



Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 1, 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)**

1502 West 13th Street ♦ Wilmington, DE 19806 ♦ 302-654-5214 ♦ www.wpc.org

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.facebook.com/wpcdelaware), or following us on Instagram (www.instagram.com/wpcdelaware).

Today at Westminster

- 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.** **Food Collection** for Emmanuel Dining and **Cereal Sunday** for the Hanover Pantry in the Westminster parking lot.
- 9:00 – 9:45 a.m.** **Worship** in the Sanctuary. See new guidelines on page 6.
- 9:00 – 9:45 a.m.** **Prayground** in Community Hall. Worship is live streamed and activities are provided for children. Masking (for those over the age of 2) and social distancing are required. See new guidelines on page 6.

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

Today's Music: We give thanks and welcome members of the Westminster Choir back to the choir loft today following a sixteen-month pandemic furlough. By Session approval, a limited number of fully-vaccinated choir members will be singing our hymns and anthems in worship, August 1–22.

Westminster has been certified as an Earth Care Congregation by the Presbyterian Church (USA) for the 11th consecutive year. This honor 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 member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians whose mission is 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 more just and inclusive church.

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God, with gratitude for the church, and in memory of those we have loved and lost by John McGraw.

Recently hospitalized: Nancy Boden

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 lwatson@ycst.com. Available dates are August 15, 22, and 29, and September 19.

Westminster's Prayer Team prays for the needs of our community of faith. You may submit a prayer request by email: 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, AUGUST 1, 2021

TOWER CHIME

Susan Spilecki

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Festive Trumpet Tune

David German

CALL TO WORSHIP

The One who set the stars in their courses,
who surveyed the darkness, then summoned the dawn –
this God calls us to worship.

The One who called to Moses from burning bush,
and descended as pillar of fire to lead a pilgrim people –
this God dwells among us.

The One who illumines the darkness –
the Bright Morning Star, the Light of the World –
**this God is our light and our salvation,
this God is worthy of all our praise!**

HYMN NO. 666

O Splendor of God's Glory Bright (Vs. 1 & 4)

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

O splendor of God's glory bright, from light eternal bringing light; O Light of Light, light's living spring, true Day, all days illumining:	O Lord, with each returning morn, your image to our heart is born; O may we ever clearly view our Savior and our God in you.
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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, you have come as the Light of the World.
Yet, too often, we shroud your light with our indifference.
There is much we must confess:**

**When we turn a blind eye to suffering, forgive us.
When we are silent in the face of injustice, forgive us.
When we choose comfort over compassion, forgive us.
When we neglect to offer grace and love, forgive us.**

**Gracious God, you entered into our broken world
and made a home among us.
Give us eyes to see you in the faces of others,
and give us the will to care for neighbors in need.
Illumine the shadowed depths of our lives with your light –
which the most persistent darkness cannot overcome –
and open our hearts to receive your grace. Amen**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

[Click here](#) to watch today's TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN on Westminster's YouTube channel.

Jesu, joy of our desiring, holy wisdom, love most bright;
 Drawn by thee, our souls aspiring soar to uncreated light.
 Word of God, our flesh that fashioned, with the fire of life impassioned,
 Striving still to truth unknown, soaring, dying round thy throne.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 8:12-20

SERMON

Sudie Niesen Thompson

HYMN NO. 450

Be Thou My Vision (Vs. 1, 2 & 4)

SLANE

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;	Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;	I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my best thought, by day or by night,	thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.	raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
 may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
 Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
 still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Barbara Jobe

THE 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. 673

Jesus, Light of Joy (Vs. 1 & 3)

LAUDA ANIMA

Jesus, light of joy, surround us;	With the saints we lift our voices,
let your splendid glory shine:	God of power, God of might.
source of every earthly blessing,	All creation shines with glory,
heaven's everlasting sign.	singing praises day and night:
Alleluia, alleluia,	alleluia, alleluia,
we adore you, light divine.	holy, holy, holy light.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata on GREAT DAY

Aldolphus Hailstork

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.

