



West River United Church

'... seeking, sharing, celebrating abundant life in Christ'



Rev. Barbara J. Cairns

Andrea Rogers Family & Youth Coordinator

Lay Reader: Cheryl Jewell

and all members of West River United Church

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 31, 2021

PRE- SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME*

ONE: Our acts of love and peace have the power to transform lives. In the powerful love of Christ, let us share signs of peace to transform this church and this world. *(Please share the peace of Christ with a friendly wave)*

♪ This Is the Day – MV 122

**This is the day that God has made
we will rejoice and be glad (X2)
Singing hallelu, singing hallelu, singing hallelu!
We will rejoice and be glad! (X2)**

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE (IN UNISON)

ALL: The light of Christ shows us a brighter path to walk. So, let us live in the brightness God has given. *(The Christ candle is lit.)*

♪ Christ Be Our Light

**Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.**

CALL TO WORSHIP** *please stand as you are able*

ALL: We come to worship this day and we bring with us all our joys and sorrows. We know that Jesus will offer hope. We come to worship this day believing in the power of God. We know that Jesus will bring us healing. We come to worship this day feeling the presence of God. We know that Jesus will teach us new ways to live. Amen.

♪ **All Who Are Thirsty – MV 4**

**All who are thirsty,
all who are weak,
come to the fountain.
Dip your heart in the stream of life.
Let the pain and the sorrow
be washed away
in the waves of God's mercy
as deep cries out to deep.
We sing Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

PRAYER OF APPROACH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER *** *(in unison)*

ALL: Dear God, open our ears, to hear what you are saying to us today. Open our eyes, to see where Jesus' healing love is needed in our world. Open our hands to do your work and help where it is needed. Open our lips, to bring comfort, joy and laughter to your people. Open our minds, to understand more fully how you work in our world. Open our hearts, to love you, our neighbours, and ourselves, as you have love us. Amen.

Together we pray the words that Christ taught us saying:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed by 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,
the power, and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING*

ONE: As actions of grace and love, let us offer our gifts and lives to God.

♪ **Lord Prepare Me – MV 18** *please stand as you are able*

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy tried and true –
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living
sanctuary for you. (repeat)**

OFFERTORY PRAYER (*in unison*)

**ALL: Lord Jesus, we bring our gifts to you, asking that you bless them so that
they may accomplish more than we can ask or imagine in your name.
Bless us, too, so that our lives speak of our choice to follow you, and our
ministries offer the healing and hope you have offered us. Amen.**

MINUTES FOR MISSION

TIME FOR ALL AGES

♪ **Draw the Circle Wide – MV 145**

**Draw the circle wide.
Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song,
no one stands alone,
standing side by side,
draw the circle wide.**

**God the still-point of the circle,
'round whom all creation turns;**

**nothing lost, but held forever,
in God's gracious arms. (R)**

**Let our hearts touch far horizons,
so encompass great and small;
let our loving know no borders,
faithful to God's call. (R)**

**Let the dreams we dream be larger,
than we've ever dreamed before;
let the dream of Christ be in us,
open every door. (R)**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *** (*in unison*)

**ALL: We know who you are, O Christ; you are the one who silences quarrels
that cause division, and you are the one who creates new life out of utter
chaos. We know who you are, O Christ. Forgive us, we pray, when we
act otherwise. In your name we pray. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE *

**ONE: In Christ, we become new creations. Let us receive the assurance of new
life that Christ offers. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

PSALM 62:5-12 (*New Revised Standard*)

For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from God. God alone is
my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken. On God rests my
deliverance and my honour; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

Trust in God at all times, O people; pour out your heart before God; God is a
refuge for us.

Those of low estate are but a breath; those of high estate are a delusion; in the
balances they go up; they are together lighter than a breath. Put no confidence
in extortion, and set no vain hopes on robbery; if riches increase, do not set your
heart on them.

Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God, and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord. For you repay to all according to their work.

MARK 1:21-28 *(New Revised Standard)*

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching – with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

HYMN MV 138 'My Love Colours Outside the Lines'

**My love colours outside the lines,
Exploring paths that few could ever find;
and takes me into places where I've never been before,
and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.**

**My Lord colours outside the lines,
turns wounds to blessings, water into wine;
and takes me into places
where I've never been before
and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.**

**We'll never walk on water
if we're not prepared to drown,
Body and soul need a soaking
from time to time.
And we'll never move the gravestones
if we're not prepared to die, and realize there are worlds outside the lines.**

**My soul longs to colour outside the lines, tear back the curtains,
sun, come in and shine;
I want to walk beyond the boundaries where I've never been before,
throw open doors to worlds outside the lines.**

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SERMON – Rev. Barbara J. Cairns

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN VU 213 'Rejoice the Lord is King'

**Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your risen Lord adore!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing,
And triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

**Jesus, the Savior, reigns,
The God of truth and love;
When He has purged our sins,
He took his seat above;
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

**God's kingdom cannot fail,
Christ rules o'er earth and heaven;
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus given:
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

**Rejoice in glorious hope!
For Christ, the judge, shall come
to glorify the saints
for their eternal home.
We soon shall hear the archangel's voice
the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!**

BENEDICTION ****

**ONE: Go now to love as beloved children of God.
Go now to live as living signs of Christ's presence.
Go now to transform the world with the power of the Holy Spirit.**

♪ Go Now In Peace

**Go now in peace.
Never be afraid.
God will go with you
each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith,
steadfast, strong and true.
Know God will guide you
in all you do.
Go now in love,
and show you believe.
Reach out to others
so all the world can see.
God will be there
watching from above.
Go now in peace,**

**in faith, and in love.
Amen. Amen. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

**Abingdon Worship Annual, 2021.*

***Presbyterian Church of Canada, 2021.*

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