



Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 9, 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

8:30 – 10:00 a.m. **Food Collection** for Emmanuel Dining Room 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”** – music and rhythm for young children and families – in Community Hall. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Contact Alexis Droke at alexisdroke@wpc.org for more information.

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 are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Elizabeth and Rodney Higgins by their daughter Cathy.

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.

Recently hospitalized: Mary Laskaris and Frank Waldburger.

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.



ORDER OF WORSHIP- SUNDAY, MAY 9, 2021

TOWER CHIME

Craig Checkel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Chorale-Prelude on RHOSYMEDRE

Ralph Vaughan Williams

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather to worship the Source of Life –
**who knit us together in our mothers' wombs
and claims us as beloved.**

We gather to worship the Lord of Love –
**who enfolds us with a parent's love,
and envelops us with grace.**

We gather to worship the Triune God –
**Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
one God, Mother of us all.**

HYMN NO. No. 645

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above (Vs. 1, 3 & 4)

MIT FREUDEN ZART

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled, and every faithless murmur stilled:
to God all praise and glory!

The Lord is never far away, but, through all grief distressing, an
ever-present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing,
As with a mother's tender hand God gently leads the chosen band:
to God all praise and glory!

Thus all my toilsome way along I sing aloud thy praises,
that all may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and body, take your part:
to God all praise and glory!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord of Love,
You gave us a new commandment:
"Love one another as I have loved you."
But, like children who test the limits,
we have broken your law of love.
We have hoarded resources,
rather than feeding your sheep.
We have stoked competition,
rather than kneeling at others' feet.
We have kept silent,
rather than testifying to our belief.
For not showing our love for you
by loving one another,
forgive us.
Help us obey your commandments
and keep us ever faithful to your Word
by the power of your Spirit,
who abides with and among us. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

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

ANTHEM

If Ye Love Me

Philip Wilby

If ye love me, keep my commandments,
And I will pray the Father,
And he shall give you another comforter,
That he may abide with you forever:
Even the spirit of truth.
And ye know him, for he dwelleth with you,
And shall be in you.
I will not leave you comfortless.
I will come to you.

SERMON

Sudie Niesen Thompson

HYMN NO. 692

Spirit, Open My Heart (Vs. 1-3)

WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving.
Spirit, open my heart.

God, replace my stony heart with a heart that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear to your grace I now surrender.

Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed, may my living bring you glory.

May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ, may we welcome one another.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Gregory Knox Jones

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. 643

Now Thank We All Our God (Vs. 1 & 3)

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

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).

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 Pfleegor, 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 online 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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Join Us for In-person Worship in Our Sanctuary

Sunday, May 16 • 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) and on our [YouTube channel](#).

To make your online reservation for May 16 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](#).

No 180 Today. Happy Mother's Day!

Westminster's 180 Youth will not meet today. Stay tuned for more details and mark your calendars for Sunday, May 16: our end of the year party! 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=MmxuZWVhREhZSVExS3lveXQvTUhaQT09>

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

WPC Peace & Justice Online Education Events

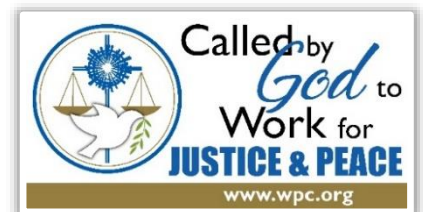
Thursday Evenings

White Privilege?

Facilitated by Sue Linderman

Thursday, May 13, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

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



What comes to your mind when you hear the phrase "White Privilege"? Have you ever thought about it in the context of your own life? Have you ever talked about it with other people? If it is real, in what ways does it manifest itself? What does it mean for someone to be White? Join us on Thursday, May 13, at 7:00 p.m. as we view and discuss the powerful, thought-provoking 22-minute video "Deconstructing White Privilege" by Robin DiAngelo, author of "White Fragility." This is sure to be a meaningful experience for all involved.

Use the Zoom link above, or go to 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](#)

Springtime *ECHO* Giving Campaign Continues!

Looking for the perfect gift for Mother's Day, Father's Day, or a birthday? Why not a goat, a lamb, or bees (or all three)?



The **Syrian Livelihood Revival Project** helps refugee farmers get back to their professions by providing goats, sheep, and bees to starving families returning to their homeland in Syria. Purchase an *ECHO* gift for Syria and receive a lovingly handcrafted gift card to give to your loved one.

