**Westworth United Church**

1750 Grosvenor Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba

on Treaty One Territory in the heart of the Red River Métis Nation

January 21st, 2024

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Tell Me the Stories of Jesus

**We Gather to Worship**

**Welcome**

**Introit** Arise, Shine, for thy Light is Come Thiman

**Lighting the Christ Candle and the Diversity Candle**

 Music for lighting

**Call to Worship**

Glory to God in the highest!

 **And hope to every discouraged heart.**

Glory to God in the highest!

 **And peace to every conflicted soul.**

Glory to God in the highest!

 **And joy to every downcast spirit.**

Glory to God in the highest!
 **And love to everyone.**

 **Let us sing praises to our God.**

 **Let us offer this love against the hate of the world.**

**Opening Prayer**

God of Love,

 **There is brightness in our lives because of the abundance of your steadfast love. A love so vast, so deep, so real, that you became one of us. May we live within the power of this love. And may we share the embers of its flame with a world where so many dwell in shadow. Amen.**

**Hymn** VU 91 The First Nowell

**Prayer seeking Reconciliation**

O God of Love,

There are times when we let our hearts grow cold and hard to match the January weather, rather than facing the things we wish we hadn’t said or done.

 **In the cold, dim winter, God’s brightness can be hard to see.**

We come here this morning to hear God’s message, to unburden our hearts, and to share with the Holy One the things that sit heavily on our spirits.

**God calls us to repentance and offers us the love of Christ, which meets us just where we are. Hear us as we offer to You, Holy One, those things that stand in the way of our relationship with you, each other, and ourselves.**

**Assurance**

**Sung Response** MV 97 Listen, God is Calling

**The Peace of Christ and Interlude**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

 **And also with you.**

**Sharing the Story**

**Hymn** MV 104 Know that God is Good

**Scripture Reading** Psalm 62

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

 **Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Reading** Luke 2: 22-38

This is the Gospel of Christ
 **Thanks be to God**

**Anthem** Come Unto Me Blankenship

**Reflection**

**Hymn** MV 120 My Souls Cries Out

**Offering**

**Offertory** VU 541 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

**Offering Prayer**

**We are hesitant to offer our gifts in this moment, Loving God, because in the back of our minds we wonder if any good will come of helping the poor, feeding the hungry, or reaching out to the stranger. But by your grace, not only goodness, but hope and healing will pour out of what we give in these moments. Bless our gifts, we pray. Amen**

**We Respond to the Word**

**Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer (VU 921)**

 **Hear our prayer.**

**Hymn** VU 82 A Light is Gleaming

**Benediction**

**Sing** VU 974 Amen

**Postlude** River Flows in You (Yiruma)

Reader: Earl Gould QR Code for Westworth donations

Organist: Megan Dufrat

Director of Music: Valdine Anderson

Coordinator of Children, Youth & Families: Katie Anderson

Preacher: Marilyn Anderson Corkum

Minister: Tricia Gerhard