**Westworth United Church**

1750 Grosvenor Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba

on Treaty One Territory in the heart of the Métis Nation

August 13, 2023

**We Gather to Worship**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Candle Lighting**

“Gather Us In” *Marty Haugen arr. Mark Hayes*

**Treaty Acknowledgement**

**Call to Worship**

As a worker gathers their tools

 Left Side**: As a poet gathers her images**

Right Side: **As a musician gathers his band,**

St. Andrews**: As a scholar gathers her arguments**

Westworth: **As a writer gathers their stories**

 **All: As a preacher gathers the texts**

So the Divine gathers the people,

Joining them together for prayer and community.

As we gather now,

Let us worship with joy and passion.

Amen.

**Hymn:** VU 389 “God is Here” BLAENWERN

**Prayer of Confession**

**Holy Presence,**

**We are not perfect.**

**We know we make mistakes,**

**We hurt others,**

**We think too highly of ourselves,**

**And we take ourselves far too seriously.**

**We wound those we love**

**And cut out those who we do not care to know.**

**We expect too much of others**

**And not enough of ourselves.**

**And yet we dream of a time when we will be kind and gentle,**

**Wise and considerate,**

**Open-minded and welcoming.**

**Hear our prayers of confession today, Holy One,**

**And lead us down a humble path**

**That we may serve you and our neighbour**

**In your Spirit.**

**Silent Meditation**

**Words of Assurance**

**Passing the Peace of Christ**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

 **And also with you.**

 **“**Come, O Fount of Every Blessing” *arr. John Carter*

**We Hear the Word**

**Conversation for All Ages**

**Hymn:** VU 230 “Heaven is Singing for Joy” HEAVEN IS SINGING

**Scripture Reading:**

Ruth 2:1-23

Thanks be to God who gives us the Word.

 **Thanks be to God.**

**Sung Response:** MV 50 “Alleluia”*arr. Norah Duncan IV*

**Musical Offering: “**Here I Am, Lord” *Daniel L. Schutte arr. Craig Courtney*

**Sermon**

**We Respond to the Word**

**Hymn:** VU 278 “In the Quiet Curve of the Evening” YOU ARE THERE

**Offertory Prayer**

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

**Prayers of the People**

**Hymn:** VU 578 “A Fire is Meant for Burning” JOYOUS LIGHT

**Benediction**

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

**Postlude:** “Masque” *Denis Bédard*

  Reader: Vinny Ashton

 Soloist: Keely McPeek

Organist: Dorcas Windsor

Interim Director of Music: Ruth Wiwchar

Coordinator of Children, Youth & Families: Katie Anderson

Minister: Tricia Gerhard Westworth Donations

Minute for Mission

“I met so many different people from different cultures and regions, and got to learn their journeys in faith.”

*Credit: Cave Springs Camp*

Lindsay Vautour, the United Church’s Engagement and Stewardship Associate, started attending a United Church camp at the tender age of five. There, she not only met lifelong friends and gained job skills as a counsellor, but it also helped chart her course to eventually work for The United Church of Canada.

“Coming from a financially tight background, I’m extremely grateful for the assistance available that let my brother and me attend camp every summer. I met so many different people from different cultures and regions, and got to learn their journeys in faith. I still keep in contact with some camp friends over 20 years later,” she says.

“One of my most prominent memories was with a fellow 13-year-old camper who told me that she loved camp because she could be herself without any expectations. She said, ‘I’m not the weird kid or the foster kid here, I’m just me,’” she recounts. “That’s something I resonate with because I wasn’t particularly popular in school, but popularity never mattered at camp, and it’s beautiful to know that that’s a widely shared perception.”

Children come together at United Church camps across Canada to learn the gospel in a safe and supportive environment. Through campfire stories, hiking, music, canoeing, and so much more, campers gain confidence while enjoying unique activities and exploring their curiosity. At camp kids learn soft skills like self-confidence, patience, and organization as well as hard skills in sports, crafting, and music.

Without the generosity of supporters, children who attend camp wouldn’t be able to continue having such affirming and defining experiences. Your gifts through [Mission and Service](https://united-church.ca/donate) are deeply appreciated.