**Westworth United Church**

1750 Grosvenor Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba

on Treaty One Territory in the heart of the Métis Nation

January 15, 2023

2nd Sunday of Epiphany

**We Gather to Worship**

**Welcome**

**Introit:** “You Are the Light” *Tom Fettke*

**Candle Lighting**

"Holy, Holy, Holy" *arr. Charles Callahan*

**Treaty Acknowledgement**

**Children’s Time**

**Hymn:** VU 96 “Will You Come and See the Light” KELVINGROVE

**Prayer of Confession**

Christ of compassion,

Forgive us when we try to do more than we ought.

Forgive us when we can’t let go of our agendas.

Forgive us when we try so hard to love

but find ourselves tripping over our egos.

Release our compulsions into your grace.

Help us find rest for our souls

That we may simply allow you to love through us.

**Silent Meditation**

**Words of Assurance**

**Passing the Peace of Christ**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

 **And also with you.**

“The Light of the World is Jesus” *arr. Mark Hayes*

**We Hear the Word**

**Scripture Readings:**

Responsive Reading VU 764 “Psalm 40”

John 1:29-42

This is the Gospel of Christ.

 **Thanks be to God.**

**Sung Response:** VU 895 “Gloria” *Pablo Sosa*

**Anthem:** “Ye Followers of the Lamb” *arr. Earle Ferguson*

**Sermon: “**Don’t Be a Messiah**”**

**We Respond to the Word**

**Hymn:** MV 171“Christ Has No Body Now but Yours”W*arner/Gunn*

**Offertory Prayer**

**Ministry of the People**

**Prayers of the People**

**Hymn:** VU 82 “A Light is Gleaming” *Linnea Good*

**Benediction**

**Sung Response:** VU 87“I Am the Light of the World” refrain

**Postlude:**  “Masque” *Denis Bédard*

Reader: Mac Watts

Production & Camera: Walter Watts and Steve McClelland

Interim Director of Music: Ruth Wiwchar

Organist: Dorcas Windsor

Minister: Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd

 QR Code for Westworth donations

“The care of people who are strangers to one another―the importance and impact of that can’t be overstated.”

You may think Mission & Service just happens far away from your church.

But the effects of Mission & Service may be as close as your local pulpit.

Mission & Service does a surprising amount of development in your local church, recruiting new ministers and funding theological schools. It even shapes the hymn books you sing from every service.

Another important way Mission & Service supports local ministry: by providing academic bursaries for students studying to become ministers and theological leaders.

“The church has a lot to offer in terms of witness to the community and supporting people who are struggling,” explains the Rev. Dr. Jennifer Janzen-Ball, the United Church’s Executive Minister for Theological Leadership.

Janzen-Ball knows there’s more to a bursary than just the financial gift. “The money is really helpful,” she says, “but the other thing that is so important to students is realizing that people throughout the church cared enough to donate to Mission & Service.”

The Rev. Alexa Gilmour received one of these bursaries when she was still a ministry candidate. “I was a single parent, and I knew I couldn’t get through without support,” Gilmour says. “I felt blessed by God through people who donated and who, by giving, encouraged me on my journey.

“I have tremendous gratitude for that important role the church played in my life at that time.”

Janzen-Ball wants you to know that your gifts do matter.

“They matter both tangibly in peoples’ lives in a real way but also in intangible ways because they signal the support of the wider community,” she says. “The care of people who are strangers to one another―the importance and impact of that can’t be overstated.