



# Second Sunday of Christmas

January 3, 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**

**8:45 – 10:00 a.m.**     **Collecting food** for Emmanuel Dining Room and Cereal Sunday for the Hanover Pantry in the parking lot.

**9:00 – 9:45 a.m.**     **Worship**  
Anyone over the age of five is required to wear a mask and children must remain with their parents.

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

**The sanctuary flowers** are given by the Urban Mission Committee with deep gratitude to Joyce Ruston for her leadership of New Life Furnishings in converting Clark House into a warm and welcoming home for Friendship House residents, and to her dedicated team of volunteers who carried out the plan.

**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 31; February 7, 14 and 21.

**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](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.



**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 3, 2021

TOWER CHIME

Craig Checkel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella*

Joel Raney

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on John 1:1-14)

In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.

**The God of Heaven has become flesh and made a home among us!**

From the dawn of time, the Word was with God.  
Through Christ creation had its birth;  
Without Christ the depths would lie in darkness.

**The voice that awakened all creation has called to us with a newborn's cry.**

In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.  
The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness has not overcome it!

**The Light shines among us. Alleluia!**

HYMN NO. 132

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*  
Vs. 1 & 2

IN DULCI JUBILO

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;  
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, you have come as the Light of the World.  
Yet, too often, we shroud your light with our indifference.  
There is much we must confess:  
When we turn a blind eye to suffering, forgive us.  
When we are silent in the face of injustice, forgive us.  
When we choose comfort over compassion, forgive us.  
When we neglect to offer grace and love, forgive us.  
Gracious God, you entered into our broken world  
and made a home among the desperate and despairing.  
Give us eyes to see you in the faces of all people,  
and the will to care for neighbors in need.  
Illumine the depths of our lives with your light –  
which the most persistent darkness cannot overcome –  
and open our hearts to receive your grace. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

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

SCRIPTURE

John 1:10-18

HYMN NO. 108

*Of the Father's Love Begotten*  
Vs. 1, 3 & 5

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,  
he is Alpha and Omega;  
he the source, the ending he, of the things that are,  
that have been, and that future years shall see,  
evermore and evermore!

O, that birth forever blessed when the Virgin, full of grace,  
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
bore the Savior of our race, and the babe,  
the world's Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face,  
evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heaven, adore him. Angel hosts, his praises sing.  
Powers, dominions, bow before him,  
and extol our God and King.  
Let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert ring,  
evermore and evermore!

SERMON

Sudie Niesen Thompson

ANTHEM

*The Work of Christmas*

Dan Forrest

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
when the star in the sky is gone,  
when the kings and princes are home,  
when the shepherds are back with their flock,  
the work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry,  
to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations,  
to bring peace among brothers, to make music from the heart.  
—Howard Thurman

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Gregory Knox Jones

LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN NO. 141

*On This Day Earth Shall Ring*  
Vs. 1 & 3

PERSONENT HODIE

On this day earth shall ring with the song children sing  
to the Lord, Christ our King, born on earth to save us;  
him the Father gave us.  
*Ideo-o-o, ideo-o-o, ideo gloria in excelsis Deo!*

God's bright star, o'er his head, wise men three to him led;  
kneel they low by his bed, lay their gifts before him,  
praise him and adore him.  
*Ideo-o-o, ideo-o-o, ideo gloria in excelsis Deo!*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

J. S. Bach

*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](http://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; Ian Bethmann, bass  
Piano: Ted W. Barr

Videographers: Chip Pfleeger, Roger Reinicker, Baden Saathoff, Aaron Wemhoff and Sophia Wolff  
Tower Chime: Craig Checkel

## SOURCES AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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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Music harm. copyright © 1955, ren. 1983 John Ribble (admin. Westminster John Knox Press. All rights reserved.  
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## Join Us for In-person Worship in Our Sanctuary

**Sunday, January 10, 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](http://www.wpc.org).

**To make your online reservation for January 10 worship in the sanctuary, [click here!](#)**

# 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 check out other Education Offerings for Adults on [YouTube](#).

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## Online Bible Studies

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

<https://zoom.us/j/97700423780?pwd=b1dGL2c4NXRjMIRBOWJWWElsTTg3dz09>

Zoom Meeting ID: 977 0042 3780 | Passcode: 547264

Midweek Manna Bible Study, facilitated by the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson, returns Wednesday, January 13. We will have a full reading of the Gospel of Matthew in the new year. New faces always welcome!

