



Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 31, 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

- 8:45 – 10:00 a.m.** **Collecting food** for Emmanuel Dining Room – parking lot
- 9:00 – 9:45 a.m.** **Worship** in the Sanctuary
Anyone over the age of five is required to wear a mask and children must remain with their parents.
- 10:30 – 12:00 p.m.** **Annual Meeting** on Zoom (see announcement on p. 7).
- 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.** **Discussion:** God in Our Midst and Diana Butler Bass' *Grounded* (see announcement on p. 8).
- 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.** **180 Youth** on Zoom (please see p. 6).

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

The sanctuary flowers are given to the Glory of God by Sue and Jerry Spilecki in memory of their fathers, Robert C. Kline and Bernard J. Spilecki, both veterans of the United States Army.

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. Dates available are March 7 and 14.

Westminster's Prayer Team prays for the needs of our community of faith. You may submit a prayer request by sending an email to 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.



The mission of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians 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 still more just and inclusive church.

Westminster is certified as an Earth Care Congregation by the Presbyterian Church (USA). This honor means that we have exhibited exceptional leadership in protecting God's creation and being good stewards of earth's resources through our worship, education, outreach and advocacy. Only 2% of the 10,000 Presbyterian congregations in this country 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.

ORDER OF WORSHIP- SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2021

TOWER CHIME

Craig Checkel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

Albert L. Travis

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 111)

Praise the Lord!

In the company of the righteous, in the congregation, praise the Lord!

I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart.

The Lord is gracious and merciful;
the works of God's hands are faithful and just.

I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart.

Holy and awesome is God's name;
to God belongs eternal praise.

Let us worship the Lord!

HYMN NO. 619

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven!
Vs. 1 & 2

LAUDA ANIMA

Praise, my soul, the God of heaven;
glad of heart your carols raise;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who, like me, should sing God's praise?
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Maker all your days!

Praise God for the grace and favor
shown our forebears in distress;
God is still the same forever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Sing our Maker's faithfulness!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**You have shown us, O God,
what it means to follow you.
You modeled compassion in the person of Jesus Christ,
but we are slow to extend kindness to others.
You challenge systems of injustice
through the movement of your spirit,
but we keep choosing comfort over justice,
the status quo over the kingdom of God.
You create all things good,
and your creation sings your praise,
but we consider no creatures but ourselves
and wound your earth by our sin.
Forgive us, O God.
Pour your compassion on us this day,
and by your forgiveness,
show us how to share it with one another. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

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

SCRIPTURE

Mark 1:21-28

"Silence! Frenzied, unclean spirit," cried God's healing, Holy One. "Cease your ranting! Flesh can't bear it. Flee as night before the sun." At Christ's voice the demon trembled, from its victim madly rushed, while the crowd that was assembled stood in wonder, stunned, and hushed.	Silence, Lord, the unclean spirit, in our mind and in our heart. Speak your word that when we hear it all our demons shall depart. Clear our thought and calm our feeling; still the fractured, warring soul. By the power of your healing make us faithful, true, and whole.
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SERMON

Sudie Niesen Thompson

ANTHEM

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Spiritual/arr. William Dawson

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.
Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.
If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus and say, "He died for all."

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Gregory Knox Jones

LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN NO. 320

The Church of Christ in Every Age
Vs. 1, 3 & 5

WAREHAM

The church of Christ in every age, beset by change but Spirit-led, must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead.	Then let the servant church arise, a caring church that longs to be a partner in Christ's sacrifice, and clothed in Christ's humanity.
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We have no mission but to serve
in full obedience to our Lord:
to care for all, without reserve,
and spread Christ's liberating word.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Outburst of Joy

Hermann Schroeder

*At the conclusion of the Postlude, please exit the sanctuary, row by row, beginning with the last pew to the front pew. Those sitting in the side transepts exit from the front pew to the back pew down the center aisle to the narthex. **Please wait until an usher directs you to leave.** You may want to have a conversation with others you have missed during the lockdown. We ask that you meet them outside, maintaining the required six-foot social distancing, while continuing to wear your mask.*

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).

