

Westminster United Church

Order of Worship

March 18, 2018

Lenten Theme: “ Journey to Enlightenment ”

(*invites people to stand as they are able; people’s part in **bold** type)

Prelude

Welcome

Meditation



in song **VU 374** “ *Come and Find the Quiet Centre* ”
in silence

Call to Worship

Let us gather to worship.

O God, we wish to see Jesus!

We come to worship, to pray, and learn.

We come looking for Jesus in Scripture lessons,
in our own life experiences, in helping our world,
in prayers for each other.

We seek to follow in the way of Jesus.

**We lay bare before God and one another our
own wilderness journey.**

It’s a journey filled with gladness and hope,
reluctance and sorrow, fear and confusion.

O God, touch us with your presence!

**Let our Lenten journey lead us to Jesus,
so that we may live his example in our lives,
our faith community, and our world. Amen**

Hymn VU 574

“ *Come, Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love* ”

Prayer of Approach

**God of the journey, you invite us to accept the
cost and joy of discipleship and to be your
servants in the service of others. In so doing,
may your presence be our guide and Jesus our
model. May we respond to you in loving
faithfulness. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

The God who challenges us is also the God who
encourages us. The God who confronts us is also
the God who accepts us. Be assured that God is
with us even now, accepting, guiding,
and forgiving.

Hymn MV 79 “ *Spirit, Open My Heart* ”

Readings

1 John 3: 16-24 *Love in action*

1 John 4: 7-12 *The source of love*

Message “ *Straight from the Heart* ” B. Stocks

Prayers of the People; The Lord’s Prayer VU 960

Life and Work of Westminster

Minute for Mission

“ *Compassion in Life and Death* ”

Offertory Prayer

**God, there are many who wish to see Jesus.
In joy and celebration of the many gifts that we
share, we ask you to bless all of our offerings.
May Jesus shine in all the world. Amen.**

Presentation of Our Gifts

Hymn VU 333 “ Love Divine, All Loves Excelling ”

Benediction

In word

On this Lenten journey, we have **seen** the light and **heard** the word. Let us go forth **speaking** truth and living with **hearts** that are open to where our Creator wants us to follow.

In Song **VU 512** v.1
“ Lord, You Give the Great Commission ”

Postlude

Lectionary Readings for Sunday, March 25, 2018
~ Palm/Passion Sunday ~

Liturgy of the Palms

Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29 Mark 11: 1-11 or John 12: 12-16

Liturgy of the Passion

Isaiah 50: 4-9a Psalm 31: 9-16 Phillipians 2: 5-11
Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15: 1-39, (40-47)

Westminster United Church

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