



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 22, 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 Room in the Westminster parking lot.
- 9:00 – 9:45 a.m.** **Worship** in the Sanctuary. See 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 guidelines on page 6.

Please see page 7 for information on Educational Offerings for Adults.

Westminster by Heart is a lay group from our congregation committed to telling stories from Scripture. We have embraced the discipline and spiritual commitment of learning these passages by heart so that our congregation may experience the Bible the same way it was first heard, traveling to the hearts of believers on the breath of the teller. Our group is open to any and all who share a passion for the story. For more information, contact Shelley Gnade (shelley.gnade@gmail.com) or Mary-beth Howard (mbhcc73@gmail.com).

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 and in celebration of the 55th wedding anniversary of Barbara and Jerry Fedeler.

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 September 19, October 31, November 28, December 12 and 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 22, 2021

TOWER CHIME

Craig Checkel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

A Litany of Joy

Alfred V. Fedak

CALL TO WORSHIP

“I am the resurrection and the life,” Jesus says.

“Whoever believes in me will live, even though they die.”

This is God’s promise. This is our hope.

The one who called Lazarus from the tomb calls us to new life.

Let us glorify God, our Creator and Sustainer!

HYMN NO. 248

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna! (Vs. 1 & 2)

HYMN TO JOY

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!

Celebrate this day of days!

Christ is risen! Hush in wonder:
all creation is amazed.

In the desert all-surrounding,
see, a spreading tree has grown.

Healing leaves of grace abounding
bring a taste of love unknown.

Christ is risen! Raise your spirits
from the caverns of despair.

Walk with gladness in the morning.

See what love can do and dare.

Drink the wine of resurrection,
not a servant, but a friend.

Jesus is our strong companion.
Joy and peace shall never end.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, Source of Life,
you call us out of the shadowed depths
and into the joy of abundant life.**

But there is much that binds us:

**the anger that festers and refuses resolution,
the resentments that eat away at our relationships,
the fear that prevents us from stepping out in faith,
the doubt that our efforts can make a difference,
the despair that seeps in and crowds out hope.**

Call to us again, we pray.

**Renew our hope
and release us from the things that bind us,
that we might love fully, forgive freely,
and follow you faithfully. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

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

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 11:17-44

Shelley Gnade and Mary-beth Howard

I am the resurrection and the life.
 Those who believe in me will live, even though they die;
 And whoever lives and believes in me will never die. –John 11:25-26

SERMON

Sudie Niesen Thompson

HYMN NO. 312

Take Us As We Are, O God (Vs. 1, 3 & 4)

ENDLESS FEAST

Take us as we are, O God, and claim us as your own. As once you chose to tell your love in human flesh and bone, so let our lives be used to make your saving purpose known.	Break us open to disclose how brokenness can heal, wherever broken loaves suffice to give a crowd a meal and graves break open to release new life from death's dread seal.
---	--

Give us to the world you love
 as light and salt and yeast,
 that we may nourish in your name
 the last, the lost, the least,
 until at length you call us all
 to your unending feast.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

KC Morrison

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. 53

O God, Who Gives Us Life (Vs. 1 & 2)

NOEL

O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb, who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb: deliver us from fears that kill the life we have from you. Help us to know your Spirit still is making all things new.	O God, who calls your people out to venture and to dare, to plumb the bleak abyss of doubt and find you even there: when we despair in wandering through wastes of empty lies, refresh us with the living spring of hope that never dies.
--	--

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Hymn to Joy

Albert L. Travis

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.

PERMISSIONS AND COPYRIGHTS

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE #A-736679 and CCLI License #CSPL187609. All rights reserved.

A Litany of Joy, Alfred V. Fedak.

Copyright © 2016 Lorenz Publishing Co. All rights reserved.

Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-736679.

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna! Brian Wren.

Text copyright © 1986 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved.

Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-736679.

I Am the Resurrection, Kevin Hildebrand.

Copyright © 1998 MorningStar Music Publishers. All rights reserved.

Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-736679.

O God, Who Gives Us Life, Carl P. Daw Jr.

Text copyright © 1990 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved.

Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-736679.

Take Us As We Are, O God, Carl P. Daw Jr. and Alfred V. Fedak.

Text copyright © 1995 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved.

Music copyright © 1995 Selah Publishing Co. All rights reserved.

Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-736679.

“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 World |
| 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 (Tracy Keenan, New Castle Presbytery Missional Presbyter) |
| September 5 — | I am the True Vine |

Sunday Worship COVID Policy

Given the level of transmission in New Castle County, we are strongly encouraging everyone – including those who are fully-vaccinated – to wear masks at all times while in the building, in accordance with current CDC guidance

- 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.

