



## Second Sunday of Advent

December 5, 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

- 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.**      **Food Collection** for Emmanuel Dining Room in the Westminster parking lot and **Cereal Sunday** for the Hanover Pantry 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.
- 9:45 – 10:30 a.m.**      **Fellowship Time** in the Meeting Room.
- 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.**      **Confirmation Class** in Classroom 7.
- 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.**      **First Sunday Speaker Series in the Sanctuary.** See page 7 for details.
- 10:15 – 10:45 a.m.**      **Psalms Alive!** in Grace Hall. Pre-registration is required. See page 7 for details.
- 11:15 – 12:00 p.m.**      **Living Mosaics** in Rodney Chapel. See announcement on page 6.
- 12:00 – 12:15 p.m.**      **Fellowship Time** in the Meeting Room.
- 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.**      **180 Youth** meet in Classroom 6. See page 7 for details.

*Please see page 7 and 8 for information on Educational Offerings for Adults.*

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**Today's Music:** The fully vaccinated and masked Westminster Choir will lead our hymns. Please join us in lifting your voices in praise! After worship, Dr. F. Anthony Thurman will present *A Musical Journey: Advent to Christmas* in the Sanctuary. See page 7 for details.

**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).

**The flowers on the chancel** are given to the glory of God and in honor of our Westminster Church family with gratitude for all of the love and support. Wishing all happy holidays! Josh, Rick, Alejandro and Leonardo.

**Recently hospitalized:** Pat Cunning, Debbie McCullough and 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 5, 2021

TOWER CHIME

Susan Spilecki

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN PRELUDE

*Pastorale*

J.S. Bach

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Lou Hering

Last Sunday we lit the first candle – the candle of hope.

Today we light the candle of peace.

**We light it fully aware that peace is elusive,  
and in some parts of the world it is difficult to find.**

Yet in this season of Advent, we trust that God is never absent from us.

**God is always preparing something new.**

Even where there is war and discord,

whether between countries, within families, or within our own hearts,

**God is present, calling us to a new future.**

ADVENT PRAYER

**Loving God, in this time of preparation and planning,  
we thank you for the hope and peace you continuously offer us.**

**Show us the creative power of hope.**

**Teach us the peace that comes from justice.**

**Prepare our hearts to be transformed**

**and reveal your vision of peace**

**that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.**

\*HYMN NO. 87

*Comfort, Comfort Now My People*

GENEVAN 42

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

SCRIPTURE LESSON

ANTHEM

*Prince of Peace Is He*

Stephen Walters/Text: Carlton C. Buck

The Savior came to bring salvation,  
Proclaiming peace to ev'ry nation,  
Sweetest theme in all creation,  
Prince of Peace is he.  
On manger hay the shepherds found him,  
The star shone down with glory 'round him,  
Lord of lords his own have crowned him,  
Prince of Peace is he.  
Our days are blessed with jubilation,  
Christ came to bring salvation,  
Sing his praise in adoration,  
Prince of Peace is he.

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

\*HYMN. NO. 107

*Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*

REJOICE, REJOICE

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

We come to the table as children of God.

**We share a common faith and a common desire.**

We come to be transformed into new people  
who live according to the loving spirit of Christ.

**May the Prince of Peace transform us into peacemakers.**

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Eternal God...

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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

**Loving God, we give you thanks for this holy meal of bread and wine  
that makes us one with Christ.**

**Fill us with Christ-like compassion, a thirst for justice  
and a determination to work for peace,  
so that we may live the rich lives you call us to live. Amen.**

\*HYMN NO. 106

*Prepare the Way, O Zion*

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Savior of the Nations, Come*

Paul Manz

**Join us for a time of fellowship following worship.  
Coffee, tea, and hot chocolate will be available in Rodney Chapel and the Meeting Room.**

## 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.

### PERMISSIONS AND COPYRIGHTS

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# COVID-19 Mask Policy and Safety Measures

**Mask Policy.** 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.

*If you have children too young to be vaccinated, you are welcome to worship in the sanctuary or Rodney Chapel, but we have also created a safe, kid-friendly space called the **Prayground**. This worship space is in Community Hall on Sundays from 9 to 9:45 a.m. 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.*

**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.

## *Living Mosaics* Worship Returns!



SUNDAYS AT 11:15 A.M.

