



# First Sunday of Christmas

**December 26, 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 13<sup>th</sup> Street ♦ Wilmington, DE 19806 ♦ 302-654-5214 ♦ [www.wpc.org](http://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](http://www.wpc.org)), liking us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/wpcdelaware](https://www.facebook.com/wpcdelaware)), or following us on Instagram ([www.instagram.com/wpcdelaware](https://www.instagram.com/wpcdelaware)).

## Today at Westminster

**9:30 – 11:00 a.m.**      **Food Collection** for Emmanuel Dining Room in the Westminster parking lot.

**10:00 – 10:45 a.m.**      **Worship** in the Sanctuary. See link below for guidelines.

### **Church Office Holiday Hours**

The church office will be CLOSED on Monday, December 27. The church office will be OPEN December 28, 29, 30 and 31 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All donations POSTMARKED on or before December 31, 2021 will be credited to your contribution record as received in 2021, so there is no need to physically drop off donations to receive credit. Secure online donations can be made until December 26 for 2021 year-end giving.

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**Westminster has been certified as an Earth Care Congregation** by the Presbyterian Church (USA) for the 11<sup>th</sup> 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.

**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](mailto:lwatson@ycst.com). Dates available are January 2, 9, 16 and 30; and all of February.

**The flowers on the chancel** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Charles M. Krick, Jr., and Ann E. Linderman by Sue and Bob Linderman.

**Recently hospitalized:** Chris Waisanen

**Westminster's Prayer Team** prays for the needs of our community of faith. You may submit a prayer request by email: [wpcprayerlist@gmail.com](mailto:wpcprayerlist@gmail.com).

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



# ORDER OF WORSHIP- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2021

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*In Quiet Joy*

Marcel Dupré

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Hope has come –  
    **awakening us to new possibilities;**  
Peace has come –  
    **inviting us to be agents of reconciliation;**  
Joy has come –  
    **turning our hearts from fear to wonder;**  
Love has come –  
    **transforming our lives, transforming our world.**  
We have come –  
    **amazed and humbled by God's grace,**  
    **to worship the newborn king!**

### \*HYMN NO. 119

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

MENDELSSOHN

### PRAYER

**God-with-us, our Emmanuel –  
On this joy-filled day,  
we come to adore you  
and to receive your gift of love.**

**With the faithful far and near,  
who kneel before the manger,  
we are deeply grateful that you have come into this world –  
the infinite One in mortal form.**

**In quiet celebration,  
we join Mary in pondering the mystery in our hearts.  
In resounding praise,  
we raise our voices with the heavenly host:  
Glory to God in the Highest Heaven!  
And on earth, peace to all!**

**Draw near to us this day,  
as you drew near to us on that morning long ago.  
As we listen again to your story,  
enter our searching hearts,  
and illumine our wondering minds  
that we might know your hope, peace, joy, and love,  
and share these gifts with others. Amen.**

*Passages in **bold** print may be said by all. At the asterisk (\*), please stand as you are able.*

## LESSONS AND CAROLS

CAROL NO. 140	<i>Once in Royal David's City</i> (Vs. 1-2)	IRBY
THE JOURNEY AND THE BIRTH	Luke 2:1-7	
CAROL NO. 144	<i>In the Bleak Midwinter</i> (Vs. 1, 3)	CRANHAM
THE SHEPHERDS AND THE ANGELS	Luke 2:8-14	
CAROL NO. 143	<i>Angels from the Realms of Glory</i> (Vs. 1-2)	REGENT SQUARE
SHEPHERDS GO TO BETHLEHEM	Luke 2:15-20	
CAROL NO. 147	<i>The First Nowell</i> (Vs. 1-2)	THE FIRST NOWELL
THE VISIT OF THE MAGI	Matthew 2:1-12	
CAROL NO. 145	<i>What Child Is This</i> (Vs. 1-3)	GREENSLEEVES
JESUS IS PRESENTED IN THE TEMPLE	Luke 2:22-40	
CAROL NO. 140	<i>Once in Royal David's City</i> (Vs. 3-4)	IRBY

