

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

June 27, 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) 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>).

Today at Westminster

8:30 – 10:00 a.m.	Food Collection for Emmanuel Dining Room in the Westminster 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.
9:50 – 10:30 a.m.	Fellowship on the Lawn. Join the Deacons on the lawn for water and fellowship following the service, weather permitting.

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

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

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dot and John Hunter.

The rosebud on the chancel this morning is in celebration of the birth of Margaret "Margot" Jean Daniels on June 18, 2021 to Chris and Emily Daniels. We celebrate with the entire Daniels family, including grandparents DeVon and Kit Daniels.

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 www.watson@ycst.com.

Westminster's Prayer Team prays for the needs of our community of faith. You may submit a prayer request by sending an email to <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, JUNE 27, 2021

TOWER CHIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prelude

Andante tranquillo

Felix Mendelssohn

Craig Checkel

CALL TO WORSHIP

Like the crowds of old, we gather 'round Jesus, for we have heard of his compassion and grace. **We believe Jesus will receive us with mercy.** Like the desperate father, who knelt at Christ's feet,

like the long-suffering woman, who touched his garment's hem -

We trust Christ to make us whole.

All who seek healing, all who long for joy - come into God's presence!

With awe and amazement, let us worship the Lord!

HYMN NO. 797

We Cannot Measure How You Heal (Vs. 1, 2 & 3)

YE BANKS AND BRAES

We cannot measure how you heal or answer every sufferer's prayer, yet we believe your grace responds where faith and doubt unite to care. Your hands, though bloodied on the cross, survive to hold and heal and warn, to carry all through death to life and cradle children yet unborn. The pain that will not go away, the guilt that clings from things long past, the fear of what the future holds, are present as if meant to last. But present too is love which tends the hurt we never hoped to find, the private agonies inside, the memories that haunt the mind.

So some have come who need your help and some have come to make amends, as hands which shaped and saved the world are present in the touch of friends. Lord, let your Spirit meet us here to mend the body, mind, and soul, to disentangle peace from pain, and make your broken people whole.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Great is your faithfulness, O God, Creator.

You draw us close, enveloping us with grace that heals and love that sustains.

Yet, we resist your embrace, and shrink from entrusting our hearts fully to you.

Forgive us, Lord.

We come besieged by the demands of our own lives -

our energy too depleted to turn toward the pain of others.

Forgive us, Lord.

We come overwhelmed by the suffering of your children, but feeling powerless to effect change.

Forgive us, Lord.

We come holding tightly to what we have,

more confident in a perceived scarcity than in your abundant grace.

Forgive us, Lord.

Open our hands and hearts, and give us generous spirits,

so that we might serve others and help heal your world. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Click here to watch today's TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN on Westminster's YouTube channel. SCRIPTURE LESSON Mark 5:21-43 **HYMN NO. 178** *The Woman Hiding in the Crowd* (Vs. 1, 4, & 5) SIMMONS The woman hiding in the crowd The burdens now that weigh us down, reached for Christ's garment hem the sins we fear to speak, that simply by the touch of it the ache of heart and empty soul she might be healed within. we lay before your feet. So touch us, Lord, with healing grace and make us whole again that we may always live in you and know your peace within. **SERMON** Sudie Niesen Thompson There Is a Balm in Gilead Spiritual/arr. Nancy Wertsch ANTHEM 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!" Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend, And if you lack for knowledge, he'll ne're refuse to lend. PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER **Bob Stoddard** HYMN NO. 343 Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life (Vs. 1, 3 & 6) GERMANY Where cross the crowded ways of life, From tender childhood's helplessness, where sound the cries of race and clan, from human grief and burdened toil, above the noise of selfish strife, from famished souls, from sorrow's stress, your heart has never known recoil. we hear your voice, O Son of Man. Till all the world shall learn your love, and follow where your feet have trod; till glorious from your heaven above shall come the city of our God. **BENEDICTION** Mendelssohn POSTLUDE Postlude in A Major

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 please 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).

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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Join Us for In-person Worship in Our Sanctuary



Sunday, July 4 • 9:00 AM

Our sanctuary is open 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 safely host, the reservations will close. We have established <u>guidelines</u> for your safety, which include social distancing, wearing a mask, and the use of no-touch sanitizing stations. The liturgy will be emailed to you after you make your online reservation. You 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 livestreamed/recorded option continues to be available on our website (<u>www.wpc.org</u>) and on our <u>YouTube channel</u>.

