

West River United Church

Rev. Barbara J. Cairns

and all members of West River United Church

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 21st, 2018

PRE- SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME

ONE: Warmed by the light of Christ, let us greet one another with signs of peace.

(Please share the peace of Christ with each other.)

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

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE * *(in unison)*

ALL: **The light God shines forth in Jesus Christ changes everything.**

In Jesus Christ, God's kingdom is coming. . . and is already here. This is good news indeed. Christ is our light! Amen.

(Light the Christ candle.)

♪ **'Christ Be Our Light'** *(projected)*

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

ONE: Jesus says, "Now is the time!"

ALL: **Startle us, God, from our busyness and routines. Show us how very close your Kingdom is.**

ONE: Jesus says, "God's kingdom is at hand!"

ALL: **Deliver us, God, from faith in our own strength. Free us from the traps of violence, dishonesty, and greed.**

ONE: Jesus says, "Receive the good news from God!"

ALL: **Embolden us, God, to trust you anew. For we are as fragile as breath, and draw our strength from your mercy and compassion.**

♪ **'All Who Are Thirsty' – MV4** *(projected)*

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

ALL: Jesus Christ, our Saviour, alive at large in the world; help us to follow and find you today in the places where we work and meet people, spend leisure time and make plans. Teach us to see through your eyes, and to hear the questions you ask, by the power of the Cross, and in the freedom of your Spirit, we pray. Amen. Together we pray the words that Jesus 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.**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

PRESENTATION OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD* (*in unison*)

ALL: Jesus comes to us this very day, in this very place, and asks us to join him in doing God's work. May the gifts we give build up God's kingdom of loving-kindness; may the offerings we present bring peace to our world.

♪ 'Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow' – VU 541(*projected*)

OFFERTORY PRAYER ** (*in unison*)

ALL: God, may these gifts and our very lives be a YES! To follow Christ's call. Use us and the offerings we bring this day, so that your peace, your strength, and your loving kindness may be made more visible in the world. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME – Larry Hale

♪ 'Called by Earth and Sky' – MV 135 (*projected*)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION * (*in unison*)

ALL: God, you are the one who calls us to be ministers of your gospel. We lay our fishing nets, gifts, talents, professions, and even our shortcomings at your feet as an act of worship. We want to follow you, but we confess that too often we speak when we should listen. Too often we sit by when you call us to act, and far too often we weigh the cost of discipleship and choose the easy way. Shape us and make us into the disciples you are calling us to be. In Jesus name Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE * (*in unison*)

ALL: Trusting God with everything, we rest in God's faithful love. Allowing Christ to change our hearts and our lives, we find God's strength and hope. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

MARK 1:14-20 (*New Revised Standard Version*)

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." ¹⁶ As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." ¹⁸ And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰ Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

SERMON – Rev. Barbara J. Cairns - A dramatic monologue, Peter's wife

HYMN VU 563 'Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore' (*projected*)

♪ 'Take, O Take Me as I Am' – MV 85 (*projected*)

PASTORAL PRAYER – Larry Hale

HYMN VU 649 'Walk with Me' (*projected*)

BENEDICTION**

ONE: May the God who called Simon, Andrew, James, and John call your name today. May you hear God's calling through the whisper of a gentle breeze or as clear as your name as the cheer of a crowd. As you seek to follow Jesus, may you be blessed.

♪ **'Go Now in Peace'** (*projected*)

* *The Abingdon Worship Annual, 2018*