



# Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2, 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**

- 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.**     **Food Collection** for Emmanuel Dining Room and **Cereal Sunday** for the Hanover Pantry in the WPC 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.
- 10:15 – 10:45 a.m.**     **“Psalms Alive”** in Community Hall. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Contact Alexis Droke at [alexisdroke@wpc.org](mailto:alexisdroke@wpc.org) for more information.
- 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.**     **Educational Opportunity:** Learn About Syria! (please see p. 6 for details).
- 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.**     **180 Youth** meet in the WPC parking lot (please see p. 6 for details).

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

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**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 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 Sanctuary flowers** are given to the glory of God and in appreciation of our amazingly dedicated choristers and organist who have kept the music alive, by a couple of fellow choir members.

**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).

**Recently hospitalized:** Joyce Dinsel

**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.



# ORDER OF WORSHIP- SUNDAY, MAY 2, 2021

TOWER CHIME

Susan Spilecki

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*

Frederick Swann

CALL TO WORSHIP

May we be led by God's Spirit,  
**even when the path leads through rocky terrain.**  
May we be led by God's Spirit,  
**even when we are led where we fear to go.**  
We trust God to lead us to a promising way of living,  
**and along the journey we will rejoice in the Lord our God.**

HYMN NO. 305

*Come Sing, O Church, in Joy (Vs. 1, 2, & 3)*

DARWALL'S 148<sup>TH</sup>

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!  
For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!  
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme,  
empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream!  
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide,  
as we in mission magnify the Crucified!  
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, restore our eyesight and awaken our insight.  
We are in the presence of holiness,  
**but we fail to discern it.**  
We stand in the midst of your dynamic Spirit,  
**yet we do not perceive it.**  
We walk on the road of newness,  
**but we see only the dust and signs of the old.**  
Help us to see your activity in the ordinary as well as the extraordinary,  
**so that we may be aware of your power and work.**  
We pray in the name of the one who  
**opens our blind eyes,**  
**heals our wounded souls,**  
**and commissions us to spread God's love from this day forward. Amen.**

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

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 8:26-39

ANTHEM

*I Am the Vine*

John Bertalot

I am the vine, and ye are the branches:  
He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit.  
For without me ye can do nothing.  
If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you,  
Ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.  
Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; abide in me.

SERMON

Gregory Knox Jones

<p>“I was there to hear your borning cry; I’ll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold. I was there when you were but a child with a faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.”</p>	<p>“When you heard the wonder of the Word, I was there to cheer you on. You were raised to praise the living Lord to whom you now belong. If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one, I’ll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun.”</p>
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“I was there to hear your borning cry; I’ll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold.”

## 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. 315

*In the Midst of New Dimensions* (Vs. 1, 4, & 5)

## NEW DIMENSIONS

In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways,  
who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering in their separate ways?  
God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,  
we your people, ours the journey now and ever,  
now and ever, now and evermore.

We are man and we are woman, all persuasions, old and young,  
each a gift in your creation, each a love song to be sung.  
God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,  
we your people, ours the journey now and ever,  
now and ever, now and evermore.

Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain,  
may your blazing phoenix spirit resurrect the church again.  
God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,  
we your people, ours the journey now and ever,  
now and ever, now and evermore.

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*Hymn to Joy*

Albert L. Travis

*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](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; Brenton Mattox, bass  
Videographers: Rich Albert, Chip Pfleegor, 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 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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*In the Midst of New Dimensions*, Julian B. Rush.

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*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*, Frederick Swann.

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# Join Us for In-person Worship in Our Sanctuary

## Sunday, May 9 • 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 [guidelines](#) 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 ([www.wpc.org](http://www.wpc.org)) and on our [YouTube channel](#).

**To make your online reservation for May 9 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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## Educational Opportunity: Learn About Syria!

**Today at 10:30 a.m. on Zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84771373578?pwd=czBkcVU5bUx2MUxUVWdHa0NiclFWdz09>

Join us as we participate with Ocean View Presbyterian Church to learn more about the current situation in Syria and our Church in the World partner, the Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Churches (FMEEC). Our special guest will be Rosangela Jarjour, CEO of FMEEC, who will be available live from Lebanon to answer our questions. We will also learn about the Syrian Livelihood Revival Project, part of the Springtime *ECHO Giving* Campaign. Don't miss this great opportunity!

Use the Zoom link above, or go to [zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join), enter Meeting ID **847 7137 3578** and password **070992**, and click "Join".

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## 180 Youth Meet in the WPC Parking Lot! Join us TONIGHT from 5 to 7 p.m.

We'll be playing our favorite games, chatting it up with our small groups, eating dinner, and spending some much needed fellowship time together! We'll meet in the church parking lot (or Community Hall if the weather is lousy). 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](mailto:tommyjneilson@gmail.com).

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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=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=MmxuZWVvREhZSVExS3lveXQvTUhaQT09>

Our Bible Study, facilitated by Randy Williamson and Mary Anne Peters, continues and new faces are always welcome.

