**Westworth United Church**

1750 Grosvenor Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba

on Treaty One Territory in the heart of the Métis Nation

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 18, 2022

**We Gather to Worship**

**Welcome**

**Candle Lighting:** “Nimrod” from *Enigma Variations* *Edward Elgar*

**Treaty Acknowledgement**

**Children’s Time**

**Hymn:** VU 686 “God Grace and God of Glory” vs 1,3,4 RHUDDLAN

**Prayer of Confession:**

**God of grace,**

**Grant us pause when reactive energy rises within.**

**When those in authority seed fear and anger with distortion,**

**Give us wisdom and courage to respond responsibly with compassion.**

**Help us resist the lure of dehumanizing the other.**

**Nudge us to pray for them as we pray for our own,**

**That all may receive your transformative love.**

**Silent Meditation**

**Words of Assurance**

**Passing the Peace:**

 May the peace of Christ be with you.

 **And also with you.**

 “I Vow to Thee, My Country” *Gustav Holst*

**We Hear the Word**

**Scripture Readings:** VU 835 “Psalm 113: Praise to the Lord”

I Timothy 2:1-7

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

 **Thanks be to God.**

Sung Response: VU 956 “Your Word is a Lamp”

**Anthem:**  “Prayer of Being” *Mark Hayes*

**Sermon**: “Stone Catchers and Bridge Builders”

**We Respond**

**Hymn** VU 691 “Though Ancient Walls” vs 1,2,3 KARR

**Offertory Prayer**

**Ministry of the People**

**Prayers of the People**

Prayer Introit: MV 175 “May We but Wait”

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn** VU 678 “For the Healing of the Nations” WESTMINSTER ABBEY

**Benediction**

**Sung Response**: “Hallelujah” ST. GEORGE’S

**Postlude:** “Westminster Abbey” *Charles Callahan*

Reader: Bettina N QR Code for Westworth donations

Director of Music: Bill Q

Organist: Dorcas W

Minister: Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd

Coordinator of Children, Youth and Family Ministries: Katie A

**Scripture Response**

At Westworth, we use three different types of responses to the scripture readings, to which we respond “Thanks be to God.”:

“This is the Gospel of Christ” is used after a reading from one of the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke or John.

“Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church” is usually used after a reading from the New Testament, other than the gospels.

“This is testimony to the Word of God” can be used after any reading.

The traditional response is “This is the word of God.” However, we do not believe that the Bible consists of God’s literal, infallible words. Rather, it is a record of people of faith who describe their faith experiences, based on the wisdom of their ancestors and the guidance of the Spirit. As Christians, we believe that their words are a testimony to God through Jesus the Christ.

The Gospel of John 1:1 reads, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” The Word (notice that it is capitalized) in this passage refers to Jesus the Christ.

When we say “this is testimony to the Word,” we acknowledge that scripture is inspired human story that testifies to Jesus the Christ.