[Buy online or send in a check](#) to **Westminster** and designate "**SYRIA**", or purchase at the table in the parking lot this morning before and after the 9:00 a.m. worship service!

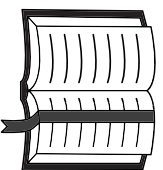
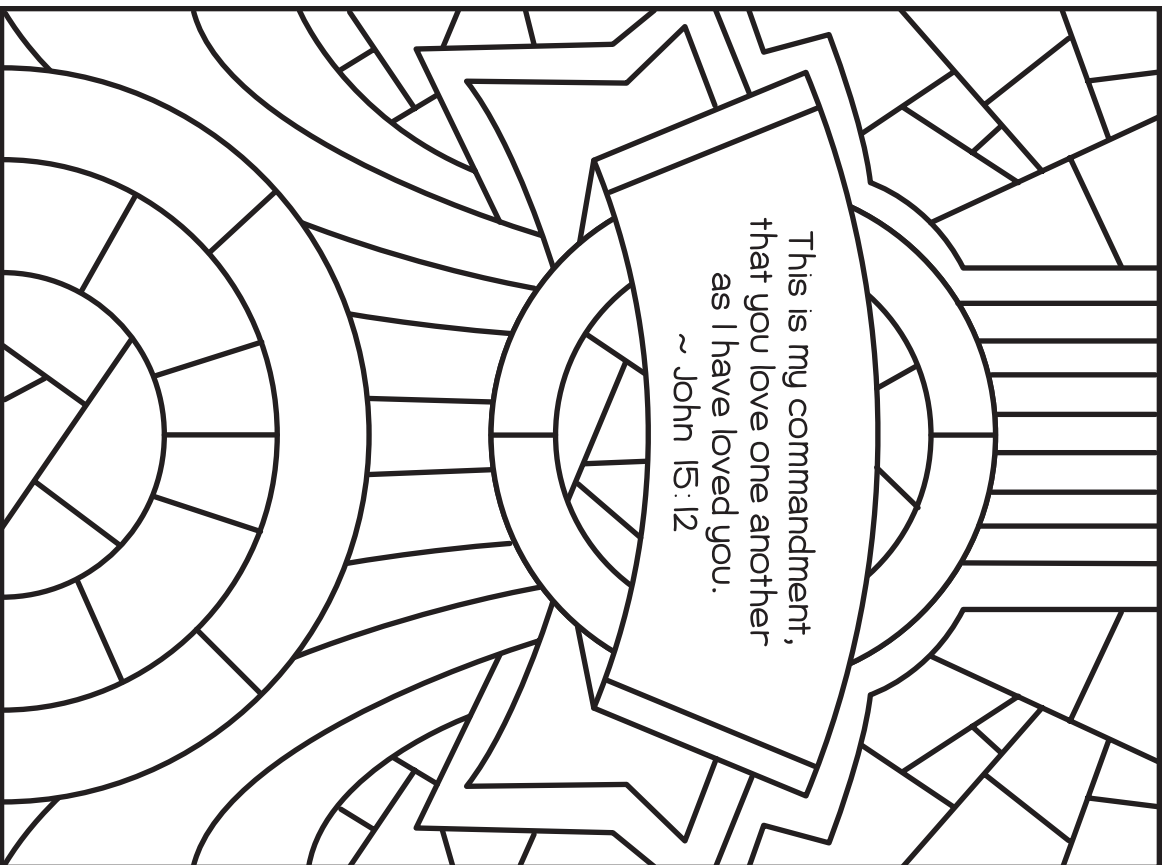
SALUTE THE CORPS!

Sunday, May 23, 2021

Join your friends in thanking our Phixlt Corps on Sunday, May 23. Following worship, we will walk outside to the front lawn to honor Westminster's hard-working, talented, budget-saving, fun-loving, donut chomping, dedicated Phixlt Corps.

They meet two Thursdays each month to work through a list of tasks that repair, replace, clean, mend, update, and prepare our property. They are key members of the Christmas Box project and other events. If you do not attend worship, you may meet us at 9:50 a.m. The Deacons will serve COVID-safe refreshments. Come salute them!





illustrated
—MINISTRY—

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CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Acts 10:34-48, Psalm 98, John 15:9-17





DRAW IT

After Peter shared the good news about Jesus with a crowd of people, the Holy Spirit fell on them and Peter helped them all be baptized! Draw how you imagine this looked!

CONNECT the DOTS

Psalms 98 encourages us to sing and make music in praise for God! Connect the dots to make music notes. Write or draw something you would sing to God about!