

Westminster United Church



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

October 23, 2011
Peace Sunday

We welcome Dr. Bob Cruickshank as our Worship Leader this morning.

Stories, like God, have the power to by-pass our defences and touch us at our core. Stories are agents of the Divine, reminding us in some mysterious way that each one of us has a significant place in God's great unfolding story. This week, we will see how the life of Moses comes to an end, but then continues as sacred story into the next era of God's creativity.

If you would like to stay seated for any or all of the "standing" parts of the service, please feel free to do so.

Need a refuge? Our Nursery is located off Memorial Hall, has a speaker system through which to hear the service, and exists for all who may need this space. Memorial Hall approach is via the pulpit side exit.

Prelude

Sharing Announcements

A Time of Greeting

A Time of Silent Preparation—Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship *(Responsive)*

One: Each week, as we gather, we seek simply to open our hearts to that which is holy.

All: This day, we come into this place seeking to know that holiness, to feel it and come to understand it more fully.

One: Let us not fail in our quest for we are called to speak of the presence of the sacred, to tell of its beauty,

All: and to live the fullness of its grace in this desperate world.

One: And so we must find it, we must come to know it, we must feel it deeply enough to share,

All: that it may pour, full and rich, from our hearts, into a world so in need.

Opening Prayer *(Unison)*

We are safe. We are together. We are loved. May we feel the joy of feeling ourselves as part of this vast magnificence, of Holy, all-encompassing love. And so it will be. Amen.

Jr. Choir "*You Got To Move When The Spirit Says Move*"

Conversation Time

The Sunday School leaves for their classes.

Prayer for Transformation *(Unison)*

We walk through holy moments as through air, unaware of such presence. Each sacred moment opens before us, envelops us, and sets us free into the next. It is only with careful, concentrated effort that we can feel the air about us, peer into the depths that each moment holds. How we long to live in such depths, held, surrounded, embraced by awareness of the Divine! How we long to feel the mark of each moment's power on our hearts, our souls, our lives. May we, who live too quickly, sense the passage of time, the passage of holiness, and, in the living of our lives, feel the blessing of each moment...*(time for silent reflection)*

Words of Assurance *(One)*

As we quiet ourselves, we will feel the peace of each moment. Amen.

Biblical Notes / Prayer of Illumination

Deuteronomy 34:1-12 from the Hebrew Scriptures Pg. 206

*Other lessons for your personal consideration from today's lections are:
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17; Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-1; Psalm 1; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8.*

Hymn #593 "*Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*"

Matthew 22:34-46 from the Christian Scriptures Pg. 33

Reflection "*Outside the Promised Land*"

Hymn #600 "*When I Needed a Neighbour*"

Mission Momentô Derek Skogen

Our Church Tithes and Offerings / Offertory

Dedication Hymn #227 "*For the Fruit of All Creation*" (v. 2)

Prayer of Dedication *(One)*

May we look for a gentler humanity, a kinder world: with our money and with our hearts, with our minds and with every good intention...Let this be our prayer.

Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession & Lord's Prayer

Hymn #691 "Though Ancient Walls"

Commissioning (One)

As we leave here. May the light of the Holy lead us. May the power of the Holy hold us. May the joy of the Holy heal us. May the love of the Holy caress us.

Choral Amen

Hymn #298 "When You Walk from Here"

Postlude

Welcome to Westminster this morning. Please gather for coffee and turkey buns in Memorial Hall, following worship.

This Week at Westminster (October 23rd – 29th)

Sun.	Worship: Peace Sunday	10:25 a.m.	Sanctuary
	Jr. Choir Sings	10:25 a.m.	Sanctuary
Tue.	Staff Meeting	9:00 a.m.	Lounge
	Prayer Shawl	1:30 p.m.	Lounge
Wed.	Bible Study	9:30 a.m.	Nursery
	Qi Gong	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary
Thu.	Decoration Removal	10:00 a.m.	Sanctuary
Thu.	Senior Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary

Next Week at Westminster (October 30th – November 5th)

Sun.	Music & Worship	9:00 a.m.	Lounge
	Christian Development	9:30 a.m.	Nursery
	Worship	10:25 a.m.	Sanctuary
	Jr. Choir Practice	11:45 a.m.	Lounge
	Ministry & Personnel	11:45 a.m.	Side Office
Mon.	Property	7:00 p.m.	Westminster Rm
Tue.	Prayer Shawl	1:30 p.m.	Lounge
Wed.	Bible Study	9:30 a.m.	Nursery
	Qi Gong	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary
Thu.	UCW Meeting	1:30 p.m.	Lounge
	Senior Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary
Sat.	Daylight Savings Time ENDS		

Friendship Rosters: Please sign the Friendship Roster this morning. It is a helpful record of your worship presence and a way to share special concerns.