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Jesus, Light of Joy, David Gambrell.

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Toccata on GREAT DAY, Aldolphus Hailstork

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“I AM” Sermon Series:

If four artists were to paint the same model, they would create four unique portraits. Their works would differ based on perspective, personal style, or simply the play of the light. In the same way, the four Gospel writers create four unique portraits of Jesus the Messiah. One way John paints his portrait is through metaphor — comparing Christ to images that would be familiar to the Gospel’s original audience: bread, light, shepherd, vine. Throughout the Gospel, Jesus likens himself to various objects and concepts through statements that always begin the same way: “I am ...” During Dr. Jones’ sabbatical, the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson — along with the Rev. Jill Getty and the Rev. Dr. Tracy Keenan — will explore the seven “I AM” statements of John’s Gospel and the ways they contribute to a unique portrait of the Messiah who dwells among us.

July 25 — I am the Bread of Life

August 1 — I am the Light of the Word

August 8 — I am the Gate for the Sheep

August 15 — I am the Good Shepherd (Jill Getty)

August 22 — I am the Resurrection and the Life

August 29 — I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life (T. Keenan, New Castle Presbytery Missional Presbyter)

Sept. 5 — I am the True Vine

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](#).

Online Bible Study

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88941171153?pwd=MmxuZWFrREhZSVExS3lveXQvTUhaQT09>

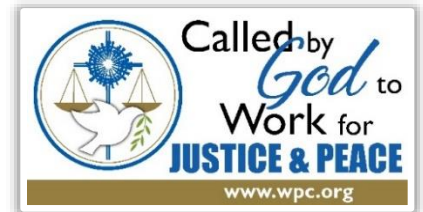
Our Bible Study, facilitated by Randy Williamson and Mary Anne Peters, continues and new faces are always welcome.

WPC Peace & Justice Online Education Events

Engaging Wilmington Youth with Nature!

Thursday, August 5, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86027521655>



The Delaware Nature Society, a state affiliate for the National Wildlife Federation, is renowned for its educational programming, conservation and advocacy. Join us as we learn about the Society's RENEW (Reaching and Engaging through Nature to Empower Wilmington) program, anchored at the DuPont Environmental Education Center, that is designed to engage youth from African American communities with outdoor education opportunities in the city. We will learn about these comprehensive STEM-based educational programs, along with other environmental justice initiatives, and discover how to get involved! Use the Zoom link above, or go to zoom.us/join, enter Meeting ID **860 2752 1655** and click "Join."

Sunday Worship COVID Policy

- If you are fully vaccinated and comfortable going without a mask please sit in the front part of the sanctuary and the side transepts. These sections are open seating and mask optional for fully vaccinated people. Please access these sections via the lectern-side transept door off the main hallway.
- If you are not vaccinated or choose to wear a mask, you will be able to social distance in the back part of the sanctuary and balcony. Masks must be worn at all times in these sections. Please access these sections through the Narthex (behind the screen at the rear of the sanctuary).
- Ushers at both entrances will be masked and available to direct you to the proper section.
- *Everyone* is required to wear a mask when entering or exiting the building. This is for the well-being of those who are not vaccinated.
- If you have children too young to be vaccinated, you are welcome to worship in the sanctuary, but we have also created a safe, kid-friendly space. We are calling it the **Prayground**. This worship space is in Community Hall. We livestream our worship service into Community Hall and provide materials to help young children engage in worship. Masking (for those over age 2) and social distancing is required.

JOIN WESTMINSTER IN HELPING 1,150 LOCAL STUDENTS HAVE A FULFILLING SCHOOL YEAR!



