



Westminster United Church
Worship Service for May 5th, 2019
Today's Worship Leader is Sheila McLeod
Easter 3

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

CALL TO WORSHIP: From Psalm 30

One: Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones,
and give thanks to his holy name.

**All: You have turned my mourning into dancing;
you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,**

One: so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.

All: O Lord my God I will give thanks to you forever.

One: Let us praise and worship God!

†PROCESSION OF CHRIST CANDLE: **"Christ Within Us is Hidden" (MV 162 vs 1&3)**

OPENING PRAYER:

One: God of power, God of people, you are the life of all that lives,
energy that fills the earth, vitality that brings to birth,
impetus in making whole whatever is bruised or broken.

All: In you we grow to know the truth that sets all creation free.

**You are the song the whole earth sings, the promise liberation brings,
now and forever. Amen.**

CELEBRATIONS:

SHARING THE PEACE

†OPENING HYMN: **"Joyful, Joyful We Adore You" (VU 232)**

INTRODUCTION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

All: Gracious God, we acknowledge and confess in your presence the fearfulness of our hearts, the smallness of our love, the narrowness of our concern, the denial of our true humanity.

Through our careless hands have slipped opportunities not taken, people not cared for, days not celebrated. We are ashamed and sorry for the ways of our unfaithfulness, and ask for reassurance and forgiveness.

(Time for Silent Confession and Reflection)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, **have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, **have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, **grant us peace.**
Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

One: God the Creator brings us new life, forgives and redeems us. Let us take hold of this forgiveness and live our lives in the spirit of Jesus. **Amen.**

INVITATION TO PRAYER: **"Seek Ye First the Kingdom" (VU 356 vs 1&2)**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

"The Lord's Prayer" (VU 959 Sung)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

All: God, the words you speak have power: power to create, power to disturb, power to heal. Help us to hear your Word for us today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Acts 9:1-20

One: This is the witness of the Church

All: Thanks be to God

Psalms 30 - VU- 757 with Refrain

One: This is the witness of the ancient song - writers

All: Thanks be to God

Rev. 5:11-14

One: This is the witness of the Church.

All: Thanks be to God.

John 21:1-19

One: This is the Good News of Jesus Christ

All: Praise to Christ, the Living Word

SERMON: **"What Are We Here For?"**

†HYMN: **"Sing Praise to God, Who Has Shaped" (VU 221)**

MINUTES FOR MISSION: **"My Heart upon My Sleeve"**

LIFE AND WORK

INTRODUCTION TO THE OFFERING:

One: As we come to present our offerings at this table, we remember God's generous hospitality. Our calling is to feed those dismissed from the world's tables, that they may not longer feel hungry or alone. The offering will be received.

OFFERTORY:

†DOXOLOGY: **"Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands" (VU 537 vs 1)**

†DEDICATION:

All: Our heavenly Father and Mother, by your generosity we have received all we are and all we have. Grant that we may so use the things you have entrusted to our care, that we may become more and more your children in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A NEW CREED: **Spoken**

†CLOSING HYMN: **"Christ the Lord is Risen Today" (VU 157)**

CLOSING PRAYER

All: Hear our prayers, God of grace. Help us to fulfill them, working according to your purpose, in peace, justice, and mercy, in all we do; through Jesus Christ to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all power and glory. Now and forever. Amen.

†SENDING FORTH: **"We Shall go Out with Hope of Resurrection" (VU 586 verse 1)**

†COMMISSIONING/BENEDICTION:

One: Let us go out into the world in the power of the Holy Spirit to fulfill our high calling as disciples of Jesus Christ.

And may the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

†CHORAL AMEN

Postlude

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.

"SING INTO SPRING" with the Tartones Men's chorus concert Sunday, May 5th 2:00pm @ St. John's Presbyterian Church. A diverse program with Guest Soloist Edmond Camphor & Directed by Judith Dickie & Accompanist, Allison Kapcala. Free Will Offering.

The U.C.W will be holding a "bakeless" bake sale fundraiser every Sunday at W.U.C throughout the month of May:

*A bit of news we have today--
A bakeless bake sale is on the way.
On these busy days, now who would bake
Pies, cookies, or even cakes?*

*You'd be surprised if you counted the cost
Of materials, heat, and the time you've lost.
Cookies for a sale is extra work
Yet nobody really wishes to shirk.*

*So we've thought of a plan that is grand
And we feel quite certain that you will understand.
In a little envelope please put the price
Of a pie or cake or something nice.*

*Without fuss or bother, you've done your part.
We're sure you'll give with a willing heart.
This is the end of our little tale--
Thank you for helping our Bakeless Bake Sale!!*

Cheques made payable to Westminster U.C.W.--not to the church.)

FAM presents the 10th Looney Tunes Talent Show Sunday, May 5th

5:00pm – Hotdog supper (2\$/hotdog

6:45 – Potluck, dessert and Conversation

7:15 – Program

Admission is \$1:00

All proceeds to United Church Summer Camps

Tending the Garden of your Heart Spring Rains 2019

May 10—7-9pm

May 11—9-3:30

St. Barnabas Anglican Church

635 4th St SE - Medicine Hat

Registration - \$25 - includes lunch

* Featuring teaching from the Ignatian Spiritual Tradition by Charles Pottie-Pâté SJ

To register, or for more information, please contact:

Lynne 403-526-7713 email: office@stbhm.ca

May/June editions of "The Upper Room" are available on the ramp.

Donations at Coffee Time for May are allocated to the UCW

Please join us in Memorial Hall for refreshments and fellowship!

Assisting with the Service This Morning

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| <i>Elder-in-Charge:</i> | Maureen Oster |
| <i>Greeters:</i> | Pat & Stan Bohnet |
| <i>Scripture Reader:</i> | Marg McCulley |
| <i>Minutes for Mission:</i> | Jody Davidson |
| <i>Coffee Hosts:</i> | Dale & Lenora Stein |
| <i>Sound :</i> | Hayley McKim |
| <i>PowerPoint Operator:</i> | Kathy Nielsen |
| <i>Wheelchair Lift Operator:</i> | Linda Kisell |

(Resources for this Service adapted from: *Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada*. Publisher: United Church Publishing House. The year 2000. Pages: 193, 30, 39, 41, 53, 54, 45, 47, 50, 69, 70, & 73.)