



Westminster United Church
Worship Service for February 24th, 2019
Today's Worship Leader is Marg McCulley

CALL TO WORSHIP: **Luke 6**

One: Come and learn the ways of life.

All: We have come to follow Jesus.

One: Love your enemies, and do good to those who hate you.

All: We have come to follow Jesus.

One: Bless those who curse you, and pray for those who persecute you.

All: We have come to follow Jesus.

One: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

All: We have come to follow Jesus.

One: Come and learn the ways of life.

†PROCESSION OF CHRIST CANDLE: **"When the Wind of Winter Blows" (MV 71 vs. 1&3)**

OPENING PRAYER: **Luke 6**

All: Inexhaustible source of love and life, be with us in our time of worship as we seek the love it takes to walk in the ways of your Son. Help us love our enemies and bless those who wrong us, for we cannot do so alone. Teach us the joy of treating others with all the same respect and goodness with which we hope to be treated. May our every word and deed make known that we are your beloved children and vessels of your love. Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE: **Luke 6**

One: Let us be known as children of the Most High by sharing our love with all as we pass the peace of Christ.

†OPENING HYMN : **" We Have This Ministry" (VU 510)**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: ***Ps 37, Luke 6***

One: Teacher of hard truths, it is difficult to let go of our anger toward those who prosper through deceit and unscrupulous ways; it is not easy to make ourselves believe that the meek will inherit the earth, when they are being crushed by the unjust systems stacked against them. We long to see the vindication of the righteous and the prosperity of those who work selflessly to bring your realm here on earth. We yearn for the day when all people will treat one another as they wish to be treated. Help us live into that day, Holy One, even when it is difficult, that your love might shine like the sun through our lives and our ministries. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE ***Luke 6***

One: When we treat others as we would have them treat us, Jesus calls us beloved children of the Most High. If God is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked, how much more will God be kind to those who love the Lord and seek to live the Golden Rule? Rest in this assurance and be at peace.

INVITATION TO PRAYER: **"O, Great Spirit" (VU 239 2X)**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

HYMN: **"The Lord's Prayer" (VU 959)**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: ***Ps 1***

One: Let us delight in the law of the Lord, and meditate on God's teachings, day and night.

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

ANTHEM: **"A Welcome Place"**

SCRIPTURE: Luke 6: 27-38

LIFE AND WORK:

INVITATION TO OFFERING: ***Luke 6:38 NRSV***

One: Jesus said, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure...running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

OFFERTORY

†DOXOLOGY: **"Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands" (VU 537 vs 2)**

†OFFERING PRAYER: : **Gen 45, Luke 6**

Source of every blessing, as you sent Joseph into Egypt to save the world from famine, you sent Jesus into our lives to save us from selfishness and greed. For teaching us to treat others as we would have them treat us, we give you our thanks and praise. Bless these gifts, that we have received from your bounty, and send them forth to those in need. Whether they be friend or foe. For all are your beloved children and our sisters and brothers. Amen.

A NEW CREED: **Spoken (VU 918)**

†CLOSING HYMN: **"Blest Be the Tie That Binds" (VU 602)**

†COMMISSIONING/BENEDICTION: **Luke 6**

One: Go with God's blessings.

All: As followers of Jesus, we will love our enemies and do good to those who hate us.

One: Go with God's blessings.

All: As followers of Jesus, we will bless those who curse us and pray for those who persecute us.

One: Go with God's blessings.

All: As followers of Jesus, we will do unto others as we would have them do unto us.

One: Go with God's blessings. Go in peace.

†CHORAL **"Amen": (VU 974)**

†SENDING FORTH HYMN: **"Let Us, O God, Depart In Peace" (VU 961)**

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING IN SANCTUARY

Potluck to Follow Meeting

All prayers were derived from Ministry Matters

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.

The Nominations Committee of Wilton Thorsteinson, Linda Kisell and BJ Maddaford are seeking nominations for the Board of Elders and Board Committees. Please speak to any committee members for more information. Please consider volunteering for the Board of Elders or any of the Board Committees.

Nomination forms are available in Memorial Hall.

