



Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 21, 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 (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 in the 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.

5:00 – 7:00 p.m. **180 Youth** meet in the WPC parking lot (please see p. 6 for details).

- **Bible Box** for children ages 2 through 5th grade is available today on YouTube (please see announcement on p. 7).

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

During the month of March, we are recognizing the gifts of female composers in observance of Women's History Month. Alice Parker (b. 1925) has given many musical gifts over her storied career. *On the Common Ground* was composed last fall out of concern for the many walls that have appeared that separate our society. This soulful composition is a plea for us to meet each other on common ground. The Boston native is best known for her long association with the Robert Shaw Chorale in Atlanta and was honored on the cover of *Time* magazine in 1947. Clara Wieck Schumann (1819–1896) composed a vast amount of keyboard music, primarily for the piano but also some for the organ. The German-born pianist was not only one of the finest concert pianists of her day but was the editor and performer of Robert Schumann's latest works. Some similarities in compositional style between the husband and wife might cause one to wonder who composed what.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory of their parents – Janet and Jack Foster, and Sally Evans and Charles Pfleegor – by Anne Foster and Chip Pfleegor.

Recently hospitalized: Chip Pfleegor

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, MARCH 21, 2021

TOWER CHIME

Susan Spilecki

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Prelude in G Minor

Clara Schumann

CALL TO WORSHIP

We are called from the ends of the earth.

We are called from the center of our lives.

We are called into God's love

to yearn for justice and to pray for peace.

HYMN NO. 403

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty (Vs. 1 & 3)

UNSER HERRSCHER

Open now thy gates of beauty,	Speak, O Lord, and I will hear thee;
Zion, let me enter there,	let thy will be done indeed;
where my soul in joyful duty waits	may I undisturbed draw near thee,
for God who answers prayer;	while thou dost thy people feed.
O how blessed is this place,	Here of life the fountain flows;
filled with solace, light, and grace.	here is balm for all our woes.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Living Lord,
in this world where goodness and evil continually clash with each other,
instill in us, and in all your people:**

**Discernment to see what is right,
determination to pray for what is right,
and drive to do what is right.**

**Keep us aware of the subtlety of sin,
and preserve us body, mind and soul
through the power of your Spirit. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

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

SCRIPTURE

Mark 1:29-39

ANTHEM

On the Common Ground

Alice Parker

Help me, Lord; help me find the common ground:
Between the high and the low, between the poor and the rich,
Between the old and the young, between the black and the white.
Help me, Lord, help me find the common ground:
Between the shouting and the silence, between the bound and the free,
Between the grief and the joy, between the heart and the mind.
Open us, Lord, guide us to that meeting place:
Where we can see each other, hear each other, care for each other.
Where we can sing together, work together, play together, on the common ground.
Help me, Lord, open us, Lord, come let us meet together on the common ground.

HYMN NO. 796

We Come to You for Healing, Lord (Vs. 1 & 3)

LAND OF REST

We come to you for healing, Lord,
of body, mind, and soul,
and pray that by your Spirit's touch
we may again be whole.

You touch us through physicians' skills,
through nurses' gifts of care,
and through the love of faithful friends
who lift our lives in prayer.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sudie Niesen Thompson

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.**

HYMN NO. 793

O Christ, the Healer (Vs. 1, 4 & 5)

ERHALT UNS, HERR

O Christ, the healer, we have come
to pray for health, to plead for friends.
How can we fail to be restored
when reached by love that never ends?

In conflicts that destroy our health
we recognize the world's disease;
our common life declares our ills.
Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?

Grant that we all, made one in faith,
in your community may find
the wholeness that, enriching us,
shall reach the whole of humankind.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Promenade in G Major

McNeil Robinson

*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).

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; Alexis Droke, soprano; Sharon Babcock, mezzo soprano

Jason Berger, tenor; Brenton Mattox, bass

Videographers: Rich Albert, Chip Pfleeger, Roger Reinicker, Baden Saathoff,

Aaron Wemhoff and Sophia Wolff

Tower Chime: Susan Spilecki

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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We Come to You for Healing, Lord, Herman G. Stuempfle Jr.

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Join Us for In-person Worship in Our Sanctuary

Sunday, March 28, 2021, 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 March 28 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) and check out other Education Offerings for Adults on [YouTube](#).