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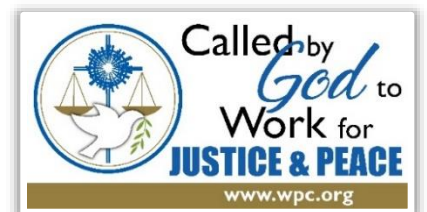
## WPC Peace & Justice Online Education Events

### Delaware Police Reform – How Change Happens

**Thursday, May 6, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom**

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

In last week's class we discussed what Delaware police reform could look like. This week we will learn about how change happens. Shyanne Miller will speak on behalf of the newly launched Fair Policing Campaign. Who and what entities have the authority or ability to make change? How are those decision makers influenced and held accountable? How does the community engage in the process? How can you get involved and make a difference? Come learn! Sponsored by Westminster's Peace & Justice Work Group. Use the Zoom link above, or go to [zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join), enter Meeting ID **860 2752 1655** and click "Join."





# WILMINGTON HANDBELL ENSEMBLE

## 2021 Spring Concert: *Remembrance & Renewal*

Saturday, May 15 | 4 PM



The Wilmington Handbell Ensemble, under the direction of Mr. Kerry Dietz, will present *Remembrance & Renewal*, on Saturday, May 15, at 4 p.m., in the church sanctuary. The concert will include music to remember those who have died during the pandemic and to celebrate the resilience of the human spirit. Joining the ensemble will be organist Tony Thurman. A Tower Chime recital by Susan Spilecki will be offered at 3:40 p.m. In-person attendance is limited. A reservation link will be provided in this week's Weekly Word e-newsletter and on our [website](#). A free-will [donation](#) of \$10 per person is requested to Westminster's Music Fund. The concert will be livestreamed on [YouTube](#).

## *Cooking with Company:* YOUTH CO-HOST EDITION

Sunday, May 16 • 12 PM • via Zoom

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

Zoom Meeting ID: 728 294 8556 | No Password Needed



The deacons are sponsoring an interactive virtual cooking event on Sunday, May 16, from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Youth co-hosts Evelyn Saathoff and Lili Gerstenschlager will lead us in making delicious chocolate whoopie pies with cream cheese filling. According to Amish legend, when children would find these treats in their lunch bags, they would shout "Whoopie!" Please read the recipes and be prepared with the ingredients needed to create this delectable treat. Mark your calendars and join us in the fun!

- [Chocolate Whoopie Pie](#)
- [Cream Cheese Filling](#)



# SYRIAN LIVELIHOOD REVIVAL PROJECT

LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT GIFT FOR MOTHER'S  
DAY, FATHER'S DAY OR A BIRTHDAY?  
WHY NOT A GOAT, LAMB, BEES OR ALL THREE?"

**Goats  
\$25**



**Sheep  
\$40**



**All  
Three!  
\$100**



*Purchase an Echo Gift and receive a  
lovingly handcrafted gift card to give to  
your loved one.*

**Bees  
\$50**



**THIS PROJECT HELPS FARMERS RETURN TO  
THEIR LANDS AND RESTART THEIR BUSINESSES.**

- ADDRESSES CAUSES OF POVERTY AND PROMOTES INDEPENDENCE
- CREATES NEW FOOD SOURCE; STIMULATES LOCAL ECONOMY
- RETURNS SYRIANS TO PREVIOUS LIVELIHOODS
- RESTORES HOPE, DIGNITY TO FAMILIES
- PROMOTES PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE IN MULTI-FAITH VILLAGES
- INCLUDES LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS AND OVERSIGHT

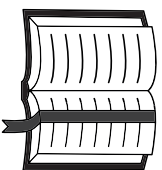
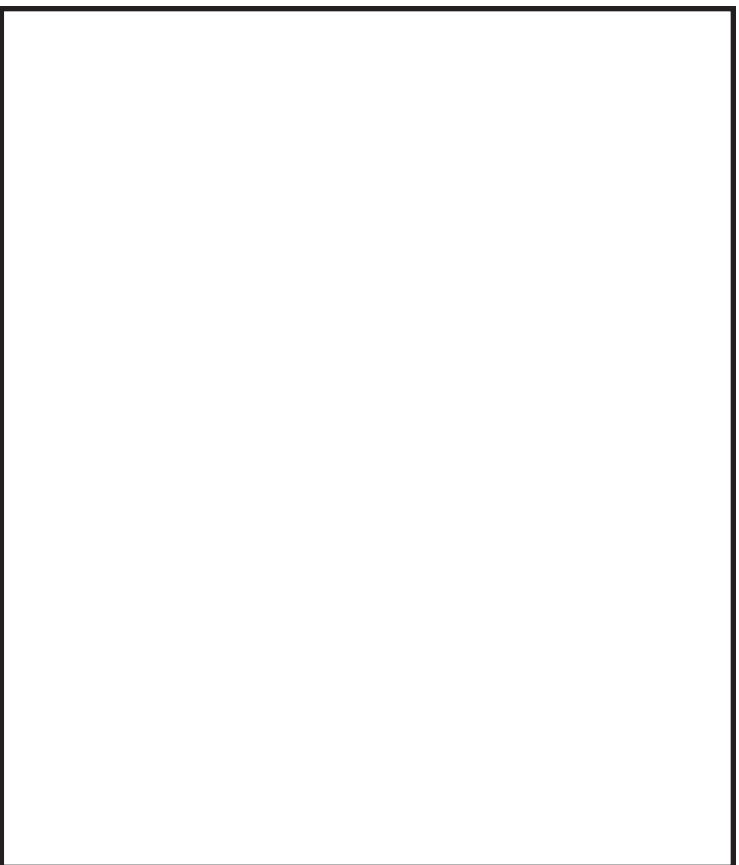
SEND YOUR CHECK TO WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (SYRIA IN MEMO LINE)  
1502 W. 13TH ST., WILMINGTON, DE 19806  
OR CHECK OUT WPC.ORG AND CLICK "DONATE NOW"