Since 2007, Westminster has worked with elementary schools in Wilmington to provide students in need with new backpacks filled with school supplies. Last year, the uncertainties caused by the coronavirus pandemic led us to take a different approach to this project. It is likely that most students will return to in-person learning this Fall, and our team is working with each school to determine their specific needs. This year, the project will include our traditional five elementary school partners in addition to UrbanPromise Academy for high school students and the Teen Warehouse for youth. More than 1,100 students will benefit from your generosity!

For the second year in a row, we will not ask you to shop for supplies and deliver them to the church. We ask for your generous support of this year's Backpacks Project in the form of a financial donation to cover the cost of supplies (\$10), or a backpack (\$10), or both, for each student you wish to help. Please make your check payable to *Westminster Presbyterian Church* and write "Backpack Project" in the memo line. You may also give online by going to www.wpc.org and clicking the "Donate Now" button.

Thank you so much for your continued support of the Backpacks Project! Your generosity makes a real difference in the lives of these students by preparing them with the essential tools and materials they need.

SAVE THE DATE! On **Sunday, August 15**, representatives from the recipient schools will join our 9 AM worship service where Pastor Sudie will bless backpacks and supplies purchased from your generous donations. Join us in expressing God's love and support for the valuable leaders in our community working tirelessly to give our students a fulfilling school year. **After the worship service**, we'll gather on the church front lawn for bottled water and fellowship.



PASTORAL STAFF

Gregory Knox Jones, Head of Staff (on sabbatical)
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

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

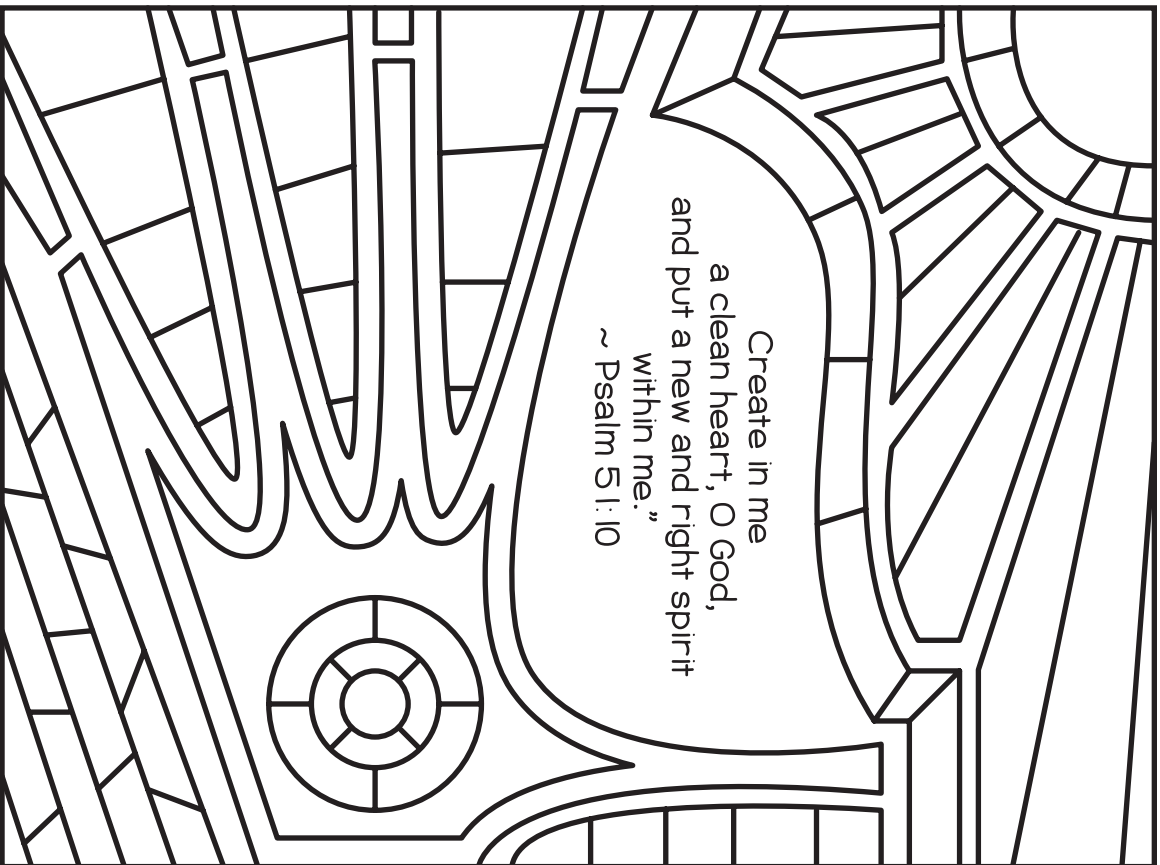
Amy Bickhart, Jennifer Blackford, Russ Butler, Kyle Carrick, Ron Carrick, Beatty Chadwick,
Diane Chandler, Eadie Churchill, Joe Daley, Tammy Daley, Kate Dietz, Nancy Fleming, Kendra Gallagher,
Lili Gerstenschlager, Jamie Hickey, Paul Kelly, Mary Laskaris, Tara Lee, Arun Loptes, Gathoni Murugi-Jenkins,
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,
Sue Weissinger, Sandra Wermus, Pam White, Pam Wilson