180 Youth Meet! Join us TONIGHT at 5:00 p.m. in the WPC parking lot!

We had such a good time last Sunday running around in the Westminster parking lot that we're doing it again! Join us this Sunday evening for dinner, games, and small groups. Keep an eye out for emails with any changes due to weather and don't forget your mask. See you there! For more information about 180 Youth Ministry for grades 6 – 12, contact Tommy 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=b1dGL2c4NXRjMIRBOWJWWElsTTg3dz09>

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.

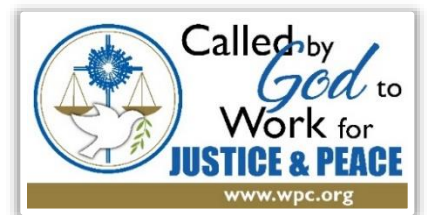
WPC Peace & Justice Online Education Events

Racially Charged: America's Misdemeanor Problem

Thursday, March 25, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

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

Inspired by the book *Punishment Without Crime* by Harvard Law Professor Alexandra Natapoff, join us as we watch this short documentary film and discuss its implications for us as Christians. "A powerful, emotional and important film, powerfully illustrating that every year America arrests, prosecutes, and jails millions of people, overwhelmingly Black and brown, for minor offenses. This is neither an accident nor inevitable. Watch, absorb, and then go out and take action..." Use the Zoom link above, or go to zoom.us/join, enter Meeting ID **860 2752 1655** and click "Join."



• VIRTUAL TRIVIA NIGHT •

Wednesday, March 24 | 7:00 p.m. | via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88920482642>

Virtual Trivia Night continues! All ages and families welcome! March's theme is "Weather and Beyond." We will use two programs – Kahoot! and Zoom. Two devices recommended for play; they can be phones, tablets, etc., as long as they have an internet connection. NEW this month: 1st place team will receive a e-gift card! Please email Jenn Blackford (blackfordj11@gmail.com) with any questions or to RSVP (not required).



Holy Week

AT WESTMINSTER

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY (MARCH 28)

WORSHIP – 9:00 A.M.

Palm Sunday begins the final week in the life of Jesus. A reservation is required to attend in person (see the *Weekly Word* e-newsletter) or watch live on our [YouTube channel](#).

MAUNDY THURSDAY (APRIL 1) AND GOOD FRIDAY (APRIL 2)

Journey with Jesus from the Upper Room, to the Garden of Gethsemane, to Pilate's Headquarters and, finally, to the cross. In a two-part pre-recorded service, the Westminster-by-Heart Storytellers will tell the story of Jesus' final hours, the Westminster Handbell Choir will offer prelude music, and our choristers will sing an anthem and hymns to compliment the liturgy. The first part of the service will be available on [YouTube](#) on **April 1 at 7:00 p.m.** The second part will be available on **April 2 at 12:00 p.m.**

EASTER SUNDAY (APRIL 4)

VIRTUAL CHOIR – 6:00 A.M.

The Westminster Choir will release a pre-recorded virtual choir to herald in the day. Look for it on Westminster's [YouTube channel](#).

WORSHIP – 9:00 A.M.

Christ is risen! Join us for a festive worship service celebrating Christ's triumphant resurrection, with an inspirational sermon by Dr. Jones and joyous music for trumpet and organ. We will welcome Steven Heitzer back as our trumpet soloist. Susan Spilecki will play Easter hymns on the tower chime before and after the service. A reservation is required to attend in person (see the *Weekly Word* e-newsletter) or watch live on our [YouTube channel](#).

EASTER FESTIVAL! – 10:15 – 11:00 A.M. (following the 9:00 service)

Easter Egg Hunt (up to age 12), bag decorating, family-friendly crafts, and card writing! Family units will be given individual materials and their own table. Activities will take place in Community Hall, except for the Egg Hunt, which will be outside if weather permits (if not, we will hide eggs indoors). Masks and social distancing required. RSVP is a must as we have a limit of 36 children. **Email emily.pfaff@me.com by March 29 to RSVP.** This is in addition to your worship reservation. We hope you will join us, especially families with younger children!

This is also a great opportunity for teens to volunteer and get involved with Westminster; reach out at the email address above if interested in helping out.



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



2021 Easter LILIES

You are welcome to make a contribution toward the decoration of the church on Easter Sunday 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 reception desk by **Monday, March 22**. For any form received *after* that date, the names will be listed in the April 11th bulletin.