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Campbell Grace Foley  
*Daughter of Elizabeth and Patrick Foley*  
*Granddaughter of Donna and John Carpenter*

OPENING WORDS (Titus 3:4-7)

Our salvation comes  
not from any works of righteousness that we have done,  
but from the mercy of God  
through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.  
**God pours out this Spirit upon us richly**  
**through Jesus Christ our Savior,**  
**so that, having been justified by grace,**  
**we might become heirs to the hope of eternal life.**

PRESENTATION OF THE PARENTS AND CHILD

Elder Janet Steinwedel

PROMISES OF COMMITMENT

Elizabeth and Patrick, do you acknowledge Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?  
**We do.**

Relying on God's grace, do you promise to live the Christian faith and to teach that faith to your child? **We do.**

CONGREGATION

On behalf of the whole church of Jesus Christ, do you promise to guide and nurture Campbell by word and deed with love and prayer? **We will.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

ACT OF BAPTISM

RESPONSE No. 115

*Away in a Manger*

CRADLE SONG

**Be near me, Lord Jesus;    Bless all the dear children  
I ask thee to stay        in thy tender care,  
close by me forever      and fit us for heaven  
and love me, I pray.      to live with thee there.**

PRAYER FOLLOWING BAPTISM AND 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. 132

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

IN DULCI JUBILO

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Joy to the World*

John Ferguson

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 a portion of our income in service to God. A tangible 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](http://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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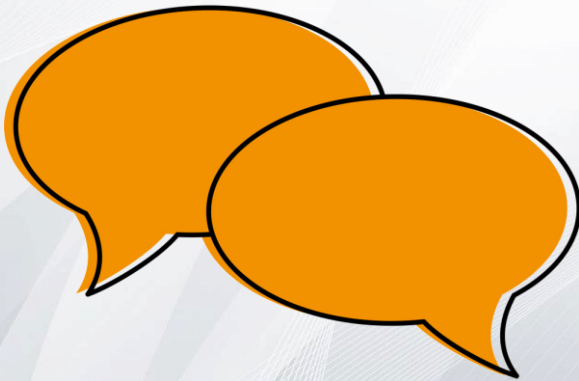
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# OPERATION ALLIES WELCOME: A Conversation between Governor Markell and Senator McBride

Sunday, January 9, 10 a.m. in the sanctuary



On Sunday, January 9, we will have a unique opportunity to learn about the Afghan refugee resettlement program. Immediately following the 9:00 service, State Senator and Westminster member Sarah McBride will speak with Jack Markell, who served as Governor of Delaware from 2009 to 2017 and is now the White House Coordinator for Operation Allies Welcome. Former Governor Markell and Senator McBride will discuss this project, which supports vulnerable Afghans as they resettle in the United States. Join us in the sanctuary or via the livestream to hear their conversation and learn about this important issue.

## COVID-19 Mask Policy and Safety Measures

**Mask Policy and Sanctuary Seating.** Masks are required inside the building, including in entryways, hallways, the staff wing, Rodney Chapel, and *all* areas of the sanctuary. Masks must fully cover the nose and mouth. This change was made by Session on November 22, 2021 in order to allow congregational singing. By wearing masks, we protect our children who are not yet vaccinated and our members who are immune compromised. In addition, it adheres to the guidelines of the American Choral Directors Association.

As of Sunday, December 12, we have reversed seating in the sanctuary. To provide a safe place for our young children and our immune-compromised adults, we are moving the social distance section to the front of the sanctuary and the side transepts. Those who are comfortable sitting closer to one another will sit in the back half of the sanctuary and the balcony.