TRUSTEES

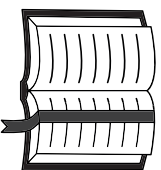
Rich Albert, Charles Babcock, Mark Gerstenschlager, Fred Iobst, Brock Jobe,
Sue Linderman, Tom Preston, Kris Qualls, Bob Ridout, Stan Stevenson, Bruce Weber, Dan Weintraub

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



Create in me
a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit
within me.”
~ Psalm 51:10

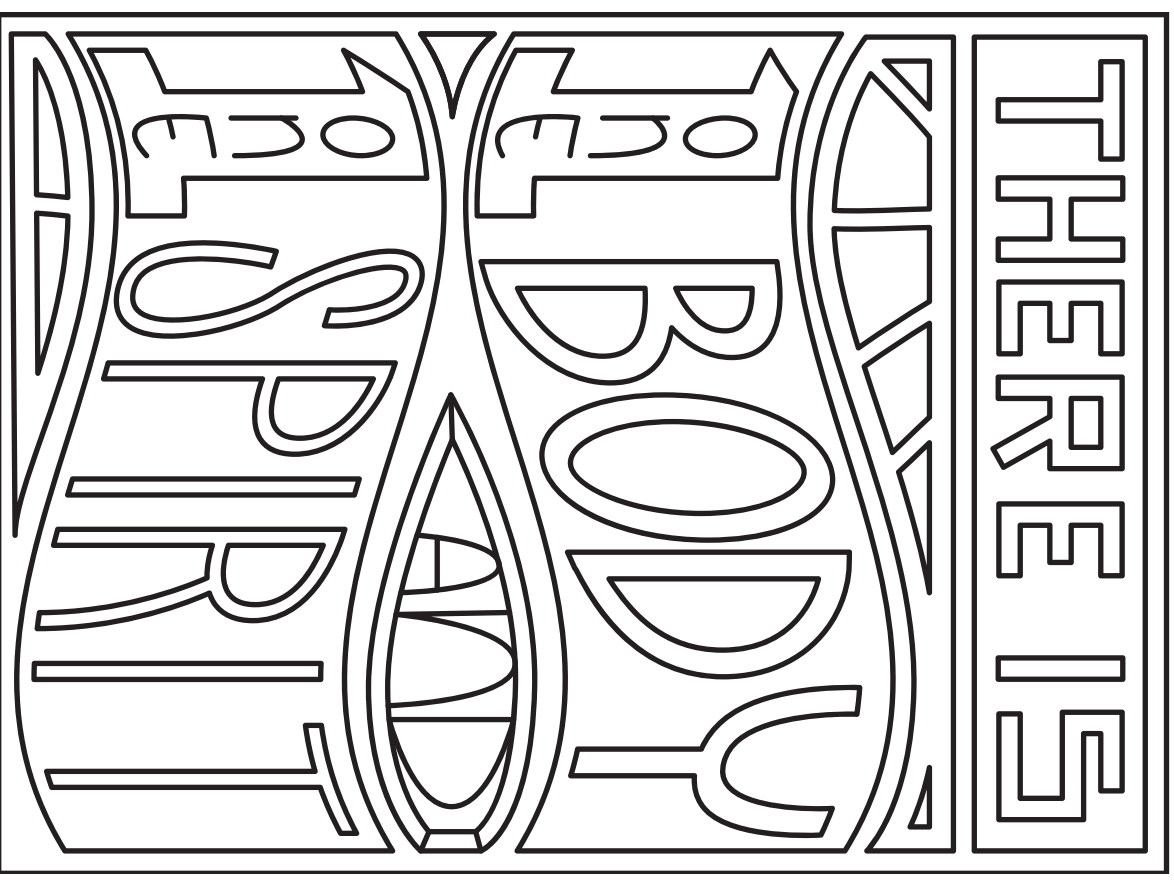


illustrated
— MINISTRY —

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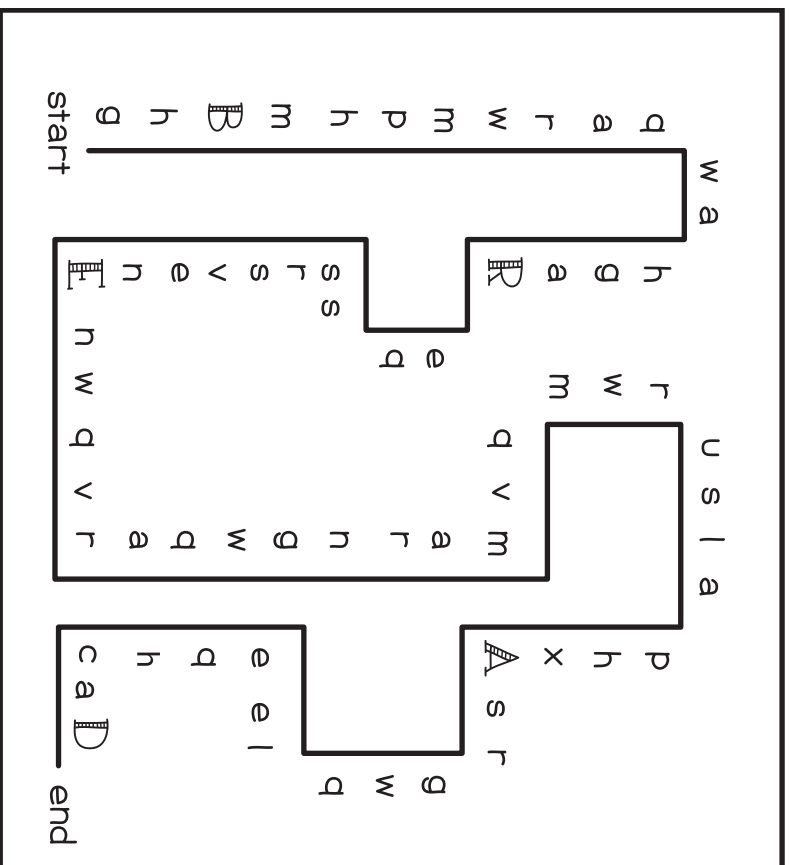
CHILDREAN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Psalm 51:1-12, Ephesians 4:1-16, John 6:24-35.



FOLLOW the PATH

What kind of food does Jesus compare himself to in John 6? Follow the path of letters, and each time you come to a capital letter, write that letter down at the bottom of the page. When you get to the end of the path, see the food spelled out below.



DRAW IT

Ephesians 4 encourages us to speak truth in love and use our words to become more like Christ. Draw a picture of you speaking words of love. Who are you talking to?