**Westworth United Church**

1750 Grosvenor Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba

on Treaty One Territory in the heart of the Métis Nation

November 20, 2022

Reign of Christ Sunday

**We Gather to Worship**

**Welcome**

**Introit**: “Jesu, Our Blessed Hope of Heaven”  *Gordon Young*

**Candle Lighting: “**Jesus, Priceless Treasure” *Johann Crüger*

 *arr. Penny Rodriguez*

**Treaty Acknowledgement**

**Children’s Time**

**Hymn:** VU 210 “You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd” PARADOX

**Prayer of Confession:**

**Higher Power,**

**Grant me the Serenity to accept the people I cannot change,**

**Courage to change the one I can**

**And Wisdom to know that one is me.**

**Grant me Patience for the things that take time**

**Appreciation for all that I have**

**Tolerance for those with different struggles**

**And the Strength to get up and try again, one day at a time.**

**Silent Meditation**

**Words of Assurance**

**Passing the Peace:** “He Leadeth Me/Lead On, O King Eternal”

 *arr. Penny Rodriguez* May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**We Hear the Word**

**Responsive Reading** VU 900 “Luke 1:68-79—Song of Zechariah”

**Scripture Reading:**

Jeremiah 23:1-6

 This is testimony to the Word of God.

 **Thanks be to God.**

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

**Anthem: “**Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies**”** *Ronald Gibson*

**Sermon:** “Peace Begins Within”

**A Prayer for Reign of Christ:** VU 214

**We Respond to the Word**

**Hymn:**  MV 171 “Christ Has No Body Now But Yours”

 *St Teresa of Avila /Rick Gunn*

**New Members**

Congregational Commitment:

**As your siblings in Christ,**

**we rejoice in the gifts you bring to us.**

**We pledge to you our support.**

**With God’s help, we will together live out**

**the mission and ministry of Christ’s church.**

**Corporate Profession of Faith:** VU 918 “A New Creed”

**Offertory Prayer**

**Ministry of the People**

**Prayers of the People**

**Hymn:** VU 536 “Born in Song” vs. 1,3,4,6 CHATSWORTH

**Benediction**

**Sung Response:** VU 424 “May the God of Hope” ARGENTINA

**Postlude:** “Rejoice the Lord is King” *Healy Willan*

Reader: Teresa Sztaba QR Code for Westworth donations

Camera & Production: Steve McClelland & Kevin Sim

Interim Director of Music: Ruth Wiwchar

Organist: Dorcas Windsor

Recorder: Jewel Casselman

Minister: Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd

**Minute for Mission**

**Children’s Sunday**

On November 20, countries around the world celebrate **Universal Children’s Day (**also called **World Children’s Day).** The date marks the anniversary of the UN General Assembly adopting both the declaration and the convention on children’s rights. On the same day, Restorative Justice Week kicks off.

It’s a perfect time to raise up the needs of children with incarcerated parents―the all-too-often forgotten, invisible, or ignored victims of the criminal justice system.

No one knows how many children in Canada are affected by the incarceration of a parent. Back in 2007, the guestimate was 357,604.\* But advocates think that with the increase in the prison population, the number is much higher.

While every situation is unique, many children with incarcerated parents face trauma, family instability, social isolation, and economic insecurity. On the inside, parents struggle to stay connected to their kids, let go of shame, and deepen parenting skills so they can successfully unite their family when released.

That’s why Parkland Restorative Justice―a Mission & Service partner based in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan―runs an eight-week parenting course for male inmates called Dad HERO, (an acronym for “Helping Everyone Realize Opportunities”). Developed in partnership with the Canadian Families and Corrections Network (CFCN), the course designed to educate dads about parenting, how to communicate with their child, and how to work with a co-parent. Afterward, the dads meet regularly in a group that continues to provide support after their release.

No one is disposable, and no child should feel forgotten. Thank you for helping to build stronger families and for believing everyone can be a hero.

**Transgender Day of Remembrance**

The **Transgender Day of Remembrance**, November 20, was set aside to recognize those who have been killed due to ignorance and hatred, targeted because they were [trans or gender non-conforming](https://united-church.ca/node/18547). The first event took place in 1999 in San Francisco to honour Rita Hester, brutally murdered the previous year.

Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) started in 1999 by transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann Smith as a vigil to honor the memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman killed in 1998. The vigil commemorated all the transgender people lost to violence since Rita Hester's death, and began an important tradition that has become the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance. Transgender Day of Remembrance seeks to highlight the losses we face due to anti-transgender bigotry and violence. I am no stranger to the need to fight for our rights, and the right to simply exist is first and foremost. With so many seeking to erase transgender people -- sometimes in the most brutal ways possible -- it is vitally important that those we lose are remembered, and that we continue to fight for justice."
- Transgender Day of Remembrance founder [Gwendolyn Ann Smith](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/gwendolyn-ann-smith/transgender-day-of-remembrance-why-we-remember_b_2166234.html)