Thank You to all who participated in the **Fall Supper** in any way. *A special thank you to the Fall Supper Committee – for their many hours of overseeing the*

planning, prepping, and serving of the Fall Supper; and delivery of the leftover food to the Salvation Army Homeless Shelter.

The November/December 2011 issue of *The Upper Room* is now available on the ramp for \$2.00 each.

The **2012 Canadian Church Calendars** are available in the office for \$5 each.

Free trade coffee has been purchased from Lifeline Haiti for their efforts to make life easier for Haitian children. Anyone wishing to support this worthwhile cause, through a free-will offering, the coffee will be brewed separately to prevent waste. It is labelled, "In support of Lifeline Haiti."

Thank You to all who participate in the Life & Work of the Church – your contribution is to be celebrated – and **we continue to need your help!** If you are interested in:

- Greeting & Ushering
- Hosting Coffee
- Reading Scripture
- Counting the Offering after Worship
- Singing with the Junior or Senior Choirs
- Assisting with Hospital Visitation

Please volunteer your time on the sign-up sheets by Memorial Hall and remember to mark the date on your calendar!

PAR—Pre-Authorized Remittance:

Myth: The money given through your PAR goes to other places or to United Church head offices.

Fact: The donation comes out of your bank account about the 20th of every month and deposited into Westminster United Church's bank account the very same day. It is administered by the United Church at no cost. We pay a small bank fee.

Myth: Once you sign up for PAR, you are locked in and can't change the amount or even stop altogether.

Fact: PAR is very flexible. You may increase or decrease the amount by phone or note to Donna Scharf. Some people change the amount every year as the cost of living goes up. You may stop anytime with a written direction to that effect or there is a form at the church office.

Qi Gong instructed by Deanna Ries has begun on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary and will run for another 4 weeks.

Thanksgiving decoration removal in the Sanctuary will take place on Thursday, October 27th at 10:00 a.m.

Gordon Memorial United in Redcliff is holding their **Turkey Supper, Saturday, October 29th**. \$12-Adult; \$6-Child; 5 & under free. For tickets, please call 403-548-3517.

The next UCW monthly meeting will be Thursday, November 3rd at 1:30 p.m. in the Lounge.

Ten Thousand Villages Christmas Festival Sale, Saturday, November 5th, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at St. John’s Presbyterian Church, 504 6 2nd St. S.E. Start checking off your Christmas list early -- visit us for a unique shopping experience! *Fair Trade since 1946 www.TenThousand Villages.ca*

Gifts and Goodies Gala - at Fifth Avenue Memorial United on Saturday, November 5th, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. You are invited to an event for the whole family. Mini Trade Fair, crafts, bake sale, soup, pie, coffee and more. This fundraiser is sponsored by the United Church Women.

Estate Planning - ðlæn too youngö; ðlæn too oldö; ðl havenæt got enoughö; ðl donæt want to think about itö. The excuses are legion. The story is the same. If you pay taxes, then you need to think about your resources and how God calls you to use them. We are all gifted differently. Come and find out about how to start planning your estate, and how to make the most of your gifts! On **November 10th at 7:00 pm**, please join us at **Fifth Avenue Memorial United** as we meet with Kathryn Hofley, Regional Financial Development Officer, for an entertaining and enlightening time of fellowship and learning.

Celebrations This Week

Birthdays: *Bob Bildfell, Marlon Croissant, Joan Jantzie, and Gladys Leitch.*

Anniversaries: *Howard & Darlene Widmer.*

South Alberta Presbytery: *Our prayers this week are requested for all people living under the siege or threat of war.*

Our Order of Ministry This Morning

Sunday School Co-ordinator	Jackie Carlson
Greeters & Ushers	Grace lemon, Arleigh Marsh, Frieda Hiller, Bea Hirsch
Coffee Hosts	Board of Elders
Scripture Reader	Al Olson
Elder-in-Charge	Pat Connell

Next Week’s Readings: *Joshua 3:7-17; Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37 or Micah 3:5-12; Psalm 43; Matthew 23:1-12; 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13.*

Stewardship Thought for Today

“All we have” can be a little or a lot. There is always a way to reach out to our neighbour.”

by Kathie Murphy (General Council Office)

Report Summary of Board Meeting: A turkey bun luncheon will be held Sunday, October 23rd after the service, hosted by the Board of Elders. We now have plans for the elevator install and will look at proceeding to tender. No service will be held on December 25th, however, a place for worship will be provided for any congregants wishing to attend. The Board of Elders will start meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of each month to allow for time for month end work. The Board requests a further update from the Joint Search Committee at the next meeting, November 15th, to deal with this issue. *Submitted by Ron McEwen, Board Secretary*