# DRAW IT

In John 15, Jesus describes himself as a vine and says we are like branches on that vine. We produce good fruit when we are connected to him! Fruit like generous lives and compassionate hearts. Maybe you connect with Jesus by being outside in creation, singing, or praying with your family. Draw a picture of how you like to connect with Jesus.



Illustrated  
— MINISTRY —

Suggested for use on May 2, 2021 based on the RCL.

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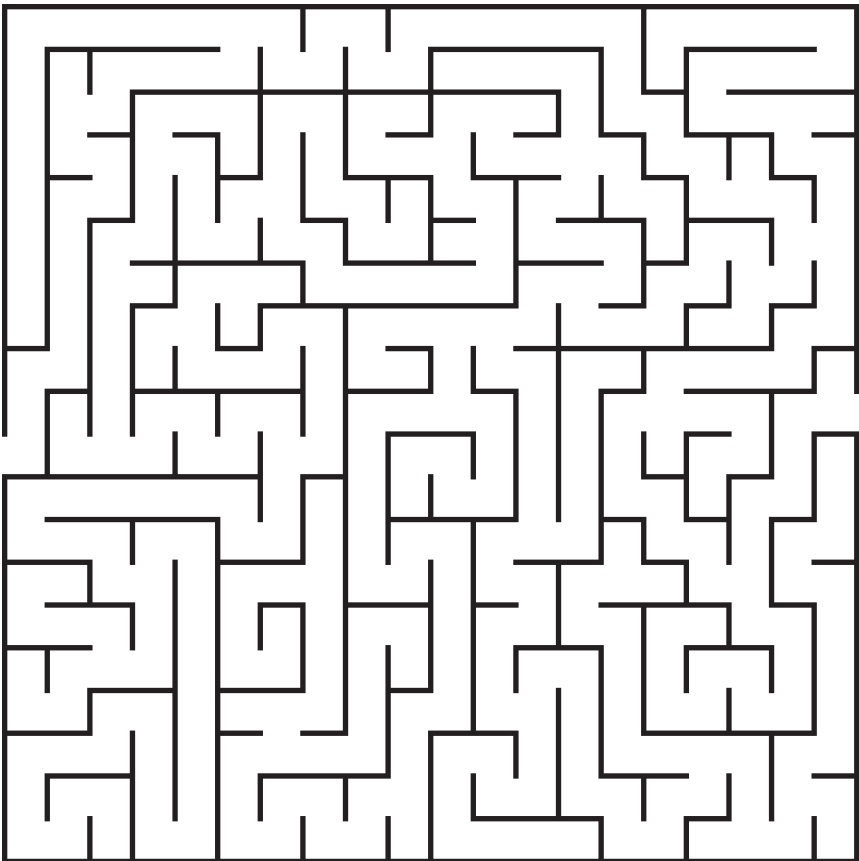
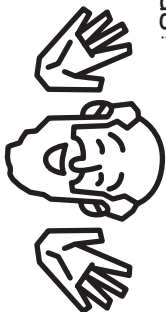
# CHILDREIN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Acts 8:26-40, 1 John 4:7-21, John 15:1-8



# SOLVE the MAZE

In Acts 8, Philip helps a man learn about God and then baptizes him. The man is so excited. He goes to tell others all about it. Follow the maze to help him reach his friends!



# WORD SEARCH

Try to find the words from 1 John 4 in the word search below. Words may go diagonal, up OR down and forward OR backward.

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

- |          |           |             |
|----------|-----------|-------------|
| LOVE     | SACRIFICE | PERFECT     |
| GOD      | ABIDE     | BOLD        |
| EVERYONE | GIVE      | FEAR        |
| KNOW     | SPIRIT    | BROTHER     |
| SON      | TESTIFY   | SISTER      |
| LIVE     | BELIEVE   | COMMANDMENT |