To make your online reservation for July 4 worship in the sanctuary, click here!

FELLOWSHIP ON THE LAWN



The deacons will be serving bottled water. We look forward to safely mingling with everyone outdoors!

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 check out other Education Offerings for Adults on <u>YouTube</u>.

Online Bible Studies

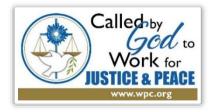
Wednesday afternoons, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. on Zoom (Midweek Manna Bible Study) https://zoom.us/j/97700423780?pwd=b1dGL2c4NXRjMIRBOWJWWEIsTTg3dz09 Zoom Meeting ID: 977 0042 3780 | Passcode: 547264 The Midweek Manna Bible Study, facilitated by the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson, is reading through the Gospel of Matthew. New faces always welcome!

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

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88941171153?pwd=MmxuZWFvREhZSVExS3IveXQvTUhaQT09 Our Bible Study, facilitated by Randy Williamson and Mary Anne Peters, continues and new faces are always welcome.

WPC Peace & Justice Online Education Events

Helping Women Along the Journey Presented by Kitty Knox and Sue Weissinger Thursday, July 1, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86027521655



Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior – physical, emotional, sexual, economic, psychological – used by one person to gain or maintain power and control over another. Victims often turn to alcohol or drugs as an escape from the physical and emotional pain they experience. Many go to rehab, but few facilities have programs to address these issues. Join us as Kitty Knox describes her work as a volunteer facilitator for a weekly support group at a Chester County in-patient rehabilitation center. Sue Weissinger will also share her experiences working with women at Baylor Women's Correctional Institute in New Castle as they prepare for re-entry into the community. Use the Zoom link above, or go to zoom.us/join, enter Meeting ID **860 2752 1655** and click "Join."

Adult Education Series – "After the New Testament: Early Christian Apocrypha"

Wednesday evenings in July, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom *Facilitated by Bob Cox*

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89904680006?pwd=UDg0M0lzbWNCa1NqcEc3V0pjd1ZVdz09

Christians didn't stop writing after the first century. The gospels, letters, and other writings in our New Testament canon are not the only writings early Christians were reading in the first centuries of the church. Some of those writings fill gaps and answer questions arising from the works that were later canonized. "Why was Mary chosen to be the mother of Jesus?" "What was Jesus like as a child?" "If Mary was a perpetual virgin, who were Jesus' siblings?" "Why isn't Joseph in the gospels?" "What's going to happen to the people who don't go to heaven?" We'll explore these and other questions over the four weeks of this study.

July 7 – Proto-Gospel of James, July 14 – Infancy Gospel of Thomas, July 21 – Gospel of Thomas, July 28 – Other Apocalypses

WPC/Friendship House School Uniform Collection

Sunday, June 27 • 8:45 – 10 AM • WPC parking lot



Many families in Wilmington struggle to purchase school uniforms for their children. Westminster is working with Friendship House to provide uniforms for 2,000 students in five target schools in the Red Clay School District for the 2021-2022 school year. Westminster's Urban Mission Committee, along with our 180 Youth, will hold collections on two Sunday mornings – June 27 and July 25 – in the WPC parking lot, from 8:45 to 10:00. Items being collected include new, or gently used, uniform items in children's sizes 3T to 20:

- Pants and shorts: khaki and navy
- Polo shirts and cardigans: white, navy, and light blue
- Dresses and skirts: khaki and navy

<u>Click here</u> to learn more.

Vacation Bible School 2021

Monday, July 26 – Friday, July 30 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

All children Pre K – 6th grade are welcome to participate in "Knights of North Castle: Quest for the King's Armor" by Cokesbury Publishing. Stories, music, crafts, and games will be lively and fun as we explore Bible stories about the armor of God in our lives. Ready to register your child(ren) for VBS? Fill out this short form (https://forms.gle/t2eq4Q49HqRV8WhX7) to let us know, and we'll send you an online registration packet! Teen and adult helpers are invited to contact VBS Director Robin Rosser (rlrosser@aol.com) as soon as possible. <u>Click here</u> to read our COVID-19 safety guidelines for VBS this year.

