

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 25, 2021

Westminster Presbyterian Church extends an enthusiastic welcome, in Christ's name, to all who worship here or join us in fellowship. Our church family seeks to embody God's boundless love by embracing, liberating and empowering people – whoever they are and wherever they may be on their faith journeys – to realize the transforming power of Christ in our congregation, community and the world beyond.



Covenant Network Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) Matthew 25 Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) We hope you will stay connected with our community of faith during this season of social distancing by subscribing to the *Westminster Weekly Word* e-newsletter through the homepage of our website (www.wpc.org), liking us on Facebook (www.mpc.org), or following us on Instagram (www.instagram.com/wpcdelaware).

Today at Westminster

8:45 – 10:00 a.m. Food Collection for Emmanuel Dining Room in the parking lot.

9:00 - 9:45 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Anyone over the age of five is required to wear a mask and children must remain with

their parents.

5:00 – 7:00 p.m. 180 Youth meet in the WPC parking lot (please see p. 6 for details).

• **Bible Box** for children ages 2 through 5th grade is available today on YouTube (please see p. 6 for details).

Please see page 6 for information on Educational Offerings for Adults.

Westminster has been recertified as an Earth Care Congregation by the Presbyterian Church (USA). This is the 11th year Westminster has received this honor. It means we exhibit exceptional leadership in protecting God's creation and are good stewards of earth's resources through our worship, education, outreach and advocacy. Only 2% of the 10,000 Presbyterian congregations in the U.S. have earned this honored distinction.

Westminster is a Matthew 25 Congregation that strives to eradicate systemic poverty, dismantle structural racism, and build congregational vitality. The gospel calls us to actively engage in the world so that our faith comes alive.

Westminster is a Covenant Network of Presbyterians Congregation that works to strengthen the church of Jesus Christ, with the help of God's grace, by working for the unity of the church, furthering the inclusion of LGBTQ persons, seeking understanding and reconciliation, and joining with others seeking a still more just and inclusive church.

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. Johnetta Wade Morrison by her husband, Dr. KC Morrison, and daughter Dr. Iyabo Morrison.

Consider giving the flowers for Sunday worship to remember or honor loved ones or to celebrate an event, while expressing praise and thanksgiving to God. Please contact Linda Watson during business hours at 302-571-6719 or watson@ycst.com.

Recently hospitalized: Olga Manners

Westminster's Prayer Team prays for the needs of our community of faith. You may submit a prayer request by sending an email to wpcprayerlist@gmail.com.

You can make a contribution to Westminster Presbyterian Church by visiting our website www.wpc.org and click the "Donate Now" button or scan the QR code on your smart phone.

ORDER OF WORSHIP- SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2021

TOWER CHIME Craig Checkel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Sheep May Safely Graze J.S. Bach
Ted Barr and Tony Thurman, piano (trans. for piano duet by Mary Howe)

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Shepherd calls us by name and leads us to abundant life.

We hear your voice and hasten to follow.

The Shepherd prepares a table and lavishly pours out grace.

We hear your invitation and take our place at the feast.

The Shepherd gathers us in and welcomes us to the house of the Lord.

We hear your call and give you praise.

HYMN No. 239 Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing! (Vs. 1, 3 & 4) GELOBT SEI GOTT

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise we in songs of victory that love, that life which cannot die, and sing with hearts uplifted high: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Your name we bless, O risen Lord, and sing today with one accord the life laid down, the life restored: Alleluia! Alleluia!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Based on 1 John 3:16-18)

O God, you have called us to love –

not merely in word or speech, but in truth and action.

Love led you to lay down your life.

And, for the sake of love, we should lay down our lives for others.

Still, O Lord, we offer empty thoughts and prayers when the world needs our hands and our feet.

Still, O Lord, we hold tightly to what we have when our neighbors need compassion and care.

Call to us again, O Shepherd.

Summon us onto right paths to pursue justice in your name, and to seek after the well-being of all. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Click here to watch today's TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN on Westminster's YouTube channel.

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 10:11-18

The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never. I nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth; And where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth. And so through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never; Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

SERMON

Sudie Niesen Thompson

HYMN No. 703

Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me (Vs. 1 & 2)

ST. CATHERINE

Jesus, thy boundless love to me no thought can reach, no tongue declare; O knit my thankful heart to thee, and reign without a rival there! Thine wholly, thine alone, I'd live; myself to thee entirely give.