PARTICIPANTS

The Rev. Dr. Gregory Knox Jones
The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson
Director of Music/Organist: Dr. F. Anthony Thurman
Choristers: Hye Eun Choi, soprano; Sharon Babcock, mezzo soprano
Jason Berger, tenor; Brenton Mattox, bass
Videographers: Rich Albert, Chip Pfleegor, Roger Reinicker, Baden Saathoff,
Aaron Wemhoff and Sophia Wolff
Tower Chime: Craig Checkel

SOURCES AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Prayer of Confession is adapted from the prayer for the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany in *Call to Worship: Lectionary Aids for 2020-2021, Year B (Volume 54.1)* published by the Office of Theology and Worship of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), edited by Kimberly Bracken Long. 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.

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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](#).

180 Youth on Zoom! Join us TONIGHT at 6:00 p.m.

Small Groups are on for this Sunday! Join us on Zoom at 6:00 p.m. for games and discussion in our small groups. See you there! For more information about 180, please contact Tommy Neilson at tommyjneilson@gmail.com.

Online Bible Studies

Wednesday afternoons, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. on Zoom (Midweek Manna Bible Study)

<https://zoom.us/j/97700423780?pwd=b1dGL2c4NXRjMIRBOWJWWEIsTTg3dz09>

Zoom Meeting ID: 977 0042 3780 | Passcode: 547264

The Midweek Manna Bible Study, facilitated by the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson, is reading through the Gospel of Matthew. New faces always welcome!

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88941171153?pwd=MmxuZWVREhZSVExS3IveXQvTUhaQT09>

Facilitated by Randy Williamson and Mary Anne Peters. Our Bible study continues and new faces are always welcome.

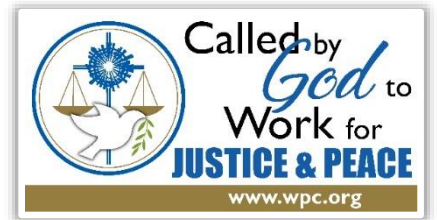
WPC Peace & Justice Online Education Events

The Wealth Gap, facilitated by Sandie Reinicker

Thursday, February 4, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

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

The median household wealth for a black family in America today is just 10% of the median household wealth of a white family. Overcoming that discrepancy is one of the greatest challenges we face in providing racial equity for all of the citizens of this country. We will view the 16-minute video entitled "The Racial Wealth Gap – Explained" and then provide an opportunity for discussion and reflection on this topic, led by Sandie Reinicker. The video is a part of a series by Netflix but has been made available to watch for free on Youtube. Please join us for an examination of this very important issue.



A Special Education Opportunity: Racism in America

Today at 1:00 p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82039285274?pwd=cD1M2V4ckMrekRyK2lrTkNaeWwrZz09>

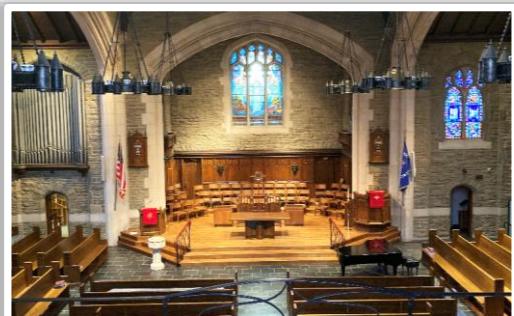
Much of the racial turmoil in our country today can be traced directly to elements of our history, even before the founding of the United States. Many of the racial stereotypes we hear – or hold – are a direct consequence of intentional economic and public policy. Understanding this history gives us a foundation for action to address the profound inequities that exist in our society today. This series of one-hour classes, hosted by The Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew, includes both presentation and discussion. Please join us!

Bible Boxes for Children (Age 2 – Grade 4)

Bible Box, a very creative [YouTube series](#) that combines Bible stories, crafts, and music, will resume February 14 and run through the end of April. If you have questions about the Bible Box program or would like to sign up to participate in the spring of 2021, please email Alexis Droke at alexisdroke@wpc.org.

Join Us for In-person Worship in Our Sanctuary

Sunday, February 7, 9:00 a.m.



We have reopened our sanctuary on Sunday mornings for one worship service at 9:00 a.m. Attendance is limited and an online reservation (one per family) is required. When we reach the maximum number of reservations we can host, the reservations will close. We have established a number of guidelines for your safety, which include social distancing, wearing a facial mask/covering, and the use of no-touch sanitizing stations. [Click here](#) to read all of the guidelines. The liturgy will be emailed to you after you make your online reservation.