**Safety Measures.** We are committed to your safety during the pandemic. No-touch hand sanitizing stations are located near the doors and in the hallways. The sanctuary, Rodney Chapel, the main hallway and the staff wing are all equipped with the same high grade air filters as in hospitals plus air purifying devices that use needle-point bi-polar ionization on the air handlers that operate in these areas. These devices break down viruses, bacteria, mold, allergens, smoke, and odors in the air. These devices, along with the fact that we have a very high vaccination rate among our worshipers, makes Westminster one of the safest environments you can find.

#### **PASTORAL STAFF**

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

#### **MUSIC STAFF**

Dr. F. Anthony Thurman, Director of Music/Organist  
Alexis Droke, Director of Music for Children and Youth  
Rebecca Hughes, soprano, Margaret Mezzacappa, mezzo soprano, Jerry Polman, bass, Section Leaders

#### **VIDEOGRAPHERS**

Tanner Freeman, Rich Albert, Drew Holmes, Chip Pfleegor, Roger Reinicker, Baden Saathoff,  
Aaron Wemhoff and Sophia Wolff

#### **CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES STAFF**

Kathleen Kennan, Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry  
Teisha Fooks, Director of Preschool Ministries  
Beatrice Taylor, Kristen Wolanski, Nursery

#### **YOUTH LEADERS**

Tommy Neilson, 180 Leader  
Josh Cox and 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, Financial Assistant  
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

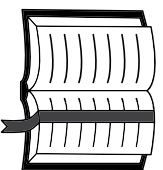
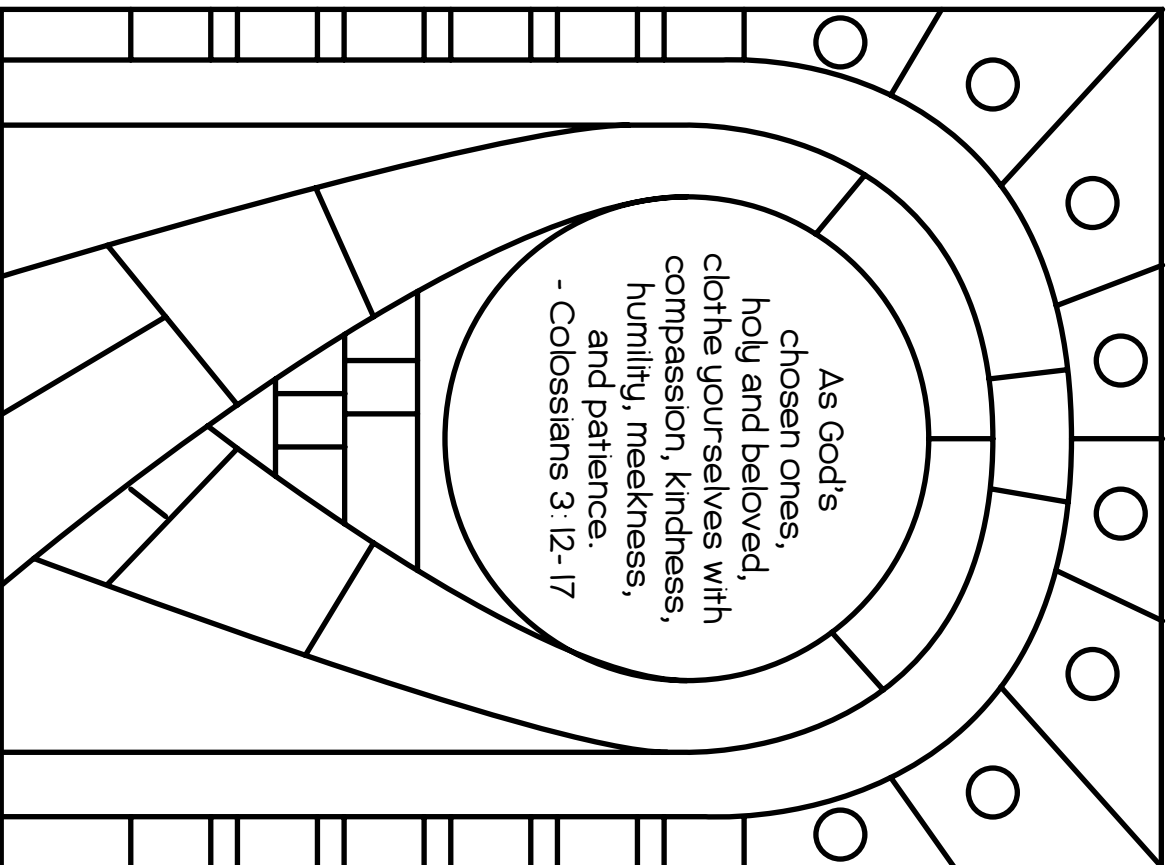
#### **TRUSTEES**