Our 11:15 a.m. Sunday service has resumed! If you find it difficult to make it to church by 9:00 a.m., or if you prefer the more casual style of our *Living Mosaics* service, we hope to see you at our 11:15 service. As before, this service will be held in Rodney Chapel, followed by a time for fellowship.

# EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

You can find virtual Christian education and small group opportunities on the homepage of the Westminster website ([www.wpc.org](http://www.wpc.org)) and discover other Education Offerings for Adults on [YouTube](#).

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## **"Psalms Alive!" – Sundays at 10:15 a.m. in Grace Hall**

Come worship, jump, and jive with *Psalms Alive!* This innovative and custom-made program fuses elements of worship and music education together to create a God-focused music program for families. Due to space constraints, participation is limited and registration is required. Please email Alexis Droke at [alexisdroke@wpc.org](mailto:alexisdroke@wpc.org) for more information.

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## **First Sunday Speaker Series – Today in the Sanctuary from 10 to 11 a.m.**

### **A Musical Journey: Advent to Christmas with Dr. F. Anthony Thurman**

The season of Advent is a time of expectation for the coming of the Lord, yet the world around us has already rushed into the Christmas season. In our Christian faith tradition, the four weeks of Advent are a time of preparation, followed by the 12 days of Christmas when we celebrate the birth of the Christ Child in Bethlehem. Westminster Director of Music/Organist Tony Thurman will discuss the music of Advent and how it helps us prepare the royal highway for the king of kings. In addition, he will provide a preview of the anthems that will be performed by the Westminster Choir at the Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 12 at 3 p.m. Joining him will be Metropolitan Opera Grand Prize Winner Margaret Mezzacappa, mezzo soprano, and pianist Ted W. Barr.

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## **180 Youth – Sundays from 5 to 7 p.m. meet in Classroom 6**

Hey 180! Join us this Sunday for a great night of games, discussion, and dinner with all your favorite people! All students from 6th to 12th grade are welcome! Don't forget your mask!

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## **Online Bible Studies**

### **Midweek Manna Bible Study – Wednesdays at Noon on Zoom**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89503349345?pwd=SlJrY2V2Y2tYa3JWQXk5ak1iZU1ldz09>

The Midweek Manna Bible Study, facilitated by the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson, is exploring the genre of the Hebrew Short Story by reading three Old Testament novellas: Ruth, Jonah, and Esther. In addition to being sacred texts with important theological themes, these works are also great stories! Join us weekly on Zoom and spend some time with Ruth, Jonah, Esther and other compelling figures from the Old Testament.

### **Thursday Evenings, 6–7 p.m. on Zoom**

Our Bible Study, facilitated by Randy Williamson and Mary Anne Peters, continues and new faces are always welcome. Contact Randy Williamson at [randywilliamson1@comcast.net](mailto:randywilliamson1@comcast.net) and he will send the Zoom link.

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## **WPC Peace & Justice Online Education Events**

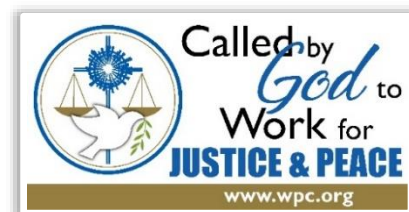
### **Rectifying A Historical Inequity in Wilmington**

**Thursday, December 9, 7 p.m. on Zoom**

**With Dave Gula, WILMAPCO Feasibility Project Manager**

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

Planners of the U.S. interstate highway system routed some highways directly, and sometimes purposefully, through Black and brown communities. The construction of I-95 through Wilmington resulted in the destruction of 360+ homes between Adams and Jackson Streets. It effectively created a wall between the West Side neighborhood and the downtown area and substantially increased traffic on these two streets. To address this historic inequity, Wilmington is joining an ever-growing number of cities exploring ways to reconnect neighborhoods and provide new public spaces by creating caps over urban highways. Join us as we learn about a new vision for Wilmington. Our classes are accessed via Zoom using the link above, or go to [zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join), enter Meeting ID **860 2752 1655** and click "Join."