Congregants are encouraged to print the liturgy from home and bring it to the service or pull it up on your mobile device; a limited number of printed copies will be available. *The decision to attend in-person worship rests with each individual.* A virtual option will continue to be available on our website at www.wpc.org.

To make your online reservation for February 7 worship in the sanctuary, [click here!](#)



TODAY

9:00 a.m. – One Worship Service in the Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. – Annual Meeting on Zoom

The annual congregational meeting of Westminster Presbyterian Church will be held today at 10:30 a.m. for the purpose of conducting the following business:

1. To receive the report of the Church Officer Nominating Committee and to elect elders, deacons, and trustees;
2. To elect congregational at-large members to the Church Officer Nominating Committee;
3. To receive the financial report of 2020;
4. To receive the budget report for 2021;
5. To consider changes to the calls of the pastors; and
6. To consider any other business which may properly come before the meeting.

By order of Session: Gregory Knox Jones, Moderator, and Jan Patrick, Clerk of Session

Please refer to Friday's email from Nicole Hughes for the Zoom information.

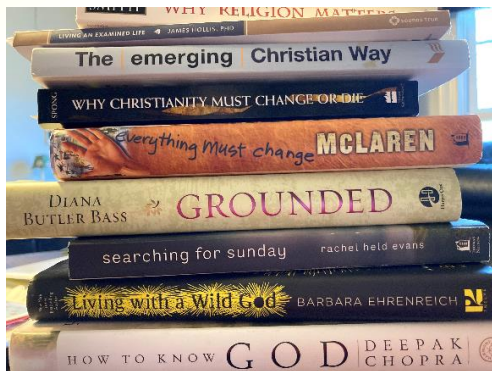
Join the Conversation: God in Our Midst, Grounded, and the Emerging Church

Today | 1:00 p.m. | via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86291826216?pwd=WFVVVHFSejhZMDNpTDNRbE82cDg0UT09>

Or call in by dialing +1 (929) 205-6099 **OR** +1 (301) 715-8592

Zoom Meeting ID: 862 9182 6216 | Passcode: 437324



There's a lot of resonance between Diana Butler Bass' book, *Grounded*, and what's going on at Westminster. Join the Discernment Team's second discussion on where we're finding God. You can listen to Butler Bass' interview on *Grounded* in the Washington Cathedral on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/tHFfK0BNz7Y>. Read the book or just come because you're interested in discussing what's good at Westminster, what you enjoy engaging with, and what you'd like to see more of. Hope to see you today!

Cooking with Company

Sunday, February 7, 11:00 a.m. on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7282948556>

Zoom Meeting ID: 728 294 8556 | No Password Required

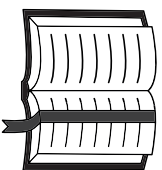
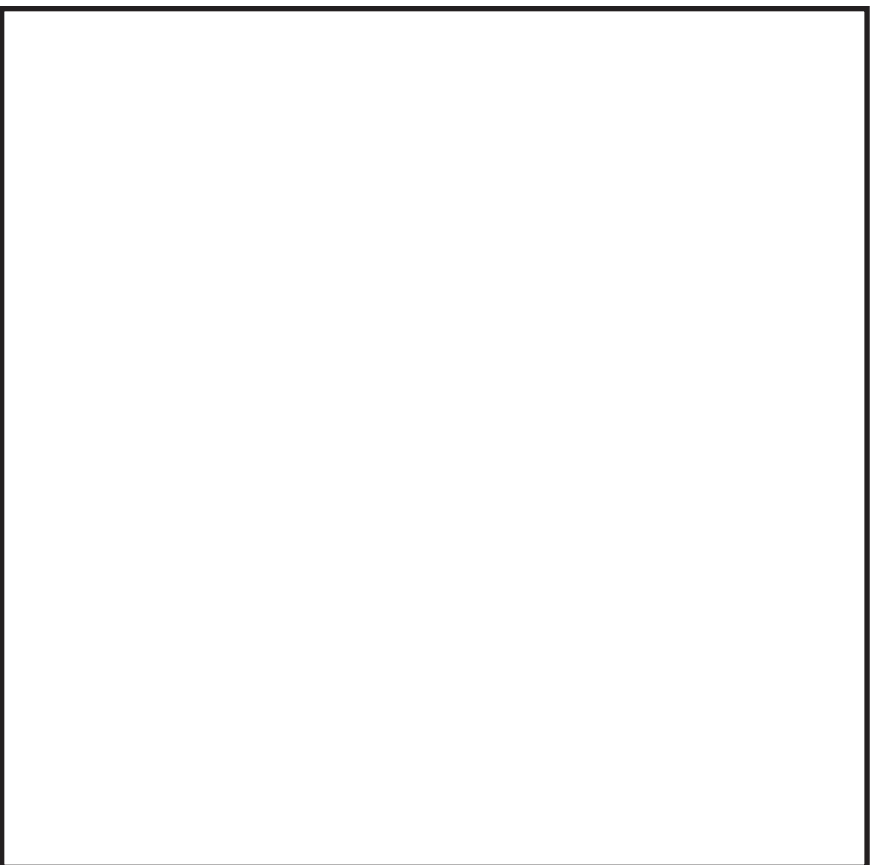


