

# **Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany**

### February 6, 2022

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
DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY	Kathleen Kennan
YOUTH LEADERS	Tommy Neilson, 180 Leader Josh Cox, Molly McPheeters
DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL OPERATIONS	Colleen Falasco
DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES AND SECURITY	Paul Crothamel

**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 & <u>www.wpc.org</u>

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 (<u>www.wpc.org</u>), liking us on Facebook (<u>www.facebook.com/wpcdelaware</u>), or following us on Instagram (<u>www.instagram.com/wpcdelaware</u>).

8:30 – 10:00 a.m.	<u>Today at Westminster</u> Food Collection for Emmanuel Dining Room and Hanover Food Closet in the Westminster parking lot.
9:00 – 9:45 a.m.	Worship in the Sanctuary. See guidelines on page 5.
9:00 – 9:45 a.m.	<b>Prayground</b> 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 5.
10:15 -10:45 a.m.	Psalms Alive! in Grace Hall. See page 6 for details.
10:00 – 10:45 a.m.	Confirmation Class in Classroom 7.
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.	<b>180 Youth</b> in Classroom 6. See page 6 for details.

• **Bible Box** - New episodes of **our interactive, children's web series** *Bible Box* **will be** available on our <u>YouTube</u> channel today. See page 6 for details.

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

**The Music:** The fully vaccinated and masked Westminster Choir will lead our hymns. Please join us in lifting your voices in praise! During the month of February, we will be recognizing Black History Month in our service music and anthems. Today we hear a stirring arrangement of *Ain'a That Good News!* by William Dawson (1899–1990). While the Alabama native is best remembered for his choral arrangements, it is important to note that he made significant contributions to chamber and symphonic repertoire as well. His *Negro Folk Symphony* garnered the attention of Leupold Stowkowski and was premiered by the Philadelphia Orchestra in 1934. Would you like to add your voice to the Westminster Choir? Contact TonyThurman@wpc.org.



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 3% of the 9,000 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 on the chancel are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Jeannette Slocomb Edwards by Ells and Gail Edwards.

Recently hospitalized: Polly Pyle-Carter and Sally Robinson.

Westminster's Prayer Team prays for the needs of our community of faith. You may submit a prayer request by email: <u>wpcprayerlist@gmail.com</u>.

**You can make a contribution** to Westminster Presbyterian Church by visiting our website <u>www.wpc.org</u> and click the "Donate Now" button or scan the QR code on your smart phone.



#### ORDER OF WORSHIP- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2022

Adoration

TOWER CHIME

Craig Checkel

**Florence Price** 

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed are those who trust in God and hunger to find meaning in their lives. We yearn to deepen our faith in God and to discover God's direction for our lives. Blessed are those who serve God with joy,

touching the lives of others with a spirit of hope. We intend to give our best to God,

bearing fruit in all we say and do.

\*Hymn No. 509

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

HOLY MANNA

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, we confess that we do not always follow the way of Jesus. Too often we follow a path that is laced with prejudice and indifference rather than a road of respect and compassion. It makes us feel confident and secure to ignore our failings. But when your word pricks our conscience, we realize that our soul has withered, and we have wandered far away from you. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

<u>Click here</u> to watch today's TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN on Westminster's YouTube channel.

SCRIPTURE LESSON	Luke 6:17-26	New Testament, page 55
SERMON		Gregory Knox Jones
ANTHEM	Ain'a That Good News!	Spiritual/arr. William Dawson
	I got a crown up in-a the Kingdom, ain'a that good news! I'm a-goin' to lay down this worl', goin'a shoulder up-uh my cro Goin'a take it home-a to my Jesus, ain'a that good news! I got a harp up in-a the Kingdom, ain'a that good news! I got a robe up in-a the Kingdom, ain'a that good news! I got a Saviour in-a the Kingdom, ain'a that good news!	DSS,

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

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 Christ transform us and bring us peace.** 

\*Hymn No. 769

For Everyone Born

FOR EVERYONE BORN

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...

THE LORD'S PRAYER (page 35 in our Glory to God hymnal, using "debts" and "debtors")

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

Loving God, we pray that we may know Christ's transforming love so that we may live generous and bountiful lives. Give us who are nourished by him, the grace to share our bread with the hungry and with the hungry of heart so that all may know God's love. Amen.

*Нумn No. 172	Blest Are They	BLEST ARE THEY
	Vs. 1: All	
	Vs. 2: Women (All sing Refrain)	
	Vs. 3: All	
	Vs. 4: Men (All sing Refrain)	
	Vs. 5: All	
BENEDICTION		

Postlude

Festivity on HOLY MANNA

Douglas E. Wagner

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).

#### 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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# **COVID-19 Mask Policy and Safety Measures**

**Mask Policy and Sanctuary Seating.** Masks are required inside the building and must fully cover the nose and mouth. This change makes it possible for 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.

To provide a safe place for our young children and our immune-compromised adults, the front of the sanctuary and the side transepts are reserved for social distancing. The back half of the sanctuary and the balcony are reserved for those who are comfortable sitting closer to one another.

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 9:00 a.m. 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 needlepoint 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.

# EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

You can find virtual Christian education and small group opportunities on the homepage of the Westminster website (<u>www.wpc.org</u>) and discover other Education Offerings for Adults on <u>YouTube</u>.

