



September 17, 2017 11:15 a.m.

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering Songs

#276

“Sing a New Song unto the Lord”

#664

“Morning Has Broken”

Welcome and Living Our Faith

Call to Worship

God the Parent beckons us home and welcomes us with open arms.

Holy are you, O God!

God the Son calls us by name and bathes us with grace.

Holy are you, O Christ!

God the Spirit gathers us in, and inspires our worship.

Holy are you, O Spirit!

Let us come before the Holy One with gratitude and praise!

Let us worship the Lord!

Song #628

“Praise, I Will Praise You, Lord”

Call to Confession

Time of Confession

How often do we hurt those we love? How often do we turn a blind eye to those who suffer or ignore injustice? We are created in God’s image, but we fall short of God’s dream for us. During this time of silent, personal confession, we invite you to reflect upon those things for which you seek forgiveness, then write them on the blue piece of paper. We encourage you to offer this – your personal prayer of confession – to God by placing it in the basket on the Communion Table. You may tear your paper into pieces, wad it into a ball, or simply place it face-down in the basket...whatever helps you surrender the burden you carry to God. (Instructions for the purple sheet will come later in the service).

Assurance of God’s Forgiveness

Response #447

“We Are Forgiven”

**We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.**

Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Scripture

Matthew 18:21-35

Jim Wilson, Lay Reader

Response

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

Message

“Clinging to the Cuts”

Greg Jones

Song #445

“God, How Can We Forgive”

Offering

Please sign the blue friendship notebook and pass it to the person next to you.

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

Song #623

“I’ve Got Peace like a River”

Sending

Response #80

“You Shall Go Out with Joy”

*Following worship, please join us in the Meeting Room
for coffee, tea, and fellowship.*

We are thankful for your presence and participation this morning. Westminster has two worship options each Sunday. Our other Sunday morning worship service is held at 9:00 a.m., and includes a choir, organ music and a brief Children's Message. Both services include prayers, singing, scripture and sermon.

Following worship, feel free to make a bouquet to brighten someone's day. Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and with deep gratitude to Sue Frost, Mike Gnade and Lynne Kielhorn for their inspired and steadfast leadership in developing the "Taking on Violence in Wilmington" event on September 9th, bringing Father Gregory Boyle to Westminster as keynote speaker and organizing the expo of programs working to support positive youth development in our city.

Please remember in your prayers Joyce Ruston, Frank Waldburger and Debbie Wat who were recently hospitalized.

Children are welcome in worship. You will find yellow worship bags for all children at the chapel entrance.

Image: "In the Father's Embrace," by Ruth Tietjen Councill (2004), <http://www.councill.net/oils/index.html>

Pastors: Gregory Knox Jones and Sudie Niesen Thompson
Pianist: Paul Fleckenstein
Song Leader: Travis Lucas
Digital Artist: Bob Cox



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