



Sunday Worship

Westminster United Church

celebrating 125 years of ministry in the community

Sunday, Jan. 14, 2018

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

*Words printed in **bold type** are to be spoken by the congregation.*

Prelude

Lighting the Christ Candle

As we gather to worship, we begin with the lighting the Christ Candle, and we remember these words from the gospel of John –

**“The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness cannot overcome it.”**

Welcome and News

Introit MV 1 Let Us Build a House vs. 5

**Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard, and loved and treasured,
taught and claimed as words with-in the Word.**

**Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:**

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

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Call to Worship

We are called

each and every one:

**Young or old, slow or fast; tall or small,
know-it-alls or eager learners,
long-timers and new seekers.**

God calls us and God works through each and every one of us.

We come here to worship and respond with our living.

Prayer of Approach*

It doesn't matter how far we go to run from you,
God-who-calls-us:

you reach out and touch us with healing in your hands, and turn us around
so we can follow you home.

It doesn't matter how suspicious we are of you,
God-who-invites-us-to-follow:

You remove our fears with your compassion,
you take away our doubts with complete acceptance
of who we are.

It doesn't matter how often we ignore your words,
God-who-speaks-to-us:

You whisper to us until our ears tingle with anticipation
and we listen with eager hope.

Holy One, continue to call us by name,
And love us into being all we can be, we pray. **Amen**

Hymn VU 218 We Praise you O God

Prayer of Reflection/Confession (unison)

Each day O God, you call to us in opportunities to serve, love, befriend, to act.

But often we are unable to hear in the midst of the noise we create: the noise of our technology; of politicians; of advertising; of violence and war; even the noise of our own voices. Forgive us, O God. Settle us, and teach us to listen for your voice.....

Moment of silence for personal reflection.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE

Anthem The Apple Tree

by K. Lee Scott

The Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Scripture Reading: Bob Burton

1 Samuel 3: 1-11

John 1: 35-51

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn VU 567

Will You Come and Follow Me

Message

Solo Safe Within Your Arms
given by Wes Rambo

by Mark Hayes

Collection of Offerings

After the offering is introduced, an offertory will be played and the collection taken. Thank you for your gift, whether given today or through other means of supporting ministry at Westminster Church.

Offertory

Offering Doxology MV 49 When We Seek Language

**When we seek language to praise you, O God,
all we can utter seems stale, tame, or odd.**

**Tongue-tied and word-lost, we struggle to find
Phrases that slight neither heart, soul, nor mind:**

**Infinite intimate unbounded friend,
cosmic companion who loves without end,
Nearer than heartbeat, more subtle than breath,
Keener than insight, and stronger than death.**

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Prayer of Dedication (unison)

**We bring these gifts and those through PAR, and the gifts of
ourselves- our time and energy and ideas, with hope and
thanksgiving for the work and ministry they will empower within
and beyond these walls. Bless all we offer O God.**

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

The Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (spoken)

**Our father/mother, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.**

Thy kingdom come,

**Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn VU 509 **I the Lord of Sea and Sky**

Commissioning and Sending Forth

Choral Response VU 93 Vs. 1 **When Heaven's Bright with Mystery**
**When heaven's bright with mystery
and science searches nature's art,
When all creation yearns for peace
and hope sinks deep in human hearts,
appear to us, O Holy Light,
lift from our eyes the shades of night.**

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Organ Postlude *If departing before the end of the postlude, please do so quietly for the benefit of those remaining to enjoy the music.*

* Thom M Shuman, Epiphany 2B, 2018, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Lectionary Readings

January 21 – Third Sunday after Epiphany

Jonah 3:1–5, 10 - Jonah calls Nineveh to repent.

Psalm 62:5–12 (VU pp. 779–780) - Be still, my soul, and wait for God.

1 Corinthians 7:29–31 - The time is short for the present form of the world.

Mark 1:14–20 - Jesus calls Simon, Andrew, James, and John.

To Ponder - How did you feel the call of God to ministry or worship leadership?