O grant that nothing in my soul may dwell, but thy pure love alone; O may thy love possess me whole, my joy, my treasure, and my crown! All coldness from my heart remove; may every act, word, thought be love.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Gregory Knox Jones

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN No. 187

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us (Vs. 1 & 4)

BRADBURY

Savior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need your tender care. In your pleasant pastures feed us; for our use your fold prepare. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours.

Early let us seek your favor; early let us do your will. Blessed Lord and only Savior, with your love our spirits fill. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!

Michael Burkhardt

At the conclusion of the Postlude, please exit the sanctuary, row by row, beginning with the last pew to the front pew. Those sitting in the side transepts exit from the front pew to the back pew down the center aisle to the narthex. Please wait until an usher directs you to leave. You may want to have a conversation with others you have missed during the lockdown. We ask that you please meet them outside, maintaining the required six-foot social distancing, while continuing to wear your mask.

GOING FORTH: OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OUR LIVES TO GOD

With gratitude for the grace we have received, we go forth from worship to offer our energy, our hands, and part of our income in service to God. One way we respond to Christ's call is by giving our financial gifts to further God's mission in the world. You may mail a check to the church or make an online offering to support the many ministries of Westminster Presbyterian Church by clicking "Donate Now" on the homepage of our website (www.wpc.org).

SOURCES AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The resources for children attached at the end of the online bulletin are provided by Illustrated Ministry. Please print them to participate in this service or for family devotions throughout the week.

The Prayer of Confession borrows language from the Prayer of Confession for the Fourth Sunday of Easter in *Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching and the Arts*, Volume 54.1, Lectionary Aids for 2020-2021, Year B, ed. Kimberly Bracken Long (Office of Theology and Worship of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)).

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Join Us for In-person Worship in Our Sanctuary

Sunday, May 2 • 9:00 AM



Our sanctuary is open on Sunday mornings for one worship service at 9:00 a.m. Attendance is limited and an online reservation (one per family) is required. When we reach the maximum number of reservations we can safely host, the reservations will close. We have established <u>guidelines</u> for your safety, which include social distancing, wearing a mask, and the use of no-touch sanitizing stations. The liturgy will be emailed to you after you make your online reservation. You are encouraged to print the liturgy from home and bring it to the service or pull it up on your mobile device; a limited number of printed copies will be available.

The decision to attend in-person worship rests with each individual. A virtual livestreamed/recorded option continues to be available on our website (www.wpc.org) and on our YouTube channel.

To make your online reservation for May 2 worship in the sanctuary, click here!

EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

You can find virtual Christian education and small group opportunities on the homepage of the Westminster website (www.wpc.org) and check out other Education Offerings for Adults on YouTube.

Bible Boxes for Children (Age 2 – Grade 5)

Westminster's virtual Sunday school programming continues with Bible Box, a <u>YouTube series</u> that combines Bible stories, crafts, and music. Materials for the crafts are provided for free. New content is uploaded every Sunday. The program runs through April 25. If you have questions, please email Alexis Droke at <u>alexisdroke@wpc.org</u>.

180 Youth Meeting in the WPC parking lot! Join us TONIGHT from 5 to 7 p.m.

Tonight is another 180 in the parking lot! Join us for dinner, games, and fellowship. Don't forget your mask! See you there from 5 to 7 p.m.! For more information about 180 Youth Ministry for grades 6 – 12, contact Tommy at tommyjneilson@gmail.com.

Online Bible Studies

Wednesday afternoons, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. on Zoom (Midweek Manna Bible Study)

https://zoom.us/j/97700423780?pwd=b1dGL2c4NXRjMlRBOWJWWElsTTg3dz09

Zoom Meeting ID: 977 0042 3780 | Passcode: 547264

The Midweek Manna Bible Study, facilitated by the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson, is reading through the Gospel of Matthew. New faces always welcome!

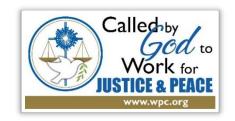
Wednesday evenings, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88941171153?pwd=MmxuZWFvREhZSVExS3IveXQvTUhaQT09

Our Bible Study, facilitated by Randy Williamson and Mary Anne Peters, continues and new faces are always welcome.