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 Studies

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

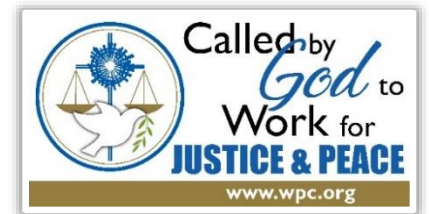
Our Bible Study, facilitated by Randy Williamson and Mary Anne Peters, continues and new faces are always welcome. If interested, contact Randy Williamson at randywilliamson1@comcast.net and you will be sent the Zoom link to access the meeting. Starting September 2, this class will be held on Thursday evenings from 6 to 7 p.m.

WPC Peace & Justice Online Education Events

Video and Discussion: Race in America – Part 2

Thursday, August 26, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

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



Phil Vischer, creator of Veggie Tales, has produced a new video that follows his 2020 "Race in America" video, which we viewed and discussed in one of our very first Thursday evening education events in July 2020. Phil Vischer here addresses four key questions that arose from the first video and offers some compelling responses. If you've not seen the original 18-minute video or want to refresh your memory, [click here](#). Hope to see you on the 26th as we watch and discuss the thought-provoking information he provides. Hosted 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."

Women's Online Community Group

2nd and 4th Thursdays at 5:00 p.m. Upcoming meetings are August 26 and September 9.

Coordinator: Jill Getty

The women of Westminster connect for heartfelt and enriching discussions on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 5:00 – 6:00 PM. The Rev. Jill Getty facilitates this group on Zoom. If interested, please email Jill (jgetty@wpc.org) and she will add you to the weekly participant email list to receive the Zoom link and password.

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

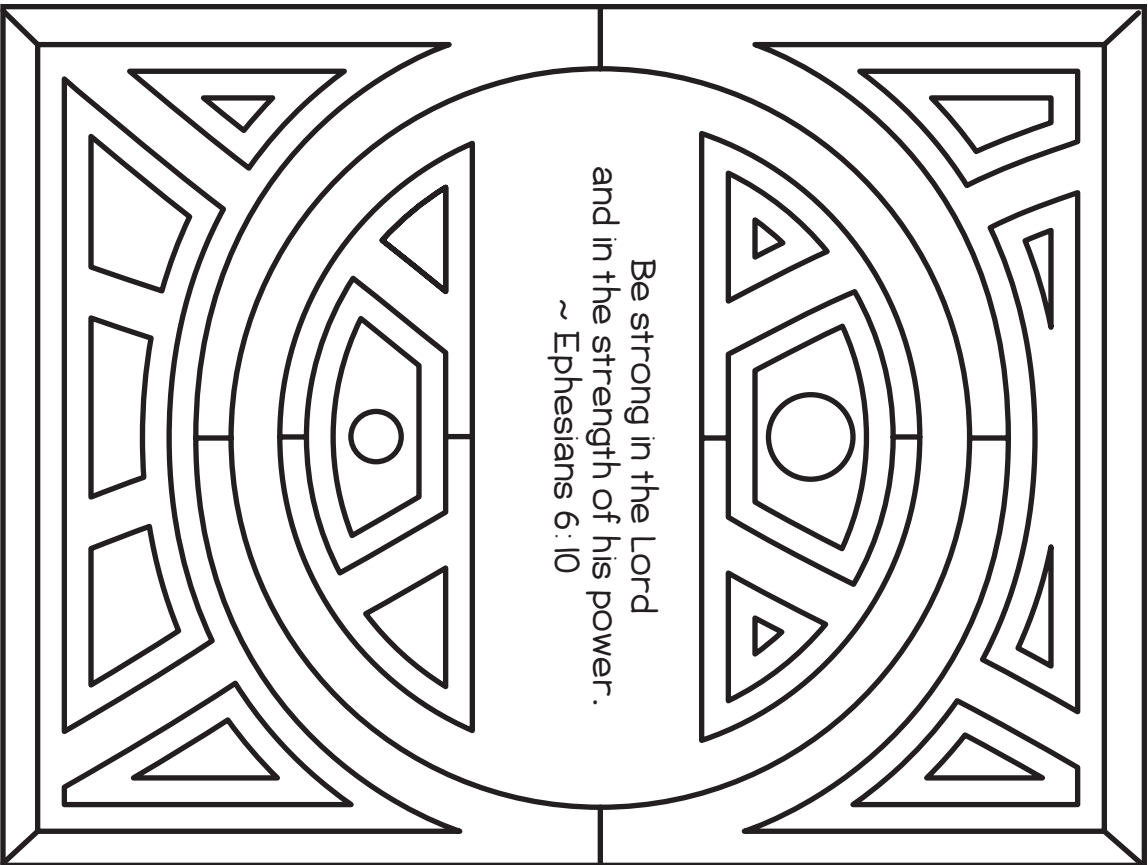
Amy Bickhart, Jennifer Blackford, Russ Butler, Kyle Carrick, Ron Carrick, Beatty Chadwick,
Diane Chandler, Eadie Churchill, Joe Daley, Tammy Daley, Kate Dietz, Nancy Fleming, Kendra Gallagher,
Lili Gerstenschlager, Jamie Hickey, Paul Kelly, Mary Laskaris, Tara Lee, Arun Loptes, Gathoni Murugi-Jenkins,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

