



Westminster United Church
Worship Service for February 2nd, 2020
Today's Worship Leader is Pastor. Sheila Mcleod

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

God's Spirit calls to our spirits, **inviting us to worship.**
God's Spirit calls to our spirits, **inviting us by love.**
God's Spirit calls to our spirits,
calling us by name, calling us to grow in faith, calling us to be made new.
We come to worship, opening ourselves to the call of God's Spirit. **Let us open to God's call. Let us worship.**

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

OPENING PRAYER:

Eternal God, we come to you with hungry hearts, waiting to be filled: with a sense of your presence; with the touch of your Spirit; with new energy for service.
Come to us, we pray. Be with us. Touch us. Empower us as your people, that we might worship you, and act in the world for Jesus' sake. Amen.

CELEBRATIONS:

SHARING THE PEACE:

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: Prayer A (VU 928)

Holy and Gracious God,
Gathered as your people responding to your call, we confess
the self is not aware of sinning:
the heart that is too hardened to repent;
the pride that dares not admit it is wrong;
the righteousness that knows no fault:
the callousness that has ceased to care:
the blindness that can see nothing but its own will.

God, in your healing love, forgive us;
through our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

Listen! I have something to say! Our past is behind us. We are free to live new lives, be new people, to try again to be who God intends us to be. Rejoice! I say again, rejoice! **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

"The Lord's Prayer" (Spoken)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

God, you touch our lives with mystery and hope. We come to this place today, ready to see your power working through us. Help us to be open to your Word, and to answer your call among us. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Micah 6:1-8,

One: This is the witness of Israel.

ALL: Thanks be to God for the Word.

Psalm 15 – (VU #736)

Within your holy place, O God, who shall a dweller be?

God, who may be a guest in your house,
or who may dwell on your holy mountain? R

Within your holy place, O God, who shall a dweller be?

One who leads a blameless life,
who does what is right,
who speaks truthfully from the heart;
one whose tongue is free from malice,
who never wrongs a friend,
who utters no reproach against a neighbour;
one who cannot respect the unworthy,
but honours those who fear God;
who stands by a promise given,
though it be to personal disadvantage;
one who will not take interest on a loan,
nor accept a bribe to testify against the innocent.

Whoever does this shall never be overthrown. R

Within your holy place, O God, who shall a dweller be?

One: This is the witness of ancient song-writers

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM: **"The Beatitudes"**

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

One: This is the witness of the Church.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Matthew. 5:1-12 (VU 896-897)

- 1 Blest are they, the poor in spirit,
 theirs is the kingdom of God.
 Blest are they, full of sorrow,
 they shall be consoled.
 Rejoice and be glad!
 Blessed are you, holy are you!
 Rejoice and be glad!
 Yours is the kingdom of God.

- 2 Blest are they, the lowly ones,
 they shall inherit the earth.
 Blest are they who hunger and thirst,
 they shall have their fill. R
 Rejoice and be glad!
 Blessed are you, holy are you!
 Rejoice and be glad!
 Yours is the kingdom of God.

- 3 Blest are they who show mercy,
 mercy shall be theirs.
 Blest are they, the pure of heart,
 they shall see God. R
 Rejoice and be glad!
 Blessed are you, holy are you!
 Rejoice and be glad!
 Yours is the kingdom of God.

- 4 Blest are they who seek peace;
 they are the children of God.
 Blest are they who suffer in faith,
 the glory of God is theirs. R
 Rejoice and be glad!
 Blessed are you, holy are you!
 Rejoice and be glad!
 Yours is the kingdom of God.
- 5 Blest are you who suffer hate,
 all because of me.
 Rejoice and be glad yours is the kingdom;
 shine for all to see. R
 Rejoice and be glad!
 Blessed are you, holy are you!
 Rejoice and be glad!
 Yours is the kingdom of God.

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

SERMON: **1 Cor. 1:26 - "Consider your own call, brothers and sisters"**

†HYMN: **"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" (VU 684)**

MINUTES FOR MISSION: **"Celebrating Black History Month"**

LIFE AND WORK:

INVITATION TO OFFERING:

Let us bring the ordinary things of life: our possessions, our service, and our money to our Holy God. In bringing them we bring ourselves so God's work in this place and in the world will be done. Let us bring our offering:

OFFERTORY:

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

†DEDICATION

Blessed are you, gracious God: **you have given us life and freedom to be your people in the world.**

Blessed are you, gracious : **you have called us into the church, and into this community of faith, pilgrims together on the journey into new creation.**

Blessed are you, gracious God: **you have touched our hearts with hope, so we long to see the day of your salvation.**

Accept now these gifts we bring. Enable us to use them for the coming of your new community of justice and shalom. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

†A NEW CREED: **(Sung)**

†CLOSING HYMN: **"Be Thou My Vision" (VU 642)**

†COMMISSIONING/BENEDICTION:

God has told us what is good: to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God. May we embrace this way of goodness as God's requirement of us,... a blessing that grows, supports, and fills us the more closely we walk this path of God. And may we go from this place to walk it, knowing God goes with us in power, in wisdom, and in love. **Amen.**

†CHORAL AMEN **(VU 974)**

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

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 22, 28, 43, 27, 50, & 51. Prayer of Confession from "Voices United", page 928.

and God will go with us in power, in understanding, and in love. **Amen.**

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 McKinnon'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 after the service. As with every Sunday, if you need assistance managing the stairs or a drive to church services, our volunteers are here to help! Please call Jennifer at the Church Office 403-526-5247 if we can pick you up or with any other questions.

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. If you haven't submitted your reports, please email your reports to reception@westminsteruc.com as soon as possible!

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!

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.

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 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>	Al Olsen
<i>Greeters:</i>	Linda Kisell
<i>Scripture Reader:</i>	Marg McCulley
<i>Minutes For Mission</i>	Sharon Clay
<i>Coffee Hosts:</i>	Wayne Harper & Charlene Andreas
<i>Sound :</i>	Pat Evans
<i>PowerPoint Operator:</i>	Kathy Nielsen
<i>Wheelchair Lift Operator:</i>	Pat Evans