



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 2020

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.



A Covenant Network Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
An Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

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



ORDER OF WORSHIP

TOWER CHIMES

Susan Spilecki

PRELUDE

Fanfare and Processional

Lynn Trapp

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to our virtual worship service. We invite you to participate in the liturgy by joining the worship leader on lines printed in **bold**.

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).

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in honor of Megan Wheatley Thomas who turned 50 on August 29th, given by her family,

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 to choose a date.

Let us worship God!

CALL TO WORSHIP

From whirlwind and burning bush,
in still of night and in sheer silence—

God calls the faithful to sacred work.

Beckoning us to turn aside,
inviting us to stand on holy ground—

As we gather, God makes sacred the space between us.

Come, God is calling.

Let us worship the Lord!

HYMN NO. 620

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Vs. 1 – 2

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet your tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore his praises sing:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favor
to his people in distress;
praise him still the same as ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness.

LAUDA ANIMA

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Compassionate God,
who hears the cries of the oppressed,
you call us to resist evil
and hold fast to what is good,
to take up the cross
and commit our lives to the cause of love.
But we are afraid to confront powers
that privilege some and diminish others;
we do not want to lose
the security we enjoy.
Forgive us.
Open our ears to hear your voice,
our eyes to look upon neighbors in need,
and our hearts to respond with compassion,
that we might follow the way of Christ. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

...Know that you are forgiven and be at peace!
Thanks be to God.

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Alexis Droke

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 3:1-12

Sue Linderman, Storyteller

SERMON

"Turn Aside"

Sudie Niesen Thompson

HYMN NO. 49

The God of Abraham Praise
Vs. 1 – 2

LEONI

The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned above,
the Ancient of Eternal Days, the God of love!
The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven confessed,
we bow before your holy name, forever blest.

Your spirit still flows free, high surging where it will.
In prophet's word you spoke of old and you speak still.
Established is your law, and changeless it shall stand,
deep writ upon the human heart by your strong hand.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.**

Lord, speak to me that I may speak
in living echoes of your tone.
As you have sought, so let me seek
your erring children, lost and lone.

O lead me, Lord, that I may lead
the wandering and the wavering feet.
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed
your hungering ones with manna sweet.

O use me, Lord, use even me,
just as you will, and when, and where
until your blessed face I see,
your rest, your joy, your glory share.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fanfare and Recessional

Trapp

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).

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Jesus says, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you" (John 14:27). We invite you to share signs of Christ's peace with those with whom you are gathered, or to pass the peace virtually by calling, emailing, or texting your family and friends in our congregation and beyond.

PARTICIPANTS

The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson

Director of Music/Organist: Dr. F. Anthony Thurman

Director of Music for Children and Youth: Alexis Droke

Chorister: Brenton Mattox

Scripture Reading: Sue Linderman

Videographers: Chip Pfleegor, Roger Reinicker, Baden Saathoff and Sophia Wolff

SOURCES AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are grateful to Westminster John Knox Press for making available the complete list of public domain hymns included in the *Glory to God* hymnal and to Illustrated Ministry (www.illustratedministry.com) for our children's bulletins.

The resources for children attached at the end of the bulletin are provided by Illustrated Ministry. Please print them to participate in this service or for family devotions throughout the week. You can find educational offerings at the end of this Order of Worship.

The Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession were written by our Associate Pastor, the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson, and published in: "Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching and the Arts," Volume 53.1: Lectionary Aids for 2019-2020, Year A, ed. Kimberly Bracken Long (Office of Theology and Worship of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)).

EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

Virtual Christian education and small group opportunities can also be found on the homepage of the Westminster website (www.wpc.org).

Online Bible Study

Wednesdays, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

New way to join! Go to zoom.us/join, enter Meeting ID **899 3845 5537** and click "Join."

Our Bible study continues and new faces are always welcome.

Women's Online Community Group

2nd and 4th Thursdays at 5:00 p.m.

Coordinator: Jill Getty

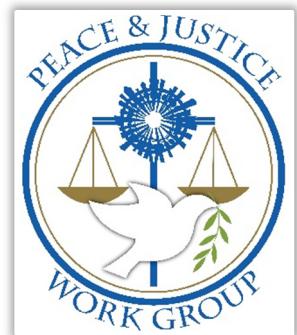
For women of the church to provide connection and friendship, this group meets on Zoom. If you are interested, please email Jill Getty at jgetty@wpc.org and she will add you to the weekly participant email list to receive the Zoom link and password.

WPC Peace & Justice Online Education Events

Federal Anti-lynching Law – Do We Really Need One?

Thursday, September 3, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Thousands of terror spectacle lynchings in the United States between 1877 and 1952, as documented by Bryan Stevenson and the Equal Justice Initiative and memorialized at the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama, are a dark stain on our nation's history. For 120 years, attempts in Congress to pass a Federal Anti-lynching Law have consistently been blocked, shelved or ignored. The most recent attempt in 2020 was blocked by a single Senator's opposition. Join us as we explore this aspect of American history and consider the question of the law's relevance today.



Join us using this Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86027521655>. Or go to zoom.us/join, enter Meeting ID **860 2752 1655** and click "Join." Look for more topics and information on the WPC [Facebook](#) page.

180 Youth Ministry will resume in September.

Join Us! Worship Service on the Church Lawn

Saturday, September 5, 5:30 p.m.



On Saturday, September 5, we will worship on our church lawn at 5:30 p.m. (ending by 6:10 p.m.). To ensure the safety of everyone, attendance is limited and an online reservation is required. Please submit **ONE reservation per family**. When we reach the maximum number of family units we can host, the reservations will close.

Everyone who attends the service must wear a mask, practice social distancing by keeping a distance of at least six feet from anyone who is not in your family, and sit where indicated by an usher. Children must remain with their parents at all times. There will be no congregational singing; however, Tony will play a digital piano and some of our choristers will sing. Remember that at that time of day it is still hot and most of the lawn will not be in the shade. Dress accordingly and feel free to bring a bottle of water. **IMPORTANT! Please bring your own lawn chairs or blanket to sit on.**

The liturgy will be emailed to you after you make your online reservation to print and bring to the service. If it rains, the service is cancelled. Worship on the lawn does not replace our virtual worship service, which will be available on our [website](#) on Sunday, September 6.

[Click here](#) to make your online reservation for September 5 worship on the lawn!