Are you looking for a fun new way to connect with your Westminster family? Wondering what to eat on Super Bowl Sunday? Consider joining the Deacon's Zoom Room for a cooking demonstration on February 7 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. In order to prepare, [click here](#) for the recipe and supplies needed for Curried Vegetable Casserole with Basmati Rice. Let's join virtually to cook alongside our Host Chefs Paul and Kathy Kelly. We'll see you then! Bon Appetit.



DRAW IT

In Mark 1, Jesus is teaching in the synagogue when a man comes to him for healing. Draw a picture of a way you've experienced God's healing, or seen God's healing in someone else.

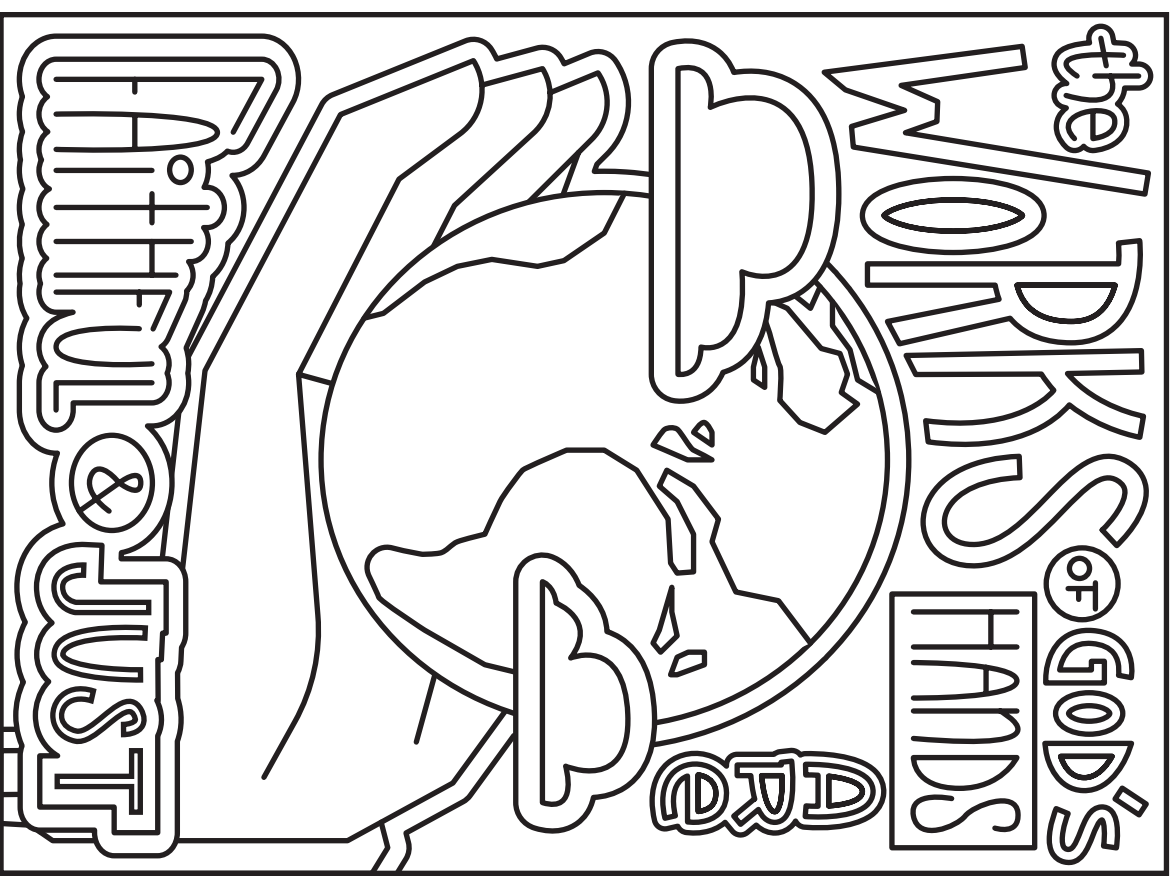


Illustrated
— MINISTRY —

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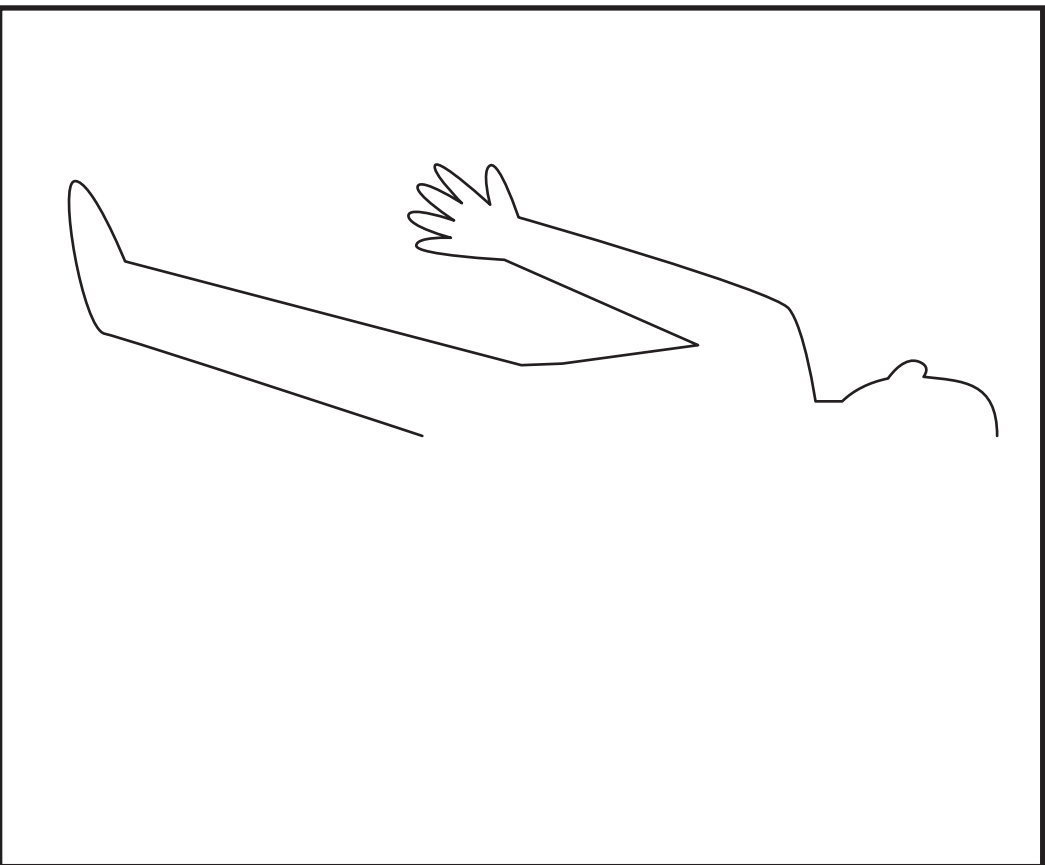
CHILDREIN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Deuteronomy 18:15-20, Psalm 111, Mark 12:1-28.



FINISH ^{the} DRAWING

In Deuteronomy 18, God promises to raise up a prophet - someone who will speak God's words of justice and hope. Who do you know that is a "prophet" today? Someone you see speaking on behalf of God's love? Finish the outline of the person, and make them the prophet you think of.



UNSCRAMBLE IT

How does Psalm 111 describe God's trustworthiness and how we can recognize it?

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H E T S K R O W F O G D O S D N S H A

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R E A F T U H L I A F D N A S U T J

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L A L O D G S C R E P P S E T

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A E R T T H R Y U W S O T R

DOODLE AREA

Draw a picture of someone you want to pray for.