DONATION AMOUNT

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

PLEASE PRINT NEATLY

❖ In Memory Of: (FOR THE DECEASED)

Deceased Person's Name

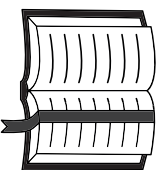
❖ In Honor Of: (FOR THE LIVING)

Living Person's Name

❖ Given By:

Donor's Name and Telephone Number

You may take a lily home with you following the 9:00 a.m. service on Easter Sunday. We are also delivering lilies to local retirement communities to share the joy of the season.

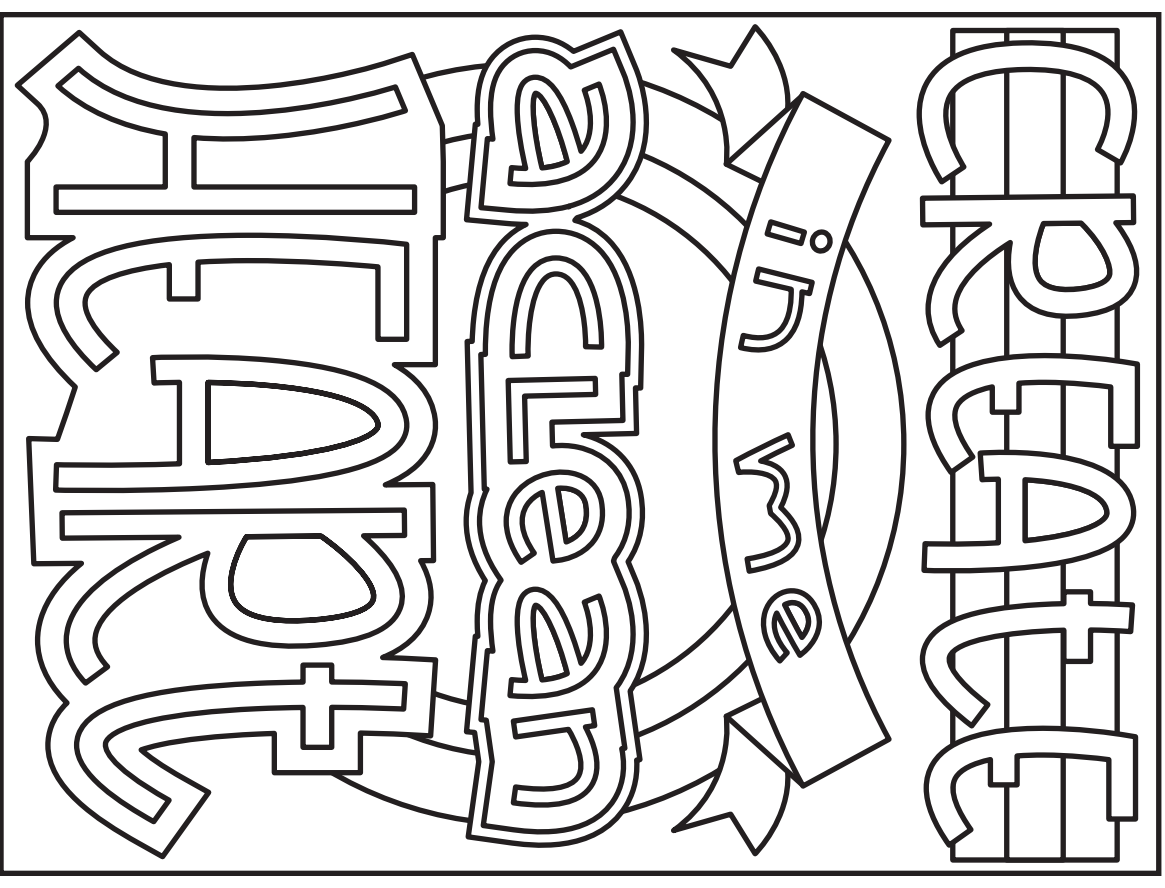


illustrated
— MINISTRY —

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CHILDREIN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 51:1-12, John 12:20-33.





DRAW IT

In John 12, Jesus says a grain of wheat has to die and go into the earth if it is going to produce any fruit. This is true in our lives too - we sometimes receive new gifts because of things we have lost. In the first box, draw a seed growing into a plant. In the second box, draw a gift God has given you.

SOLVE (the) MAZE

In Jeremiah 31, God reminds the people of when God brought them out of Egypt. Help the Israelites make their way to the promised land!

