**Westworth United Church**

an Affirming Ministry located on the lands of

Treaty One Territory

and the homeland of the Red River Métis Nation

February 23, 2025

Holy Troublemakers – Gustavo Gutierrez- “Imitating Jesus”

**We Gather to Worship**

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Introit** Come and Worship Karen Mariolli

**Call to Worship**

We worship God,

who inhabits our world and indwells our lives.

**We need not look up to find God,**

**We need only to look around:**

**Within ourselves, beyond ourselves,**

**into the eyes of another.**

We need not listen for a distant thunder to find God,

We need only listen to the music of life,

**The words of children,**

**The questions of the curious,**

**The rhythm of a heartbeat.**

We worship the God who inhabits our world and who indwells our lives.

**Opening Prayer**

God of the prophets, call to us today.

**Call us into Your ways of love,**

**Justice and righteousness.**

God of the poets, call us today.

**Remind us again how much You love us**

**And sing to us Your ways of love,**

**justice and righteousness.**

God of the disciples, call to us today.

**Teach us how to follow You.**

**Teach us your ways of love,**

**Justice and righteousness.**

God of endless love, call to us today.

**Fill us with your love, and hear our prayers,**

**Amen**

**Hymn** MV 120 Canticle of the Turning KINGSFOLD

**Prayer of Confession**

(*inspired by a quote from Dorothy Day, written by Eric Thomas)****:***

**God of justice,**

**We confess that in the pursuit of**

**our own dreams and desires,**

**We have not always been civil, not always humane,**

**Not always right.**

**Guided by Your Spirit, what we would like to do is change the world – making it a little simpler for people to feed, clothe, and shelter themselves as You intended them to do.**

**Help us to be your witnesses,**

**by fighting for better conditions,**

**by crying out unceasingly for the rights of workers,**

**the poor, of the destitute –**

**so that we can, with your help, change the world.**

**Enlarge our hearts to love one each other,**

**to love our neighbour,**

**to love even our enemy as our friend,**

**so that your Kingdom may move every closer.**

**Words of Forgiveness**

Friends, the love of God revealed in Jesus, forgives us, heals us and sets us free to begin again each day.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**Sung Response** VU 958 Halle Halle Halle CARIBBEAN

**The Peace of Christ**

**Sharing the Story**

**Hymn** VU 701 What Does the Lord Require of You? MOON

**We Hear the Word**

**Scripture:** Luke 14: 17-24

This is the good news of the Gospel

**Thanks be to God.**

**Scripture:** Luke 16: 19-31

This is the good news of the Gospel

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem** Thou Art HolyC. Courtney

**Reflection**

**Hymn** VU 686 God of Grace and God of Glory RHUDDLAN

**We Respond to the Word**

**Offering Invitation**

**Hymn** VU 575 I’m Gonna Live So (verse 1 only) I’M GONNA LIVE

**Offering Dedication**

**Generous God,**

**Through Jesus, our sibling, you have shown us what it means to love and you have called us to follow his example – to love our neighbours as we love ourselves. Continue to write you law of love on our hearts. Give us an unwavering passion for justice, and a tenacious faith that will not rest until the hungry are fed, the oppressed find relief, and the outsider finds a welcome.**

**Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer** (VU921)

Response:

…You call us, and we respond,

**May we follow you and may we love as you love.**

**Hymn** VU 359 He Came Singing Love SINGING LOVE

**Benediction**

**Sung Amen** VU 971 Amen

**Postlude**Flute Piece W. Hine

Reader: Martin Robson Minister: Tricia Gerhard

Pianist: Megan Dufrat Coordinator of Children, Youth & Families: Katie Anderson

Director of Music: Valdine Anderson