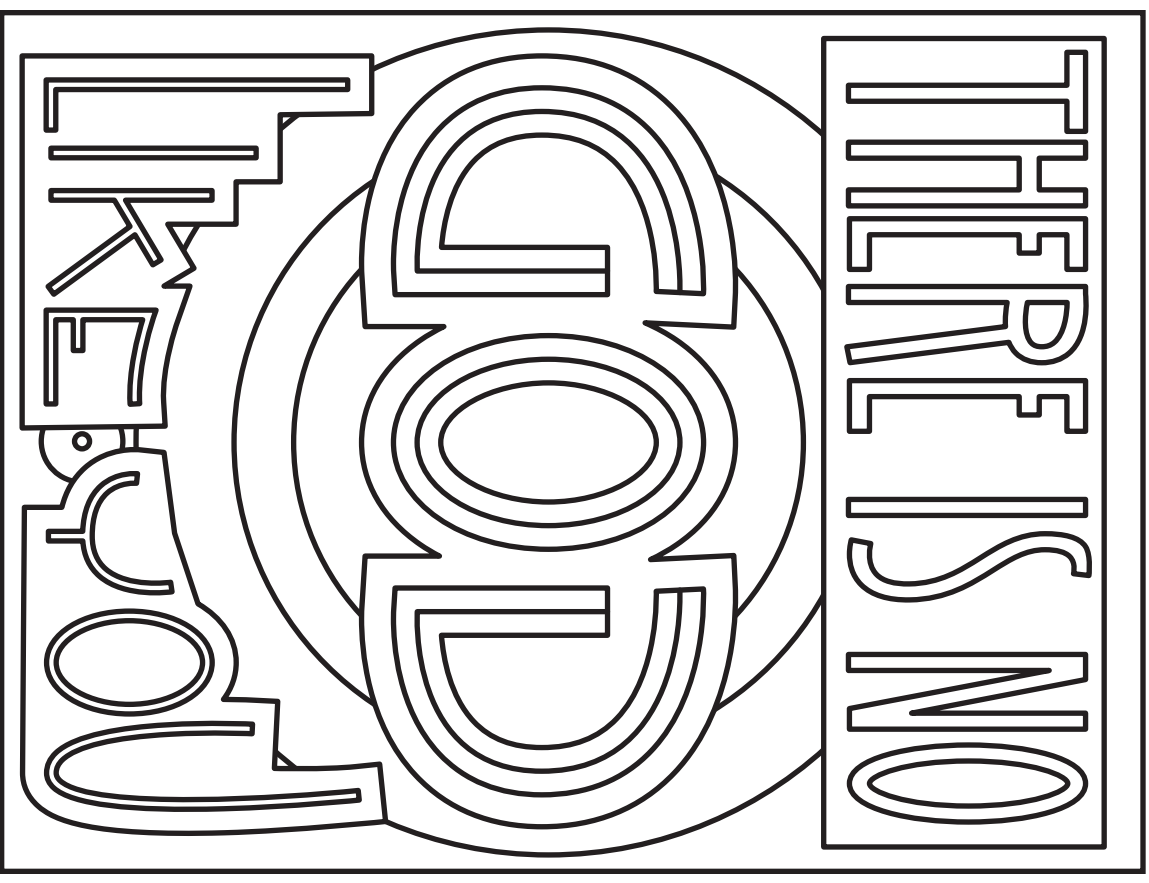
DR Congo – PCUSA Mission Co-workers: Jeff and Christi Boyd, Larry and Inge Sthreshley;
Kananga Presbytery and Members of Kamulumba-Ditalala Parish
Iraq, Syria and Lebanon – PCUSA Mission Co-workers: the Reverends Elmarie and Scott Parker
Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Churches, Ibillin and Haifa,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



Be strong in the Lord
and in the strength of his power.
~ Ephesians 6:10

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

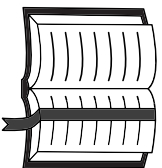
Activities based on 1 Kings 8:1, 6, 10-11), 22-30, 44-45, Psalm 84, Ephesians 6:10-20.



THERE IS NO

GOD

LIKE YOU



ILLUSTRATED
MINISTRY

Suggested for use on August 22, 2021 based on the RCL.
Copyright © 2021 Illustrated Ministry, LLC. All rights reserved. May be reproduced for
congregational use provided each copy carries this notice. illustratedministry.com



DRAW IT

Ephesians 6 describes the “armor of God.” These are things that protect us and help us live the lives of justice, kindness, and mercy God wants for us. Draw a picture of you wearing the belt of truth, shoes of peace, and carrying a shield of faith. How does this make you feel?



CONNECT the DOTS

Psalalm 84 describes how God lovingly provides a home in God's close presence for all creation, including nests for the sparrows. Connect the dots of the nest. Inside, write or draw a way you feel God's nearness.