WPC Peace & Justice Online Education Events

Delaware Police Reform – Where Things Stand Thursday, April 29, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86027521655



Last summer, thousands of Delawareans participated in marches, vigils, and demonstrations to declare enough is enough and demand reform to our system of policing. As we now watch state after state enact bold change, many are asking why Delaware has not (at least not yet)? And what could or should reform look like in Delaware? Come here Haneef Salaam from ACLU-DE explain specific proposed reforms including amendments to the Law Enforcement Officers Bill of Rights (LEOBOR), a state standard for Use of Force and others. Sponsored by Westminster's Peace & Justice Work Group. Use the Zoom link above, or go to zoom.us/join, enter Meeting ID 860 2752 1655 and click "Join."

VIRTUAL TRIVIA NIGHT

Wednesday, April 28 | 7:00 p.m. | via Zoom

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88920482642

Join the Deacons for a Spring-themed virtual trivia night using Zoom and Kahoot! The friendly competition is fast and fun, and no experience is needed to play. All ages and families welcome. Use the link above to join. RSVPs welcome though not required. All questions may be directed to Jenn Blackford (blackfordj11@gmail.com).



WILMINGTON HANDBELL ENSEMBLE

2021 Spring Concert: Remembrance & Renewal

Saturday, May 15 | 4 PM



The Wilmington Handbell Ensemble, under the direction of Mr. Kerry Dietz, will present Remembrance & Renewal, on Saturday, May 15, at 4 p.m., in the church sanctuary. The concert will include music to remember those who have died during the pandemic and to celebrate the resilience of the human spirit. Joining the ensemble will be organist Tony Thurman. A Tower Chime recital by Susan Spilecki will be offered at 3:40 p.m. In-person attendance is limited. A reservation link will be provided in this week's Weekly Word e-newsletter and on our website. A free-will donation of \$10 per person is requested to Westminster's Music Fund. The concert will be livestreamed on YouTube.

PASTORAL STAFF

Gregory Knox Jones, Head of Staff Sudie Niesen Thompson, Associate Pastor Jill Getty, Pastoral Care Assistant

MUSIC STAFF

Director of Music/Organist: Dr. F. Anthony Thurman Director of Music for Children and Youth: Alexis Droke Choristers: Hye Eun Choi, Sharon Babcock, Jason Berger, Brenton Mattox

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES STAFF

Director of Preschool Ministries: Teisha Fooks Nursery: Beatrice Taylor, Kristen Wolanski

YOUTH LEADERS

Tommy Neilson: Interim 180 Leader Josh Cox, Emily Knepper, Molly McPheeters

SUPPORT STAFF

Susan Alexander, Reception Area Supervisor
Mary Clark, Office Assistant for Data and Archives
Paul Crothamel, Director of Facilities and Security
Colleen Falasco, Director of Financial Operations
Nicole Hughes, Director of Marketing and Communications
Jerry Hunter, Manager of Accounting and Reporting
Suzie Hurlock, Administrative Assistant
Cathy Lang, Administrative Assistant
Sextons: Robert King, Daniel Steele, Joan Truitt, John Young

SESSION

Michelle Butler, Sally Buttner, Clark Collins, Bob Cox, Michael Enderle, Jessica Fischer, Dick Jolly, Carla Krupanski, Faith Kuehn, David Máthé, Kelly McCulloch, Susan McPheeters, KC Morrison, Jan Patrick, Chip Pfleegor, Todd Piercy, Roger Reinicker, Carrie Saathoff, Kent Smith, Janet Steinwedel, Barbara Stratton, Gill Timon, Mary Vane, Susan Williamson

BOARD OF DEACONS

Amy Bickhart, Jennifer Blackford, Russ Butler, Kyle Carrick, Ron Carrick, Beatty Chadwick, Diane Chandler, Eadie Churchill, Joe Daley, Tammy Daley, Kate Dietz, Nancy Fleming, Kendra Gallagher, Lili Gerstenschlager, Jamie Hickey, Paul Kelly, Mary Laskaris, Tara Lee, Arun Loptes, Gathoni Murugi-Jenkins, Marsha Mah, Dan McAllister, Blair McConnel, Debbie McCullough, Robert Moore, Roland Pamm, Lynne Perkins, Emily Pfaff, Sandie Reinicker, Patti Ridout, Robin Rosser, Lisa Stoddard, Lois Underhill, Sandra Wermus, Pam Wilson, Pam White, Sue Weissinger, Debbie Wise

