**Westworth United Church**

1750 Grosvenor Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba

on Treaty One Territory in the heart of the Métis Nation

May 21, 2023

7th Sunday of Easter

**We Gather to Worship**

**Welcome**

**Candle Lighting**

“Morning Has Broken” *arr. Chuck Marohnic*

**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:** VU 719 “For the Communion of Saints”

**Children’s Story**

**Hymn:** VU 356 “Seek Ye First the Kingdom” LAFFERTY

**Prayer of Confession**

In the growing tide of disillusionment with our world,

**God of grace, grant us hope.**

As the seconds to midnight decrease with the Doomsday Clock

**God of grace, grant us wisdom and courage.**

As war and conflict intensify

**God of grace, may we be peacemakers.**

As climate change threatens our lives with fires and floods,

**God of grace, may we have the will to change what we can.**

**Silent Meditation**

**Words of Assurance**

**The Peace of Christ and Interlude:**

“Prelude XXII”  *J.S. Bach*

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**We Hear the Word**

**Scripture Reading:**

Acts 1:6-14

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sung Response:** VU 717“Hallelujah”

**Solo:** “Give Me Jesus” *arr. Moses Hogan*

**Sermon:** “Doomsday or New Earth?”

**We Respond to the Word**

**Hymn:** VU 713 “I See a New Heaven” *Carolyn McDade*

**New Member Litany: Congregational Commitment**

Dear friends in Christ,

let us pledge to Heather our support and care.

**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.**

**Offertory Prayer**

**Ministry of the People**

**Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer** VU 921

**Hymn:** VU 679 “Let There Be Light” TENDERNESS

**Benediction**

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

**Postlude: “**Praise His Greatness” *arr. Mark Hayes*

Reader: Ruth Wiwchar QR Code for Westworth donations

Production & Camera:

Organist: Dorcas Windsor

Soloist & Interim Director of Music: Ruth Wiwchar

Coordinator of Children, Youth & Families: Katie Anderson

Minister: Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd

You are invited to remain in the sanctuary and listen to the postlude. If you are inspired to do so, please speak to the organist with a message of thanks.

Countering increasing violence and misinformation

*Credit: The United Church of Canada/CHURCHx*

On February 15, 2023, Mission & Service partners United in Learning, Affirming Connections, and Affirm United/S’Affirmer Ensemble colla-borated to host a webinar called United against Hate.

There is an alarming increase in violence and misinformation targeted against transgender folks and drag artists. The United against Hate webinar provided context to allies who may not have known the depth of the challenges faced by the Two Spirit or LGBTQIA+ community and shared ideas on how best to support community events that regularly face protests and barriers. Panellists also offered insight into building a safe and educational social media presence, including managing challenging discussion topics.

The webinar was an overwhelming success, with the live limit of 100 participants reached. Those who could not attend were encouraged to watch the recording. Participants shared positive feedback and made action plans on how to move forward together.

Your gifts to [Mission & Service](https://united-church.ca/donate) help support future events that will enable Affirming communities of faith to truly live into that identity in practical and safe ways.