

Westminster United Church



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

February 5, 2012 Annual General Meeting

Mark portrays Jesus' ministry as having two major thrusts: proclamation of the Word and reign of God, and healing. The word of God is not static. Those who hear and believe its message find themselves ministering to others. Paul reminds Christians of the need to assess the impact of their lifestyle on the message they speak. The additional scriptures describe the limitlessness of God's love and work in creation.

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.

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.

Prelude / Sharing Announcements / A Time of Greeting A Time of Silent Preparation—Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship (*Responsive*)

One: To worship, is to stand in awe under a heaven of stars, before a flower, a leaf in sunlight, or a grain of sand.

All: To worship, is to sing with the singing beauty of the earth. To pause, to be silent...and receptive.

Opening Prayer (*Unison*)

Spinner, weaver of our lives, your loom is love. May we who are gathered here be empowered by that love to weave new patterns of truth and justice into a web of life that is strong, beautiful, and everlasting. Amen.

Hymn #624 "Give to Us Laughter"

Conversation Time

The Sunday School leaves for their classes.

Prayer for Transformation (*Unison*)

When we experience fear, when we are downhearted and anxious, can it be that a friend, with the spirit of Jesus, will take us by the hand put us back on our feet? When the world we know comes apart, when the loss of a loved one, the loss of a cherished dream, comes home to us, can it be that a caregiver, with the spirit of Jesus, will take us by the hand and put us back on our feet? When our faith community lacks direction, when the call to active discipleship goes unheard, can it be that a saint of today, with the spirit of Jesus, will take us by the hand and put us back on our feet? When our faith is tested, when doubts overwhelm, when your purposes seem obscure and remote, can it be that a gentle teacher, with the spirit of Jesus, will take us by the hand, and put us back on our feet? (*time for silent reflection*)

Words of Assurance (*One*)

In receiving, we know the touch of Jesus; in giving, we offer the hand of Jesus. May peace be ours. Amen.

Biblical Notes / Prayer of Illumination

Isaiah 40:21-31 from the Hebrew Scriptures Pg. 701

*Other lessons for your personal consideration from today's lections are:
Psalm 147:1-11; 20c; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23.*

Anthem "On Eagles Wings"

Mark 1:29-39 from the Christian Scriptures Pg. 46 (NRSV)

Reflection

Hymn #293 "We Praise You Creator"

Mission Moment Janice Croissant

Our Church Tithes and Offerings / Offertory

Dedication Hymn #539 "God of All Good" (vs 1) (Tune #436)

Prayer of Dedication (*One*)

We are here that we might have life and have it more abundantly, so that we might share it with others. These gifts and our lives enable us to be a generous people. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession & Lord's Prayer

Hymn #535 "For the Music of Creation"

Commissioning (*One*)

The peace of this ancient earth to you...of the high blue heavens which embrace it, and the winds which blow freely over it, and the peace of the God of Peace to you.

Choral Amen

Hymn #MV156 "Dance With the Spirit"

Postlude

Welcome to Westminster this morning.

Please gather for coffee in Memorial Hall, following worship.

www.westminsteruc.com/calendar

This Week at Westminster (February 5th – 11th)

| | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| Sun. | Music & Worship | 9:00 a.m. | Lounge |
| | Local Food Needs | 10:00 a.m. | Narthex |
| | Worship | 10:25 a.m. | Sanctuary |
| | Potluck Luncheon | 11:30 a.m. | Memorial Hall |
| | Annual General Meeting | 11:45 p.m. | Memorial Hall |
| Mon. | Property | 7:00 p.m. | Westminster Rm |
| Tue. | Prayer Shawl | 1:30 p.m. | Lounge |
| Wed. | Bible Study | 9:30 a.m. | Nursery |
| Thu. | Senior Choir Practice | 7:00 p.m. | Sanctuary |

Next Week at Westminster (February 12th - 18th)

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|-------------|------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Sun. | Worshipô Dr. Bob Cruickshank | 10:25 a.m. | Sanctuary |
| | Jr. Choir Practice | 11:45 a.m. | Lounge |
| Tue. | Prayer Shawl | 1:30 p.m. | Lounge |
| Wed. | Bible Study | 9:30 a.m. | Nursery |
| | Mission & Outreach | 1:30 p.m. | Unisphere |
| Thu. | Senior Choir Practice | 7:00 p.m. | Sanctuary |

www.westminsteruc.com/bulletins

Observer Magazine: The cost is \$20. If you wish to subscribe to or renew your subscription, please submit to the office, the envelope included with your Offertory envelopes. PAR Subscribersô Observer envelopes are available in the Narthex or Office.

Charitable tax receipts will be available for pickup in Memorial Hall after worship today. Please stop and pick yours up.

There are still some **2012 Offering Envelopes** for pickup in the Narthex. Please destroy your old, unused 2011 envelopes.

The 2012 Lenten Study begins Wednesday, March 7th—this is a correction to the latest Events Calendar. Ever feel like Jesus has been kidnapped by the Christian Right and discarded by the Secular Left? "**Saving Jesus Redux**" is a total revision of "*Living the Question's*" popular 12-session DVD-based small group exploration of a credible Jesus for the third millennium. New contributors, including Brian McLaren, Diana Butler Bass, and Robin Meyers join Marcus Borg, Walter Brueggemann, John Dominic Crossan, Matthew Fox, Amy-Jill Levine, and a host of others, for a conversation around the relevance of Jesus for today. ("*We're having a culture war and Jesus happens to be one of the weapons tossed about by both sides.*" --Amy-Jill Levine) **We will be viewing the first 6 sessions of this 12-session program.** The basic format for each 1-1½ hour session includes

conversation around the readings, a 30-minute video segment, and guided discussion. Please email or call the office if you are interested in attending.

Fifth Avenue Memorial United will be hosting Shrove Pancake Tuesday, on February 21st at 6:00 p.m.

Celebrations This Week

Ministry was extended into the community this past week as James conducted the funeral service for Flora Gaub. Our condolences go out to her family.

Birthdays: Keara Glasser, Timora Hardiker, and Vern Prouty.

Anniversaries: Ralph & Lois Clarkson.

The Memory Candle is lit in honour and in memory of all those we hold dear. The Worship Committee has endorsed the lighting of the Memory Candle at the beginning of each Worship service by the Elder-in-Charge. If you would like a loved one named in the Bulletin, your instructions and gift of \$10 may be directed towards the office.

South Alberta Presbytery: *Our prayers this week are requested for Southminster Pastoral Charge and Deborah Lannon.*

Thank You to all who participate in the Life & Work of the Church—your contribution is to be celebratedô yet our Church continues to need your help. If you are interested in • Greeting & Ushering • Hosting Coffee • Reading Scripture, please **volunteer your time on the sign-up sheets** by Memorial Hall and remember to mark the date on your calendar!

Our Order of Ministry This Morning

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Sunday School Co-ordinator | Jackie Carlson |
| Greeters & Ushers | Wayne & Arlea Harper Everett & Clara White |
| Coffee Hosts | Charlene Andreas, Sharon Clay, Yvonne Hole, Patty McFarlane |
| Scripture Reader | Arlea Harper |
| Elder-in-Charge | Jenn Oster |

Next Week's Readings: 2 Kings 5:1-14; Psalm 30; Mark 1:40-45; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27.

Stewardship Thought for Today

*Great are the works of the Lord.
As stewards of God's creation,
we delight in them.*

by the Rev. Sheila Campbell