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## Women's Online Community Group – 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays at 5 p.m.

The women of Westminster connect for heartfelt and enriching discussions on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 5 to 6 p.m. The Rev. Jill Getty facilitates this group on Zoom. Use the Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/477914100>

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# Don't have a cow about holiday shopping...buy one instead!



This holiday season, you can give a woman in Guatemala the gift of a cow or bull so she can provide her family with extra income and nutrition. **A cow or bull costs \$300 and gifts of any amount will be matched!** Every \$300 given will be matched with \$150 for cattle shelters – thanks to an anonymous Westminster donor. Shares are available. We have beautiful gift cards too! [Make a gift here](#) or scan the QR code. To learn more and to see our new video, visit [www.ncpguatemala.com/cattle](http://www.ncpguatemala.com/cattle).

Join us for a rare opportunity hear directly from our friends in Guatemala as they share details about this project via Zoom on **Tuesday, December 7, at 6 p.m.** [Click here](#) to register, or go to <https://tinyurl.com/ycy7z349>. Contact Carrie Saathoff with questions. Thank you for supporting our partners in Guatemala.



# Christmas Boxes Are Under Way!

Every year, Westminster fills boxes at Christmas for families in need in our community. Due to the pandemic, our Christmas Box Project has once again been reimagined for 2021. We can still bring holiday cheer to 120 families! Be a part of this joyful project!

- **Check and Online Donations**

By **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12**, make a check or online donation so that we can purchase Walmart gift cards for kids 0-18 years old and ShopRite food cards for each family. This again replaces the tradition of “Wish Star” gifts and food collection we used for so many years. Write and mail check to *Westminster Presbyterian Church* (memo: Christmas Boxes) or make an online donation by going to [www.wpc.org](http://www.wpc.org), click on “Donate Now” at the top of the page, and choose “Christmas Boxes Project” from the list of options. Donate what you can. Every dollar helps make the goal of this mission a reality!

- **Bake a Batch of Cookies**

Email Jim and Polly Carter ([pylecarter@comcast.net](mailto:pylecarter@comcast.net)) to sign up to bake a batch of cookies in your kitchen. (No nuts, please!) Package one dozen cookies per zip-lock bag. If you’re feeling festive, you may put your bag of cookies in a decorated container. Drop-off instructions below.

- **Decorate an “Advent Bank”**

Calling all children and youth in our congregation! Decorate an “Advent Bank” that you’ll find in your Bible Box or pick one up at the Reception Desk. Then start saving part of your allowance or extra money you earn doing chores during Advent so the Christmas Box Elves can buy presents for the little ones who receive Christmas from Westminster. Drop-off instructions below.

- **Drop Off Cookies and Advent Banks**

Deliver Advent Banks and cookies to the Elves inside the Blue Doors (Community Hall entrance off 13th Street) on **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, FROM 8:45 TO 11:00 A.M.**

Check the *Westminster Weekly Word* e-newsletter each week for any unanticipated updates and additional information. Thank you for sharing the love of Christ!



# COME HOME TO WESTMINSTER FOR CHRISTMAS

*Please join us in celebrating the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ!*

## **Westminster Choir Christmas Concert**

**Sunday, December 12, 3 p.m.**

God's Promise: Lessons, Readings, and Carols of Our Time, including familiar scriptures and poetry by Thomas Troeger.