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  
Iran, 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, the Association of Mam Christian Women for Development,  
PCUSA Mission Co-workers Betsey & Eric Moe



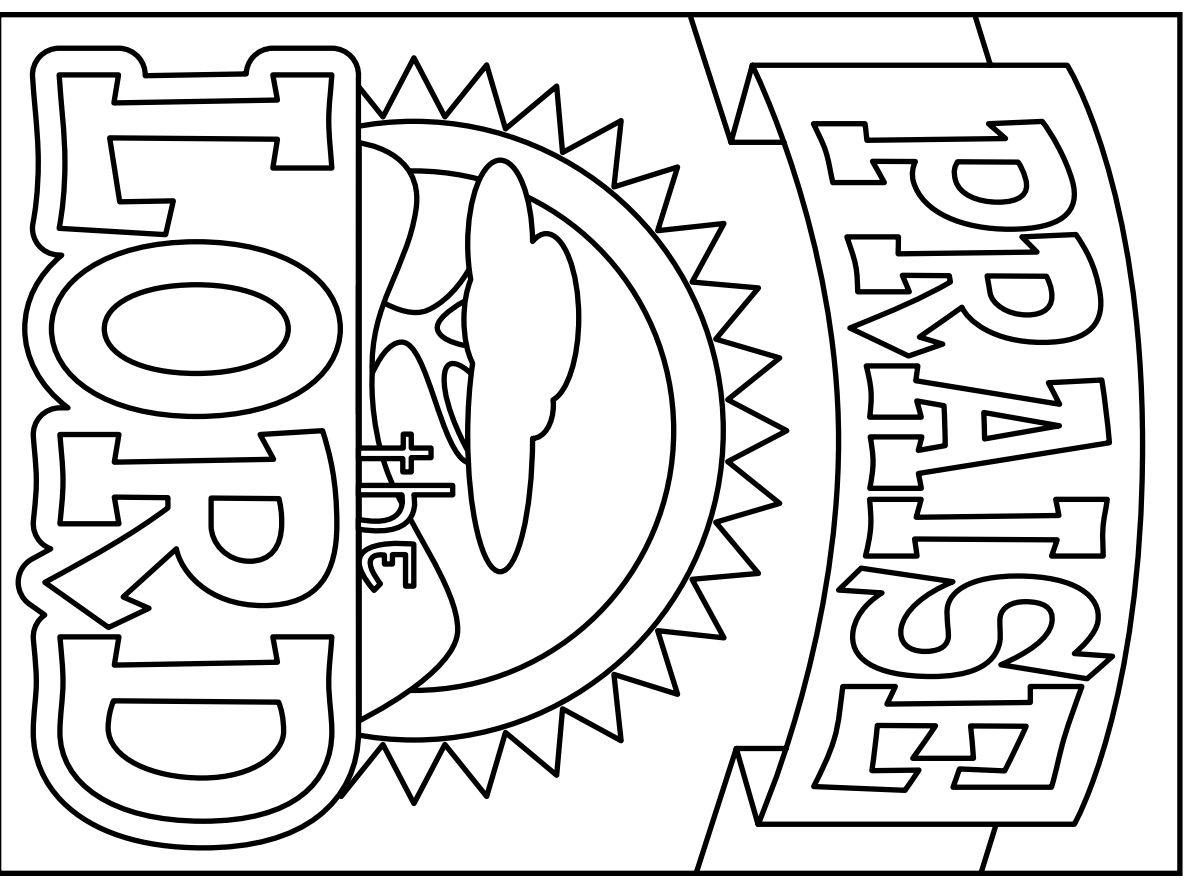


Illustrated  
MINISTRY

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# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

