**Westworth United Church**

1750 Grosvenor Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba

on Treaty One Territory in the heart of the Métis Nation

April 30, 2023

4th Sunday of Easter

**We Gather to Worship**

**Welcome**

**Introit:** “The Spring Has Come” *Shirley Erena Murray & Colin Gibson*

**Candle Lighting**

“Brother James’ Air” *arr. Dale Wood*

**Treaty Acknowledgement**

We are Treaty People!

**We live and work,**

We worship and play,

**On Treaty 1 territory,**

The traditional lands of:

**The Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree and Dakota Nations**

And the homeland of the Red River Métis Nation.

**We receive water from Shoal Lake on Treaty 3 land**,

And hydro power from all 5 treaty lands in Manitoba.

**We are all Treaty People.**

**Opening Prayer**

**Children’s Time**

**Hymn:** VU 158 “Christ Is Alive” TRURO

**Prayer of Confession**

Forgive us when we don’t make enough time for others.

Forgive us when we can’t hear the voices of family or of friends,

Of community or of strangers

Forgive us when we don’t make space for our own hearts.

Help us find a balance between doing and being,

Between reaching for accomplishments and letting go of results.

Help us know, deep within, that we are each beloved

Just as we are, with no need to prove ourselves.

In the release of our worries and anxieties,

May we find room to receive and give care within our community.

**Silent Meditation**

**Words of Assurance**

**The Peace of Christ and Interlude:**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

 **And also with you.**

“Spring Song” *Felix Mendelssohn*

**We Hear the Word**

**Psalm 23:** VU 748 “God Is My Shepherd” BROTHER JAMES’ AIR

**First Scripture Reading:** Acts 2:38-47

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Reading**: John 10:1-17

This is the Gospel of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sung Response:** VU 717 “Hallelujah”

**Anthem**: “Open Thou Mine Eyes” *Lancelot Andrewes and John Rutter*

**Sermon: “**We Are Better Together**”**

**We Respond to the Word**

**The Sacrament of Baptism and Confirmation**

**Hymn** MV 176 “Three Things I Promise” vs 1-4 BLANN

**Offertory Prayer**

**Ministry of the People**

**Prayer Introit:** VU 400 **“**Lord Listen to Your Children Praying**”**

 **Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn** VU 509 “I, the Lord of Sea and Sky” HERE I AM, LORD

**Benediction**

**Sung Response:** VU 974 “Amen” *Jim Strathdee*

**Postlude:** “Trumpet Tune in D Major” *David N Johnson*

Cover Artwork:

Sharon Cadigan

The question: How do I hold it.

The answer: I don’t.

I can not hold God to one certain experience or belief because that seems to change for me as I change so I let my perception of God be fluid.

I feel if I hold too tightly to my expectations or have a rigid vision of who God is and how they show up I may miss the gifts available in any moment.

A fun fact is that our bodies are roughly 60% water. When I visualize God as water it reminds me that God runs through me, sustaining me and all creation. Always connected.

Christine Strike

This faith statement expresses the overlying need for love, community, respect for the earth, and unity amongst it all under the guidance of God.

Reader: Sharon Cadigan

Conductor: Ruth Denton

Organist: Dorcas Windsor

Viola: Vijay Chalasani

Interim Director of Music: Ruth Wiwchar

Coordinator of Children, Youth & Families: Katie Anderson

Minister: Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd

 QR Code for Westworth donations