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88941171153?pwd=MmxuZWVvREhZSVExS3lveXQvTUhaQT09>

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

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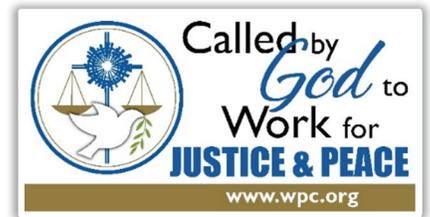
## WPC Peace & Justice Online Education Events

### Thursday Evening Education Events Resume January 7

### Today's Age of Conflict: Causes, Cures and Challenges

### Thursdays, January 7, 14, 21, 28, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

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



Mark your calendars and join us each Thursday evening in January as Westminster member David McBride presents a four-part series offering insightful perspectives on the historical context of our current national conflict, considering the causes of both the economic and social divides, and the political realities that must be addressed in order to accomplish productive change. Use the Zoom 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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## 180 Youth

180 Youth will resume starting Sunday, January 10 on Zoom from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. For more information about 180, please contact Tommy Neilson at [tommyjneilson@gmail.com](mailto:tommyjneilson@gmail.com).

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## 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](mailto:alexisdroke@wpc.org).

# "Bring It! Saturday"

**Saturday, January 9, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.  
in the Westminster parking lot**



Come to the Westminster parking lot on Saturday, January 9, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. as we show Westminster's continued commitment to serving the community and, in this case, Friendship House. We will have our annual Helping Hands collection of **new** gloves and mittens (and socks this year!). The Clothing Bank van will also be on site to collect your gently used clothing and blankets to help with Code Purple. Join us in this socially-distanced, drop-off opportunity. Please wear your masks and stay six feet apart! See more details in the [January/February 2021](#) issue of *The Chimes*.



## **JANUARY 31, 2021**

**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 Sunday, January 31, 2021 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*

***An email will be sent the week of January 25 with the Zoom meeting information.***

### **PASTORAL STAFF**

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

### **MUSIC STAFF**

Director of Music/Organist: Dr. F. Anthony Thurman  
Director of Music for Children and Youth: Alexis Droke  
Choristers: Hye Eun Choi, Sharon Babcock, Jason Berger, Brenton Mattox

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

Director of Preschool Ministries: Teisha Fooks  
Nursery: Beatrice Taylor, Kristen Wolanski

### **YOUTH LEADERS**

Tommy Neilson: Interim 180 Leader  
Josh Cox, Emily Knepper, 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**

Karen Beer, Sally Buttner, Chad Chandler, Bob Cox, Rich Diver, Michael Enderle,  
Jessica Fischer, Peter Gildner, Carol Hogue, Carla Krupanski, Faith Kuehn, David Máthé,  
Kelly McCulloch, David Michener, Jan Patrick, Chip Pfleegor, Todd Piercy, Roger Reinicker,  
Carrie Saathoff, Kent Smith, Janet Steinwedel, Barb Stratton, Mary Vane, Susan Williamson

### **BOARD OF DEACONS**

Jeff Argus, Roger Atkins, Liz Bacon, Amy Bickhart, Jennifer Blackford, Russ Butler, Kyle Carrick,  
Ron Carrick, Beatty Chadwick, Diane Chandler, Eadie Churchill, Barry Cobb, Lili Gerstenschlager, Cathy Globber,  
Laura Holmes, Lily Holmes, Paul Kelly, Tara Lee, Arun Loptes, Marsha Mah, Kris Marvel, Dan McAllister, Blair  
McConnel, Debbie McCullough, Bob Moore, Roland Pamm, Emily Pfaff, Sandie Reinicker, Patti Ridout,  
Robin Rosser, Martha Spaethling, Lisa Stoddard, Jennifer Trickey,  
Sandra Wermus, Pam White, Debbie Wise