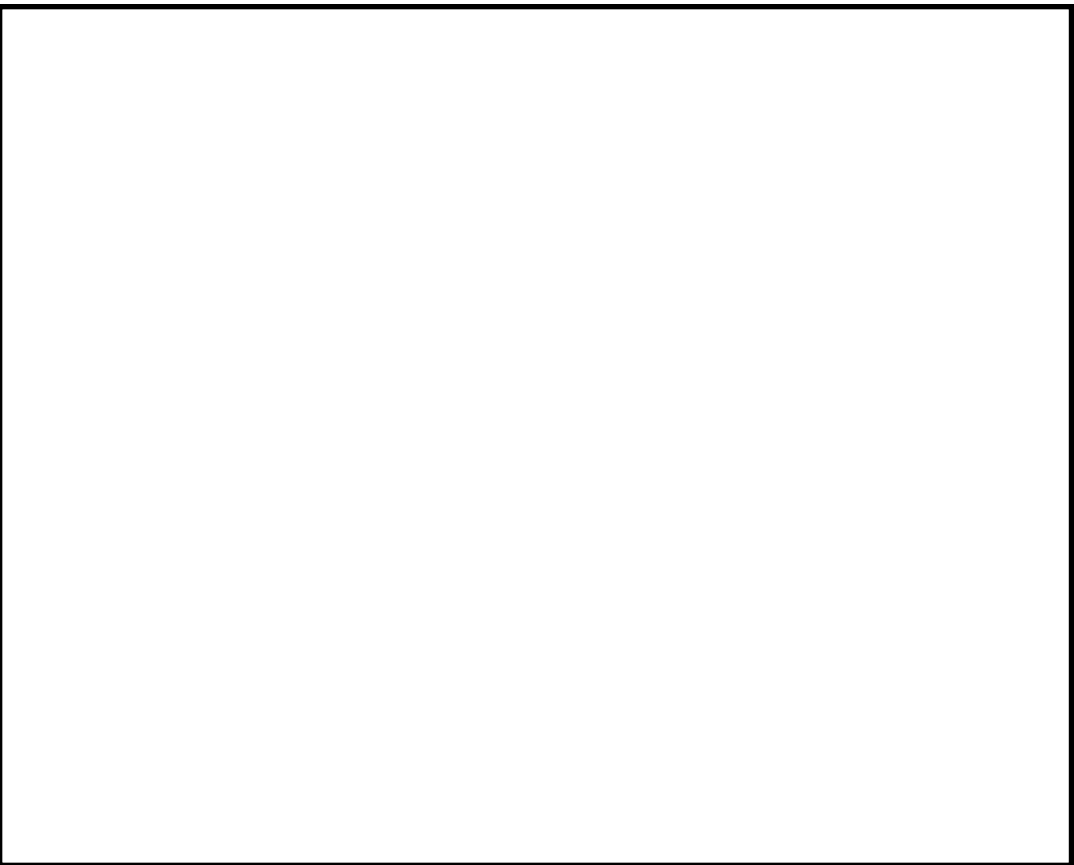
Activities based on 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26, Psalm 118, Colossians 3:12-17, Luke 2:41-52.





# DRAW IT

When Jesus' family accidentally leaves him behind at the Passover festival, his parents find him sitting and teaching the religious leaders in the temple! Imagine their surprise! Draw what you imagine this scene looked like.



# SOLVE (the) MAZE

Follow the maze to help Samuel's family make their way to the temple!