#### **Bible Box for Children – YouTube**

For children two years old through 5th grade, *Bible Box* is back again for another semester of stories, crafting, and fun. Join Ms. Alexis on <u>YouTube</u> for this virtual and interactive Sunday School experience. Materials for the crafts are provided for free. New content is uploaded every Sunday. The 2022 spring program runs through April 3. If you have questions, please email Alexis Droke at <u>alexisdroke@wpc.org</u>.

#### "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 <u>alexisdroke@wpc.org</u> for more information.

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

Calling all 6th-12th graders! 180 is on for this Sunday! Join us at WPC for games, dinner, and small groups. It's a great time to hang out with some great people. See you there! Don't forget your masks! For more information about 180 Youth Ministry for grades 6 – 12, contact Tommy at tommyjneilson@gmail.com.

#### **Online Bible Studies**

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

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89503349345?pwd=SIJrY2V2Y2tYa3JWQXk5ak1iZU1Idz09

The Midweek Manna Bible Study, facilitated by the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson, is reading through Luke's Gospel. New faces always welcome.

#### Thursday Evenings – 6 to 7 p.m. on Zoom

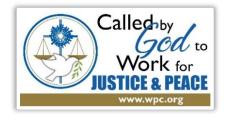
Our Bible Study, facilitated by Randy Williamson and Mary Anne Peters, continues and new faces are always welcome. Contact Randy Williamson at <u>randywilliamson1@comcast.net</u> and he will send the Zoom link.

#### **Thursday Evening Education Event**

#### Code Red Weed 2 – "Kiss the Ground" Video and Discussions Thursday, February 10, 7 p.m. on Zoom

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

Did you know that the earth's soil holds tremendous potential for storing carbon? Learn how proper farming techniques could actually draw carbon out of the atmosphere and store it in the soil. Join us to watch "Kiss the Ground" to learn about this hopeful possibility. "Kiss the Ground" is a new



film about how regenerating the world's soils has the potential to rapidly stabilize Earth's climate, restore lost ecosystems, and create abundant food supplies. This film explains why transitioning to regenerative agriculture could be key in rehabilitating the planet, while simultaneously invigorating a new sense of hope and inspiration. Use the Zoom link above, or go to <u>zoom.us/join</u>, enter Meeting ID **860 2752 1655** and click "Join".

#### 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

## ARE YOU CONSIDERING MEMBERSHIP AT WESTMINSTER?

#### Wednesday, February 9, 5 p.m. on Zoom

Are you interested in learning more about Westminster Presbyterian Church? Are you thinking about becoming a member of our congregation? Join us via Zoom on February 9 from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. for a Membership Exploration Class! This is a chance to hear about Westminster's work and witness, to meet representatives from various ministries of the church, and to discover ways to connect with our community of faith. If you decide the time is right, you have an opportunity to join the Westminster congregation at the end of the class. **RSVP by February 7** to the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson at

sniesenthompson@wpc.org.

# ADULT EDUCATION Jim Lee to Speak on Transhumanism



## Sunday, February 13 10 a.m. in the sanctuary (after the 9 a.m. service)

"Transhumanism and Beyond: The Future of Human Evolution"

How have we changed as a species during the past 10,000 years? And perhaps more importantly, where are we going? Join professional futurist Jim Lee in this exploration of human potential.

# **<u>Code Red</u>** Month at WPC Begins Today!

Want to learn more about the climate crisis and make changes to help? Take the pledge for February! Pick up an Earth Care Pledge and Progress Card today (also available in the January/February *Chimes* newsletter).



Each week in February the Earth Care Task Force will offer ways you can help. Today (February 6), you are asked to commit to the Earth Care Pledge and pick up a Progress Card. Those watching from home can use the card printed in the January/February Chimes newsletter. We will offer opportunities to get educated, make changes at home, and advocate. Those completing the Pledge may exchange their cards for a reusable WPC mug.

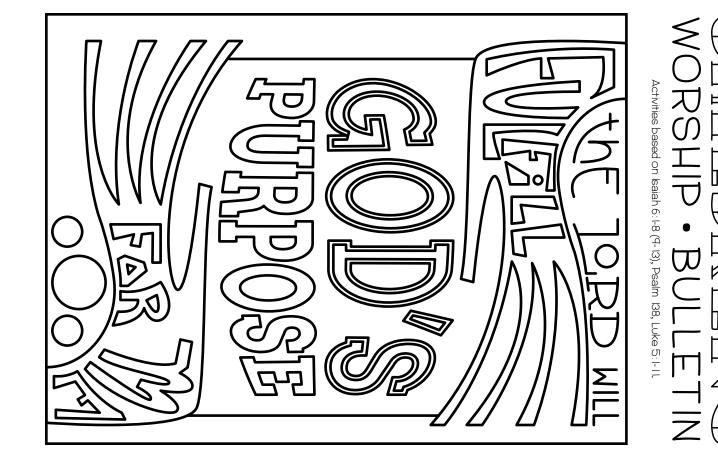


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Isaiah 6 describes the incredible vision Isaiah had. He saw God sitting on a throne, with angels flying around praising God! God calls Isaiah to be God's messenger. **Draw how you imagine this amazing scene looked!** 



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Jesus. Help them make their way through the maze