### **TRUSTEES**

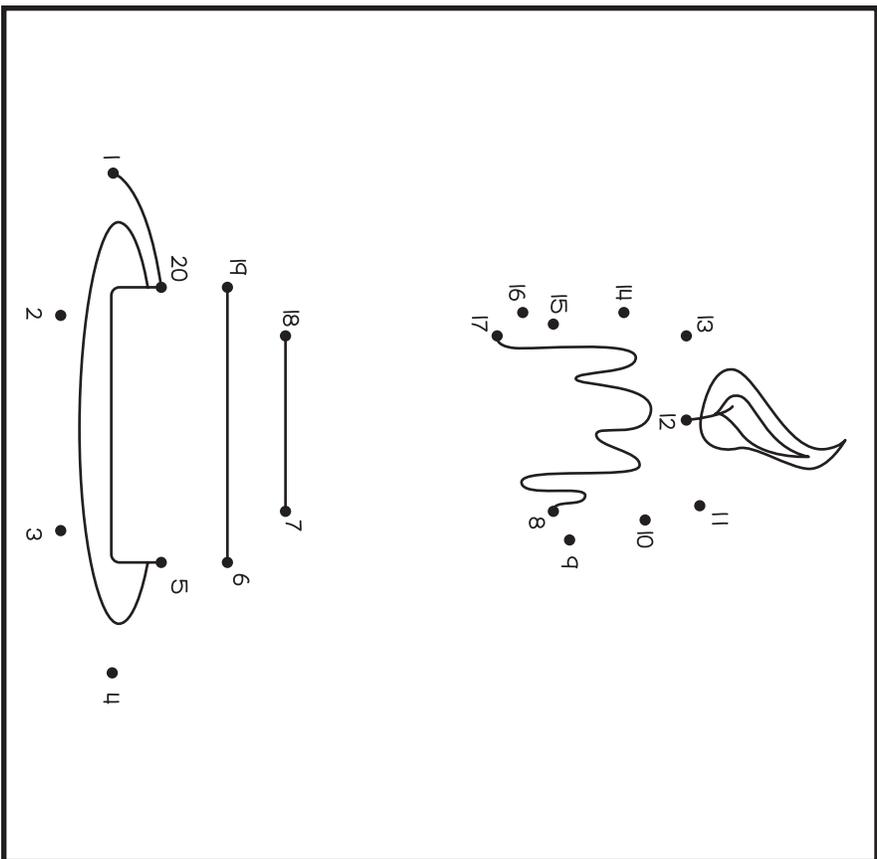
Charley Babcock, Gary Bryde, Mark Gerstenschlager, Denison Hatch, Fred Iobst, Brock Jobe,  
Sue Linderman, Tom Preston, Bob Ridout, Barbara Steen, Bruce Weber, Dan Weintraub

### **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, Dr. Mary Mikhael  
Ibillin and Haifa, Israel/Palestine – Peace Drums Steel Band  
Guatemala – CEDEPCA, AJPU, Rosario Diaz and the Association of Mam Christian Women for Development