Westminster Choir | Westminster by Heart Storytellers | Ted W. Barr, piano

Pre-concert Tower Chime Recital by Susan Spilecki at 2:30 p.m.

## **Wilmington Handbell Ensemble Christmas Concert**

**Saturday, December 18, 4 p.m.**

Christmas brings out the child in all of us. Experience the joy and wonder of the season through a child's eyes as the Ensemble presents *A Child's Christmas*.

Kerry Dietz, artistic director | F. Anthony Thurman, organ

Pre-concert Tower Chime Recital by Susan Spilecki at 3:30 p.m.

## **Christmas Eve**

**Friday, December 24**

Service of Story and Song – 5:30 p.m.

Featuring a pageant for children and the young-at-heart and our Youth Instrumental Ensemble, this lively service will trumpet the joy of Jesus' birth!

Candlelight Communion Service – 8:00 p.m.

Traditional candlelight service with communion that is open to all, sermon by Dr. Jones, and Christmas music sung by the Westminster Choir.

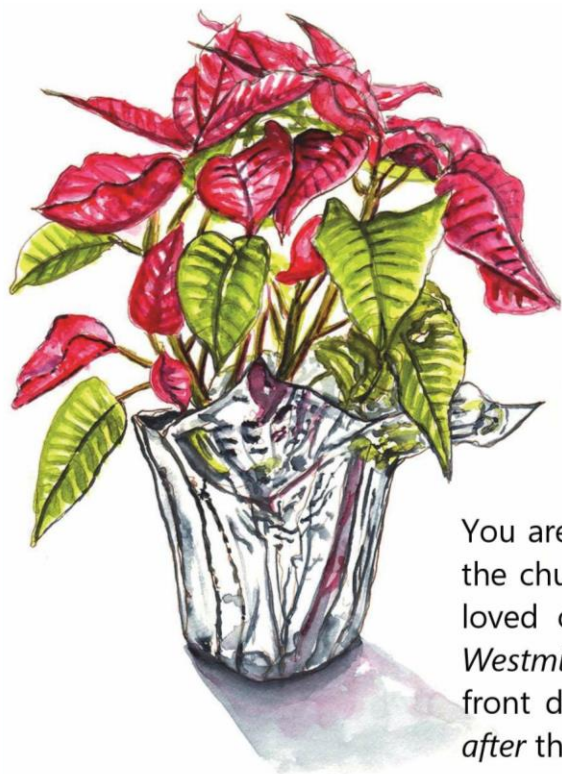
## **Sunday, December 26**

**One worship service at 10:00 a.m.**

Continue your celebration of Christ's birth with a joy-filled Service of Lessons and Carols, featuring the Westminster-by-Heart Storytellers. The Playground will be closed on December 26, but we hope children of all ages will join us for worship in the sanctuary. Kids: feel free to come in your Christmas pajamas!

***We hope you will join us in person or online! All concerts and worship services will be livestreamed on our [YouTube channel](#). We are committed to your safety during the pandemic. [Click here](#) or visit [wpc.org](http://wpc.org) for our COVID-19 mask policy and safety measures.***





# 2021 Christmas POINSETTIAS

You are welcome to make a contribution toward the decoration of the church for the Christmas season in memory of, or in honor of, loved ones. Please complete this form, make check payable to *Westminster Presbyterian Church*, and mail to Susan Alexander at the front desk by **Wednesday, December 15**. For any form received *after* that date, the names will be listed in the December 26 bulletin.