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, Manager of Accounting and Reporting 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

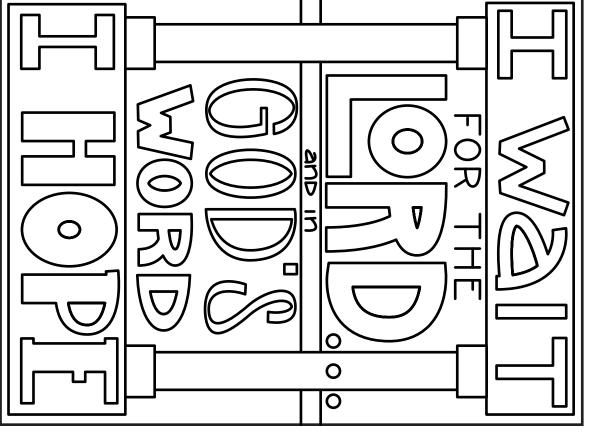
Rich Albert, Charles Babcock, Mark Gerstenschlager, Fred Iobst, Brock Jobe, Sue Linderman, Tom Preston, Kris Qualls, Bob Ridout, Stan Stevenson, Bruce Weber, Dan Weintraub

PARTNERS IN WORLDWIDE MINISTRY

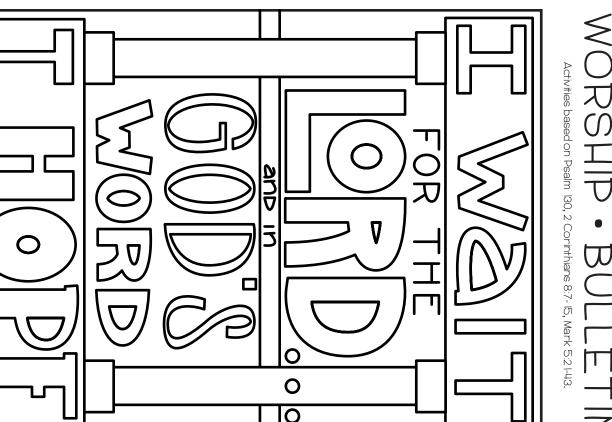
DR Congo – PCUSA Mission Co-workers: Jeff and Christi Boyd, Larry and Inge Sthreshley; Kananga Presbytery and Members of Kamulumba-Ditalala Parish Iraq, Syria and Lebanon – PCUSA Mission Co-workers: the Reverends Elmarie and Scott Parker Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Churches, Ibillin and Haifa, Israel/Palestine – Peace Drums Steel Band Guatemala – CEDEPCA, AJPU, Rosario Diaz and the Association of Mam Christian Women for Development



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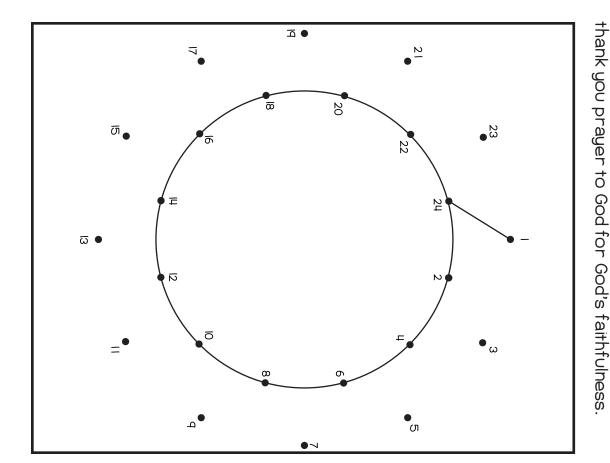






In Psalm I30, the Psalmist says we can count on God's faithfulness the way we watch for the morning sun to rise. We know God will come through for us!

Connect the dots of the sun. Inside, write or draw a



Try to find the words from 2 Corinthians 8:7-15 in the word search below. Words may go diagonal, up OR down and forward OR backward.

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KNOWLEDGE	FAIR	ONE
COMMAND	BALANCE	EVERYTHING
GENEROUS	ABUNDANCE	LOVE
JESUS	NEED	GENUINE