Update from the Joint Search Committee:

The Joint Search Committee has been tasked to search for the appropriate ministerial candidate, in line with the approved Joint Needs Assessment Report which was approved by the congregation, board and presbytery. We are following the policy and best practices as laid out in Pastoral Relations: Community of Faith (January 2019).

The committee had it's second meeting on Friday February 8th. Our next item is to post our church profile, position summary, and Joint Needs Assessment Report on ChurchHub, which is a web link with United Church of Canada. Once that is completed, then potential ministerial applicants will be able to view our profile and position summary and be able to apply. We hope to have everything posted on ChurchHub at around the time of our church AGM (February 24th). Tentatively the closing date for applications should be around April 12th.

After that we would conduct initial then secondary interviews; then select the candidate and then have a congregational meeting. With all that we are hoping to have a tentative start date for the new Minister as of July 1, which is the start of the pastoral year.

Members of the Joint Search Committee include:

Regional Liaisons:

Reverend Esther Crews

Carole Edmonds

Congregational Representatives:

Cameron Lockerbie (Chair)

Lynnette Burry (Secretary)

Corlaine Gardner

Jennifer Oster

The U.C.W. will be holding a chili lunch after church next Sunday, March 3rd. Thank you to those who so generously supported the hamburger soup Sunday in January."

The 2018 Donation Receipts are ready and can be picked up on Sundays or at the church office. Donna Scharf Treasurer

World Day of Prayer is March 1 at 7:00 pm and will be held at the Holy Family Catholic Church

Lenten Mid-Week Services will begin March 6th on Ash Wednesday until April 10th. All services begin at 7 p.m at the Following Host Congregations:

March 6 (Ash Wednesday)	St. Barnabas Anglican 635 4th Street S.E.	Rev. Dave Pollard
March 13	St. Peter Lutheran 758 8th Street S.E.	Rev. Jeff Lackie
March 20	Fifth Avenue Memorial 476 4th Street S.E.	Rev. Shane Hein
March 27	St. John's Presbyterian 504 2nd Street S.E.	Rev. Jeff Decelle
April 3	Westminster United 101 6th Street S.E.	Rev. Oz Lorentzen
April 10	Unity Lutheran 599 12th Street N.W.	Rev. Kristy Reimers- Loader

Living the Questions 2.0 Progressive Faith Study has resumed at Fifth Avenue United. Please join us for any or all sessions!

Wednesday Feb. 27, and Tuesday March 5, 12, 19, and 26, from 7:00 to 8:30 in the Memorial-Salem Room (library/lounge).

Each weekly 20-minute DVD features several of 30 interesting and diverse religion leaders on a specific theme, followed by discussion.

Drinks and snacks are also available. Sample topics are "Evil, Suffering & A God of Love" (Feb 27) and "Honoring Creation" (March 26),

Changes to Food Bank Sunday: you will have the opportunity to donate cash to the local Food Bank as an alternative to bringing in food donations. A separate envelope will be passed around during the offering and if you wish you may add any amount and it will be forwarded to the Food Bank on your behalf.

"The Hat Grannies for Africa" are having their annual yarn and fabric sale on Saturday, March 9th at St. John's Presbyterian Church between 9:00 a.m and 2:00 pm Admission is \$1.00. If you are interested in volunteering or want more information, please call Kathy @ (403) 928-2135 or Sheila @ (403) 580 - 7715

January and February editions of "The Upper Room" are available on the ramp.

Please DO NOT use the 2018 offering envelopes. Some numbers had to be changed, so you may have a new number. You can still sign up for PAR (Pre Authorized Remittance) or ask for envelopes. With both these methods, you receive a Charitable Donation Receipt. Thanks. Contact Donna Scharf by e-mail rdscharf@shaw.ca or phone 403-526-1555.

Donations at Coffee Time for February are allocated to the UCW.

Please join us in Memorial Hall after the Annual Congregational Meeting for Potluck and Fellowship!

Assisting with the Service This Morning

Elder-in-Charge:

Scripture Reader:

Greeters:

Coffee Hosts

Sound

PowerPoint Operator

Wheelchair Lift Operator

Margaret Laing

Jody Davison

Linda Kisell & Marg McCulley

Pat Evans

Kathy Nielsen

Pat Evans