## DONATION AMOUNT

☐ \$20      ☐ \$40      ☐ \$60      ☐ \$80      ☐ \$100      ☐ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## PLEASE PRINT NEATLY

❖ In Memory Of: (FOR THE DECEASED)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Deceased Person's Name*

❖ In Honor Of: (FOR THE LIVING)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Living Person's Name*

❖ Given By:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Donor's Name and Telephone Number*

**You may take a poinsettia home following the 8:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve. We are delivering poinsettias to local retirement communities to share the joy of the season.**

### **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

### **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

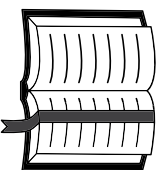
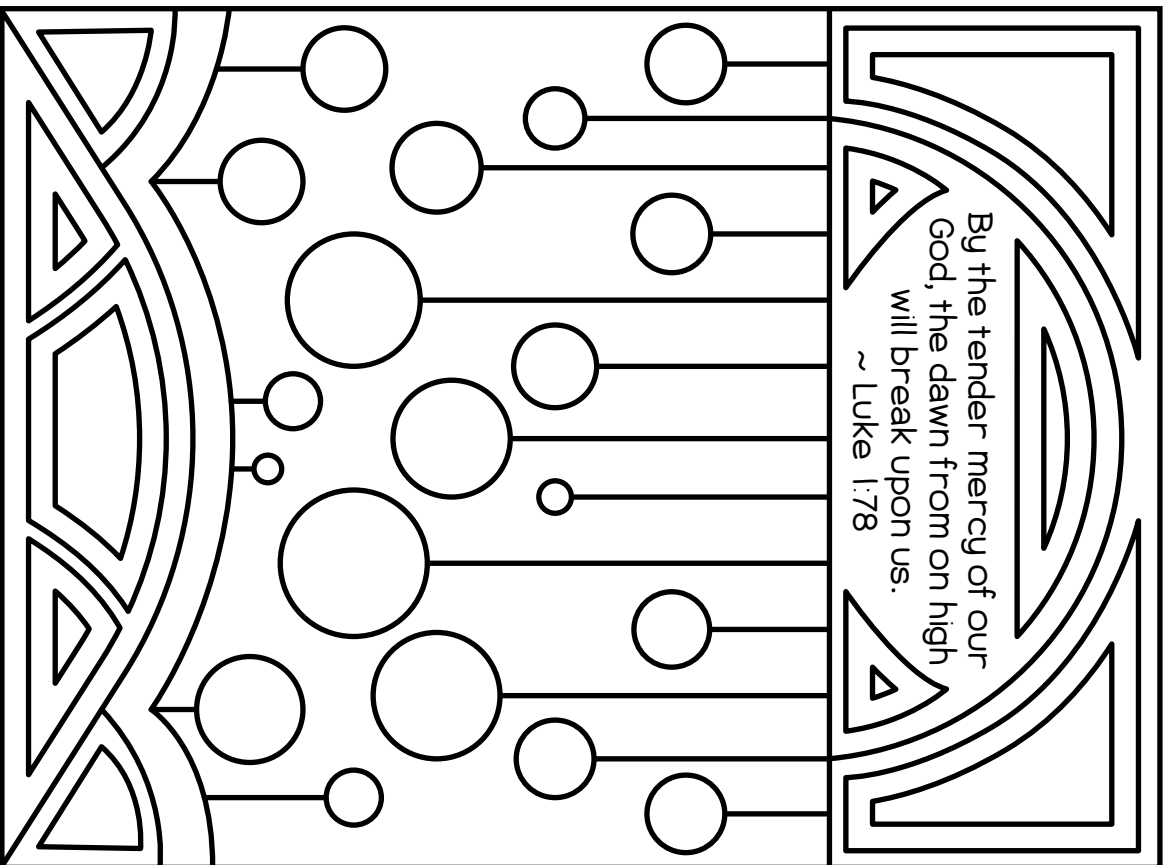
### **PARTNERS IN WORLDWIDE MINISTRY**

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, Rosario Diaz and the Association of Mam Christian Women for Development



By the tender mercy of our  
God, the dawn from on high  
will break upon us.

~ Luke 1:78



illustrated  
— MINISTRY —

Suggested for use on December 5, 2021 based on the RCL.  
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# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Luke 1:68-79, Philipians 1:3-11, Luke 3:1-6.

