders and Board Committees and would ask that you prayerfully consider volunteering for these important positions. At this time we are specifically seeking individuals to serve on the executive of the Board in the positions of Chairperson and Treasurer. In addition there are several positions available on the various Board Committees. The Board Committees are Christian Development, Finance, Ministry & Personnel, Mission & Outreach, Music & Worship, Pastoral Care and Property. Please speak to Pat Evans or any committee members for more information or if you are interested in volunteering. Thanks!

We still have few 2020 United Church calendars available in the church office priced at \$6.00 each.

Commune-I-Care Callouts will be taking place within the next two weeks

St Barnabas Anglican Church will be hosting a World Day of Prayer Service 635 4 St SE, on Friday March 6 at 7 PM.

The Hat Grannies for Africa will be hosting their annual "Fabric, Yarn and More" Sale on Saturday, March 14, 2020. The sale will take place at St. John's Presbyterian Church, 504 – 2nd Street SE, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Donations of fabric, yarn, notions and all manner of supplies used in sewing, quilting, knitting and crocheting are accepted. Please text or call Kathy at 403-928-2135 or Sheila at 403-580-7715 to arrange for pick up of donations or for more information. Since 2006, grandmothers groups across Canada have raised over \$36 million dollars, 90% of which goes to the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign (part of the Stephen Lewis Foundation) and is sent directly to community-based organizations run by and for African grandmothers raising their grandchildren.

January/February issues of the "Upper Room" are now available on the upper ramp.

Donations at Coffee Time during January are allocated to Haitian Coffee Assisting with the Service This Morning

<i>Elder-in-Charge:</i>	Arlea Harper
<i>Greeters:</i>	Wally & Vivian Bergstreser
<i>Scripture Reader:</i>	Jen Zollner
<i>Minutes For Mission</i>	Donna Scharf
<i>Coffee Hosts:</i>	Linda Kisell & Albina Jackson
<i>Sound :</i>	Hayley McKim
<i>PowerPoint Operator:</i>	Kathy Nielsen
<i>Wheelchair Lift Operator:</i>	Pat Evans