

RALPH CONNOR: INFORMATION FOR SUBSTITUTE MUSICIANS – SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Following is a typical worship service at Ralph Connor Memorial United Church, with **musician's parts in bold**. Expect slight variations which the Minister will go over with you. The church office is usually open Tuesday through Friday mornings if you need to pick up a hymnal for practicing. Sunday morning worship begins at 10:00 a.m. so arrival between 9:30-9:45 will allow time to connect with the minister or worship leader.

- **Prelude - ten minutes of prelude music (of your choosing) before the service starts** is nice to set the tone for worship. You can pick up a church bulletin in the narthex to follow along with the service.

- Welcome and Announcements

- **Lighting the Christ Candle - some quiet music is nice as the candle is carried in** and placed on the chancel table, e.g. once through a short hymn or a choice of your own.

- Call to Worship or Prayer of Approach (usually responsive)

- **Hymn - the hymns will be numbered as MV (More Voices, the ring-bound hymnal) or VU (Voices United, the dark red hymnal). In general, playing through the refrain or last two lines of the hymn serves as an adequate introduction for the congregation to stand up for singing.** Children head out to Children's Church at the end of this hymn.

- Time of Silent Preparation

- **Chant – a quiet single-verse song, often from MV, is played through 2-4 times to help the congregation move out of silence. The congregation remains seated for the singing of this song.**

- Scripture Readings

- Responsive Psalm, rarely used - **If a responsive psalm is planned**, play through the psalm refrain once, then play it again with the congregation singing. Each time the "R" appears in the reading, give the starting pitch, then play the refrain once with congregation singing.

- **Hymn**

- Sermon - feel free to sit on a front pew or chair to be more comfortable during the sermon.

- **Hymn**

- Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer. **At times a sung version of the Lord's Prayer is used.**

- Minute for Mission - our mission in the world

- **The Offering is Received - music (of your choice) is played as the offering is collected.** When the ushers are finished they stand at the back and wait for the "offering hymn" to begin before proceeding up the aisle.

- **Offertory Hymn.** The congregation will sing with this.

- Offertory Prayer

- Passing the Peace. People move around in this time of greeting, with the choir finding their way to the front (on Sundays with an anthem) and children returning from Children's Church.

- **Choir Anthem (Sept-June) or Special Music (if arranged in advance)**

- Commissioning and Benediction

- **Hymn.** Sometimes the Choral Amen (Amen, Hallelujah VU 974) is used in place of this hymn; there is a photocopy version of VU 974 on cardboard sitting on the table beside the piano.

- brief pause, then **Postlude – a piece of music (your choice) as the congregation leaves for fellowship in Gordon Hall and/or departs the church. A fairly "up beat" song is appropriate here.**

**** On Communion Sundays play quiet music as communion is being served. The Musician is served first.**

Revised May 2019