

Sunday Worship

Westminster United Church

Celebrating 125 years of ministry in the community

Sunday, August 27, 2017

12th Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am

“Let both grow together until the harvest Matthew 13:30

Our service begins with the Prelude, inviting us to prepare for worship.

Prelude

Christ Candle is lit

Welcome and News

Introit MV 1 Let Us Build a House
*Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

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SERVING THE
COMMUNITY
SINCE 1892



WESTMINSTER
UNITED CHURCH

Call to Worship

We gather together because we know there is good and evil;

We know there is caring and hostility.

There is warmth and chill; living and death;

freedom and burden; peace and anxiety; joy and strain

We gather together because we know God is here -

the Giver of Life, the Bearer of Light, the Creator of Love.

Come let us worship God.

Hymn VU 516 Come, You Thankful People, Come

Prayer of Confession

God of Living Waters, wash us clean of false values, lies, and violence;

Cleanse us of our self-righteousness and bitterness when we become disillusioned with all we see happening elsewhere;

Bathe us in your Love and Strength so that protected from most dangers and every manner of evil

We may learn to be patient as we serve You faithfully with peace and in joy knowing nothing can separate us from Your love.

Moment of silence for personal confession.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Words of Assurance

The amazing truth of faith is this: God hears our prayers, receives our cries and forgives our sins.

We will live as pardoned and liberated people.

The Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Scripture Reading: Liz Wijtkamp

Matthew 13:24-43

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

Thanks be to God.

Message “Diversity is Strength” Rev. Don McIntyre

Solo Lord of the Dance arr. by Mark Hayes
given by Nicki Kirton

Collection of Offerings

God of the hungry, you call us as pilgrims together on the journey to a new creation where we hunger and thirst for the right, till our thirst for justice has been satisfied and hunger has gone from the earth.

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.

Offering Doxology - Old 100TH, VU 822

Prayer of Dedication- Our Saviour’s Prayer

Holy God, grant us the patience to smooth the way on which your Kingdom comes to us.

Grant us hope that we may not weary in working for it despite the enormity of conflicts, threats or shortcomings that encourage us to give up.

Grant us a clear vision that in the hour of our history we keep our eye on the horizon and know the way on which your Kingdom will come.

The Lord's Prayer

Spoken

**Our Father, 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, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn VU 690 From The Slave Pens of the Delta

Commissioning and Sending Forth

May God who clothes the lilies of the fields, and feeds the birds of the sky, who leads the lambs to pasture and the deer to water, who multiplies loaves and fishes and changed water into wine, lead us, feed us, and change us to reflect the glory of our Creator. Amen

Choral Response MV 214 May God's Sheltering Wings (*sung once*)

**May God's sheltering wings,
her gathering wings protect you.
May God's nurturing arms,
her cradling arms sustain you,
and hold you in her love, and hold you in her love.**

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

Lectionary Readings for Sunday, September 3 – Thirteenth after Pentecost

Exodus 3:1–15 Moses encounters the burning bush.

Psalms 105:1–6, 23–26, 45c (VU pp. 828–829 Parts One & Three) Remembering Jacob and Moses.

Romans 12:9–21 Let love be genuine; overcome evil with good.

Matthew 16:21–28 Take up the cross and follow me.

To Ponder

How do you do at listening to God and living the Way of Jesus rather than being distracted and disturbed by human news, actions, and demands?