THIS IS MY

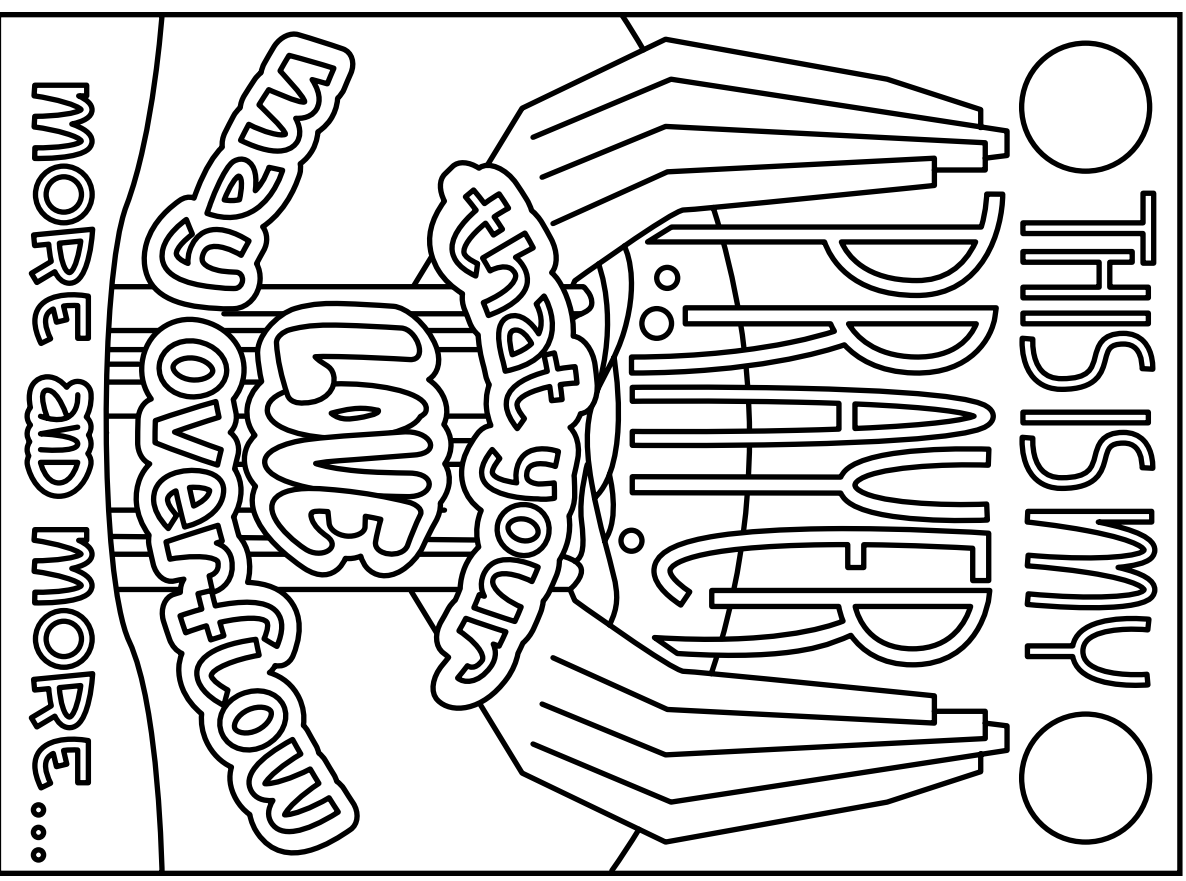
PRAYER

that yours

LOVE

may overflow

MORE AND MORE...





# DRAW IT

John the Baptist traveled from place to place, telling people to prepare for 'Jesus' coming. Draw what you imagined John looked like, the places he preached, and the people he talked to.

# FINISH <sup>the</sup> DRAWING

In Philippians 1:6, we're reminded God promises to finish the good work God starts in and with us! One area of God's important work in us involves our relationships. Fill in the outlines to create a few people with whom you have close relationships. Think about how you experience God's love and presence through your connection with them.