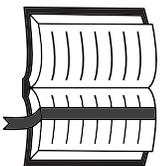
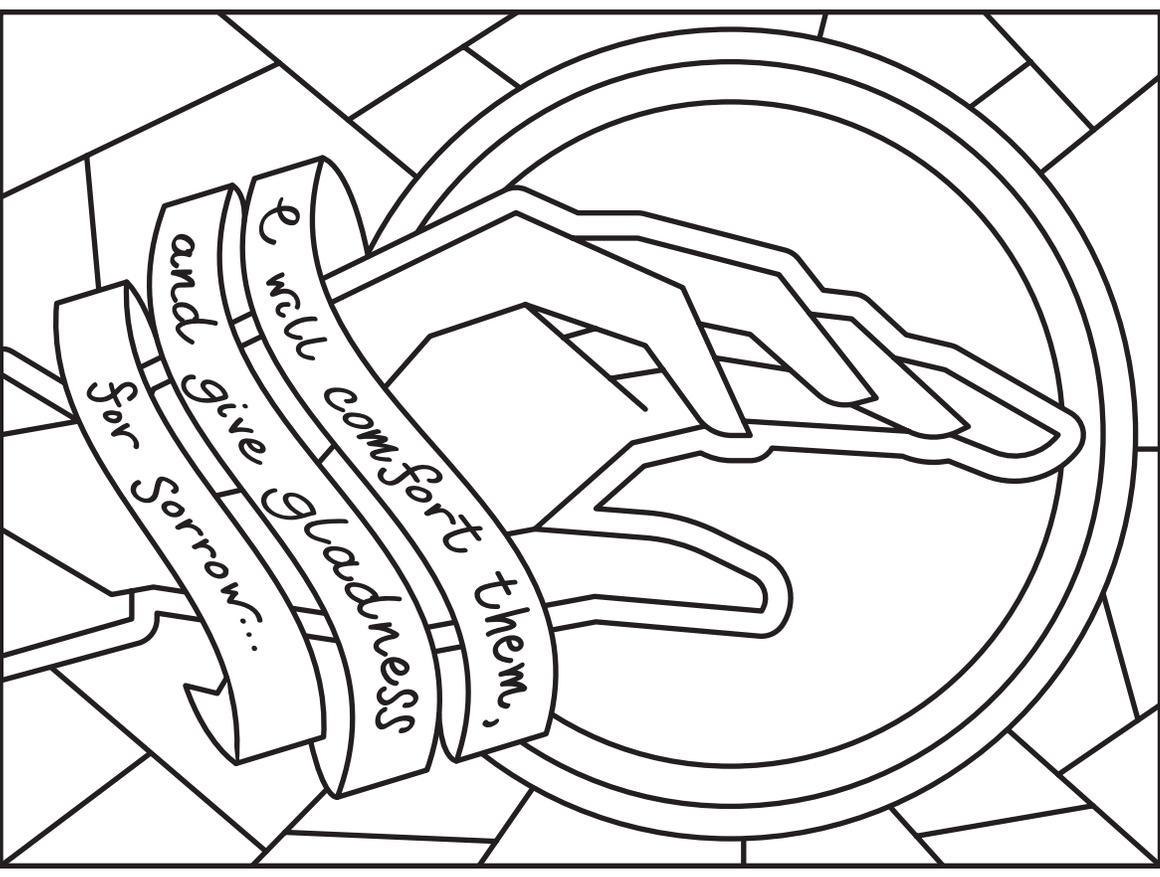
# CONNECT the DOTS

Jesus is described as the “true light” - the light of all people. Connect the dots to form a candle. Around the candle, write or draw some ways you see God’s light in the world.



# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Jeremiah 31:7-14, Psalm 147: 12-20, John 1:1-9), 10-18.



ILLUSTRATED  
MINISTRY

Suggested for use on January 3, 2021 based on the RCL.

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# DRAW IT

The very beginning of John describes Jesus as the “Word” who became human to live with us and show us what God is really like. What does Jesus look like to you? **Draw a picture here.**

# WORD SEARCH

Try to find the words from Psalm 147 in the word search below. Words may go diagonal, up OR down and forward OR backward.

O I F D J U M Y W H E A T S K  
 E H O R T I C G K B D N F D S  
 N E K O Q E U E T W O G T S E  
 L B K L C A W S R I A E D C B  
 y T U A M R M I T S B T V y z  
 P B E S N T S A F R N Q E L E  
 L P O H E H N R K Q y O O R G  
 Z J H R R K A P X A A O W Z M  
 C F y E D P K N y T W M X S Q  
 V J Q J L E Z S H Z F R O S T  
 G C G Z I A R C G R A D J S F  
 G U N E H T G N E R T S T E D  
 P X O J C D G X H Q C S D L A  
 D N I W I P E B M J U R C O B L  
 L Z Z N S T J M J F W C R I H

- |            |        |        |
|------------|--------|--------|
| PRaise     | PEACE  | FROST  |
| LORD       | BORDER | CRUMB  |
| ZION       | WHEAT  | COLD   |
| STRENGTHEN | EARTH  | WIND   |
| BLESS      | WOOL   | WATER  |
| CHILDREN   | SNOW   | NATION |