



Worship Service for February 23rd, 2020
Today's Worship Leader is Rev. Lynn McKinnon
Annual Congregational Meeting to Follow Service

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

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Let the radiance of Christ be evident among us:

in our songs and our words;

in our deepest thoughts and desires;

in the youthful and the experienced,

the exhausted and the energetic;

in the hungry and the scared.

We are here together.

We join our voices and our hearts in praise.

✠PROCESSION OF CHRIST CANDLE: **"A Light is Gleaming" (VU 82 vss 3&4)**

OPENING PRAYER:

God of the mountaintop and of the plain, we remember today the Transfiguration of Jesus.

Glorious, mysterious, and shimmering with light, you know our hearts, our triumphs,

and our disasters. Take us as we are; love us as we are; join with us and transform us into your holy ones. Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE:

✠OPENING HYMN: **"As A Fire Is Meant For Burning" (VU 578)**

SPOILER ALERT:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Though we want to walk with Moses and see God's holy radiance,
we hide in the mist of our own desires, unable to perceive the presence of God's grace.

While we want a world of justice and peace,
we walk in clouds of selfishness, unable to share God's loving-kindness.

Though we want to follow Jesus up the mountain,
we cower in fear, unable to bear the light of God.:

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

In the blazing light of God's grace, Jesus touches us to say, "Get up and do not be afraid."

In the name of Christ, all is forgiven. **Amen.**

INVITATION TO PRAYER: **"Bathe Me In Your Light" (MV 82 VS 1)**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

"The Lord's Prayer" (Sung VU 959)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Exodus 24:12-18

One: This is the witness of Israel.

ALL: Thanks be to God for the Word.

ANTHEM: **"Shine, Jesus Shine"**

Gospel: Matthew 17: 1-9

One: This is the Good News of Jesus Christ.

ALL: Praise to Christ, the Living Word.

SERMON: **"The Future's So Bright, I Gotta Wear Shades"**

✠HYMN: **"Jesus Bids Us Shine" (VU 585)**

LIFE AND WORK:

OFFERTORY:

†DOXOLOGY: :**"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" (VU 541)**

†DEDICATION

†A NEW CREED: **(Spoken)**

†CLOSING HYMN: **"We Are Marching" (VU 646)**

†COMMISSIONING/BENEDICTION:

When Jesus' glory is revealed to us, we become transformed. We are not who we were before.

Go now to your homes, your neighborhoods, your schools, and places of work as new people. Go as Christians illumined by the glory of God in Christ.

Be renewed and be radiant.

Thanks be to God.

†CHORAL AMEN **(VU 967)**

†SENDING FORTH: **"This Little Light of Mine"**

Postlude

**Prayers used for this Service Derived From Ministry Matters*

Annual Congregational Meeting

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.

Rev. Lynn McKinnon's" drop-in" Office hours will be Monday and Thursday mornings from 9:30am-12:00 pm. Email: Rev.Lynn@westminsteruc.com

2019 Donation Receipts are now available in the Church Office

Commencing March 3rd, Rev. Lynn McKinnon will be holding a "Lent Guided Meditation" on Tuesday evenings at 7pm in the WUC Lounge. These sessions will continue until April 7th.

Westminster United Church will be hosting a pancake dinner on Shrove Tuesday . This event takes place February 25th at 5pm in Memorial Hall. Free will offering.

The U.C.W will be hosting "Soup Sunday on March 8th

Easter Egg Buns will be served by the U.C.W on Palm Sunday (April 8th)

The next U.C.W meeting will take place on April 17th at 1:30 at Chinook Village

MEDICINE HAT ECUMENICAL LENTEN WORSHIP 2020

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00PM

February 26 (Ash Wednesday)

St. Barnabas Anglican 635 4th Street S.E Rev. Jeff Decelle

March 4 St. Peter Lutheran 758 8th Street S.E. Rev. Dave Pollard

March 11 St. John's Presbyterian 504 2nd Street S.E. Rev. Shane Hein

March 18 Fifth Avenue Memorial 476 4th Street S.E. Rev. Oz Lorentzen

March 25 Unity Lutheran 599 - 12th Street N.W. Rev. Lynn McKinnon

April 1 Westminster United 101 6th Street S.E. Rev. Jeff Lackie

Child Services is requesting donated suitcases, backpacks etc. These items will be given to foster children in need. Donations can be made at the Provincial Building (across from Dairy Queen) 346-3rd Street Street. 2nd floor #2013.

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 Augustana Choir on Tour

Fifth Avenue Memorial United Church, March 6

Concert begins at 7:00 pm and Admission is by Donation

The University of Alberta, Augustana Campus premiere auditioned chamber choir, *The Augustana Choir* under the direction of Dr. John Wiebe, is excited to be heading out on an Alberta recruitment tour during their spring break from March 5-7. This delightful evening of music will present works by Thomas Weelkes, Felix Mendelssohn, Ēriks Ešņvalds, Don Macdonald, Kim Andre Arnesen and more. The concert will also feature solos by Augustana music majors in voice, piano, and tuba.

The Augustana Choir performs an exciting and eclectic range of a cappella choral music from renaissance to the latest in contemporary choral compositions. The choir is considered to be one of Western Canada's most successful undergraduate university choirs. An active touring tradition has led The Augustana Choir to perform concerts for local, national,

and international audiences: in January 2019 the choir toured Cuba; in May 2014 The Augustana Choir was honoured to accept an invitation to perform at PODIUM 2014 in Halifax, the national choral conference of Choral Canada; and in May 2012 the choir traveled to Hungary. The recording, *Idegen orszagban: In a Foreign Land*, is a live compilation recording that documents this extraordinary study and performance tour to Hungary. An interesting side-note is that all eligible students who successfully audition for The Augustana Choir receive a choral scholarship! This is unique to a university choir in Canada.

Director Dr. JOHN WIEBE is an award-winning choral conductor, pianist, orchestral conductor, singer, educator, adjudicator and clinician from Edmonton Alberta. Known for the energy, craftsmanship and passion he brings to his music making, John has multiple recordings, awards and broadcasts to his credit, including the Choir Alberta Richard S Eaton Award in 2019. John has studied at Wilfrid Laurier University, the University of Alberta, with Frieder Bernius from Stuttgart, Germany, and in Vienna, Austria. Choirs under his dynamic leadership have recorded seven CD's, performed coast-to-coast across Canada and around the world (Europe, Russia, South America and China), and have received awards for their performances locally, nationally and at the Langollen Music Festival and the World Choir Games. John is a regular clinician and adjudicator across Canada who likes to keep in shape for his music schedule by travelling with his family, running, and playing hockey.

If you are in the neighbourhood, please join us for a delightful evening of choral music.

For further information, please contact Dr. Wiebe at ph. 780.994.6539, jhwiebe@ualberta.ca

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.

Donations at Coffee Time during February are allocated to Champion Centre.

Please remember to wear your WUC name tags !

Assisting with the Service This Morning

<i>Elder-in-Charge:</i>	Donna Scharf
<i>Greeters:</i>	Pat & Stan Bohnet
<i>Scripture Reader:</i>	Murray Bell
<i>Coffee Hosts:</i>	Linda Kisell
<i>Sound :</i>	Hayley McKim
<i>PowerPoint Operator:</i>	Kathy Nielsen
<i>Wheelchair Lift Operator:</i>	Pat Marshall