



West River United Church

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



Rev. Barbara J. Cairns
and all members of West River United Church
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
February 24, 2019

PRE- SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME*

ONE: Let us greet one another with signs of peace.

The peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

(Please share the peace of Christ with each other)

♪ 'Yahweh Be Praised' MV 51 *(projected)*

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' *(projected)*

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

ONE: For years and years and years our hearts have built a community of faith.

ALL: For years and years and years we come to be inspired with the Spirit's enthusiasm, with the Son's passion and with insight born out of God's grace.

ONE: As generations have done for years and years and years,

ALL: let us worship God.

♪ 'Holy, Holy, Holy' – VU 315 vs 1 & 2 *(projected)*

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

ALL: Faithful God, you welcome and enfold us in your love.

Help us let go of all that might block us from truly hearing your *(...lover)*

word. As we come to this time of worship some of us might be weary or thinking about many other things. Clear our minds. Open our hearts. Send your Spirit to stir in us the good news of your love. Take our weariness and replace it with energy to do your will. In Christ's name we pray. Amen. Together we pray the words that Jesus taught us saying,

**ALL: 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.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING***

ONE: God has blessed us with lives that bear much fruit. Let us share the blessings we have received from God with those in need as we collect today's offering.

PRESENTATION OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

♪ **'I Saw the Rich Ones' – MV 127 vs 1 and chorus** (*projected*)

OFFERTORY PRAYER** (*in unison*)

ALL: God of Life, day by day, you offer us blessings. May our hearts be glad as we learn how to share what we have received. May these gifts show how much we love you. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

♪ **'And On This Path' – MV 8** (*projected*)

MINUTE FOR MISSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*in unison*)

ALL: God, help us to feel your presence as we now hear your word. When our hearts are hardened, help us to change our minds as we listen this day. Change our hearts, if that's what we need. Keep us open to learn your way and ready to respond to your word. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

ONE: God hears us. God knows us. God loves us – unconditionally, and always.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

1 CORINTHIANS 15:35-40 (*New Revised Standard Version*)

³⁵ But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies.

³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. ³⁹ Not all flesh is alike, but there is one flesh for human beings, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. ⁴⁰ There are both heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is one thing, and that of the earthly is another.

Luke 6: 27-38 (*New Revised Standard Version*)

²⁷ "But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you. ³² "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷ "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, (.../over)

running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

MUSIC MINISTRY

SERMON – Rev. Barbara J. Cairns

HYMN VU 602 'Blest Be the Tie That Binds' (projected)

♪ **'Put Peace Into Each Other's Hands' – MV 173 vs 1&2 (projected)**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN VU 651 'Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah' (projected)

BENEDICTION*

ONE: Go with God's blessings.

ALL: We will walk the second mile, O God.

ONE: Go with God's blessings.

ALL: We will be patient with those who hurt us.

ONE: Go with God's blessings.

ALL: We will listen carefully, love generously, in the name of Jesus.

ONE: Go with God's blessings.

♪ **'Halle, Halle, Halle' – VU 958 (projected)**

**Gathering Resources, pg 56-7, Year C, A/C/E/ 2019, **Whole People of God, 2019.*