TRUSTEES

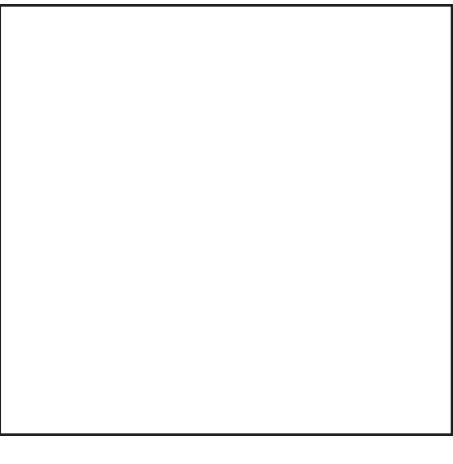
Rich Albert, Charles Babcock, Mark Gerstenschlager, Fred Iobst, Brock Jobe, Sue Linderman, Tom Preston, Kris Qualls, Bob Ridout, Stan Stevenson, Bruce Weber, Dan Weintraub

PARTNERS IN WORLDWIDE MINISTRY

DR Congo – PCUSA Mission Co-workers: Jeff and Christi Boyd, Larry and Inge Sthreshley;
Kananga Presbytery and Members of Kamulumba-Ditalala Parish
Iraq, Syria and Lebanon – PCUSA Mission Co-workers: the Reverends Elmarie and Scott Parker
Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Churches, Ibillin and Haifa, Israel/Palestine – Peace Drums Steel Band
Guatemala – CEDEPCA, AJPU, Rosario Diaz and the Association of Mam Christian Women for Development



I John 3 teaches us to love God and others, not just with our words, but with our actions. **Draw a picture** of how you act out your love!



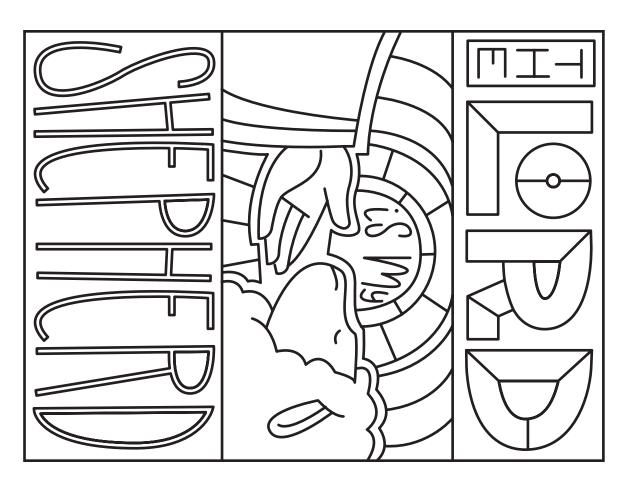


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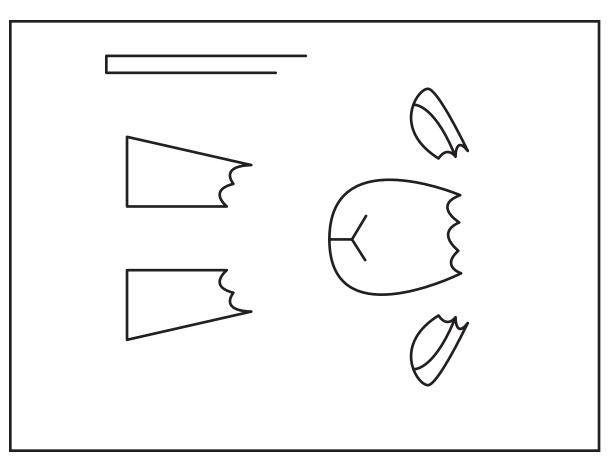
WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Psalm 23, I John 3:16-24, John 10:11-18



FINISH THE DRAWING

Psalm 23 describes God as our shepherd. Finish the drawing of the sheep and shepherd's staff. Write or draw a way God takes care of you like a shepherd.



UNSRCAMBLE

How does Jesus describe himself in John 10 as both a protector and a provider? Unscramble the words to find out!

- MA HET DOGO PEDREHSH

ETH OODG HSRDEPHE

SLYA NOWD SHI ELFI RFO

TEH PSEEH

WDOODLE AREA

Draw a picture of someone you want to pray for.