

24rd Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2020

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.instagram.com/wpcdelaware), or following us on Instagram (www.instagram.com/wpcdelaware).

Today at Westminster

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.

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. 180 Youth on retreat this weekend

4:15 – 5:15 p.m. *CoLABorate* Sunday School for Tweens on Zoom (please see p. 6)

- **Bible Box** for children ages 2 through 4th grade is available today on YouTube (please see p. 6)
- More Educational Offerings for Adults please see pages 6 & 7 for information.

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Amy Michener Lengel by her family – Eric, Katie, Jason and Justin – and her parents, Bunny and Jack.

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 to choose a date. December 27 is currently available.

Recently hospitalized: Richard Dawson and Trina Hogan

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 our faith comes alive.

ORDER OF WORSHIP- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2020

TOWER CHIME Sue Spilecki

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Prelude in E-Flat Major J.S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come together to thank the Creator of life.

We come to praise God's name and to seek God's ways.

We come seeking truth, meaning and hope.

We come eager to be filled with God's wisdom and love.

HYMN No. 12 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise St. DENIO Vs. 1 & 3

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise. To all, life thou givest, to both great and small. In all life thou livest, the true life of all. We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree, then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

OPENING PRAYER

Everlasting God, in whom we live and move and have our being, you have made us for yourself, so that our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Give us such a sense of purpose, that no selfish passion may deter us from seeking your will and no weakness prevent us from doing it. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

Click here to watch today's TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN on Westminster's YouTube channel.

SCRIPTURE Psalm 90:1-12

HYMN No. 305 Come Sing, O Church, in Joy! DARWALL'S 148TH Vs. 1, 3 & 4

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!

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!

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song! For Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er the ages long! In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

SERMON "Striving for Wisdom" Greg Jones

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:
Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame, from everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.
A thousand ages in thy sight are like an evening gone, short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.
Time, like an ever rolling stream, bears all our years away; they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.
O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, be thou our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home. Amen!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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. 331

God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand Vs. 1 & 3

NATIONAL HYMN

God of the ages, whose almighty hand leads forth in beauty all the starry band of shining worlds in splendor through the skies, our grateful songs before thy throne arise. From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence, be thy strong arm our ever sure defense. Thy true religion in our hearts increase. Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fugue in E-Flat Major ("ST. ANNE")

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 (the back). Please wait until an usher directs you to leave. Upon exiting the sanctuary, please leave the building. 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).

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Jesus says, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you" (John 14:27). We invite you to share signs of Christ's peace with those with whom you are gathered, or to pass the peace virtually by calling, emailing, or texting your family and friends in our congregation and beyond.

PARTICIPANTS

The Rev. Dr. Gregory Knox Jones
Director of Music/Organist: Dr. F. Anthony Thurman
Choristers: Hye Eun Choi, soprano; Sharon Babcock, mezzo soprano
Jason Berger, tenor; Brenton Mattox, bass
Ted W. Barr, piano
Videographers: Chip Pfleegor, Roger Reinicker, Baden Saathoff and Sophia Wolff
Tower Chime: Sue 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. You can find educational offerings on pages 6 and 7.

PERMISSIONS AND COPYRIGHTS

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EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

You can find Virtual Christian Education and small group opportunities on the homepage of the Westminster website (<u>www.wpc.org</u>).

Bible Boxes for Children (Age 2 – Grade 4)

Westminster's virtual Sunday school programming continues with Bible Box, a <u>YouTube</u> series that combines bible stories, crafts, and music. Materials for the crafts are provided for free. New content uploaded every Sunday. The program runs through December 20. If you have questions about the Bible Box program or would like to sign up, please email Alexis Droke at <u>alexisdroke@wpc.org</u>.

CoLABorate Bible Discovery for Tweens (Grades 5 – 8) TODAY (November 15), 4:15 – 5:00 p.m. on Zoom

Bring your whiteboard and a story or souvenir from a trip you have enjoyed. Alexis Droke (<u>alexisdroke@wpc.org</u>) will send your Zoom invitation. Mr. Tom Hogue and Mrs. Mary Anne Peters look forward to seeing you!

Virtual Conversation with Best-Selling Author Ibram X. Kendi TODAY (November 15), 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

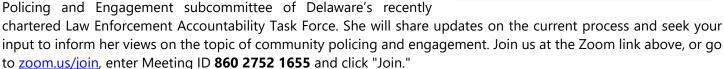
Join YWCA Delaware for a virtual conversation with Ibram X. Kendi, author of the *New York Times* best seller "How to Be an Antiracist." Westminster is proud to sponsor this significant event – we urge you to join us! <u>Click here</u> to register.

WPC Peace & Justice Online Education Events

Community Policing and Engagement: Best Practices and Your Ideas

Thursday, November 19, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86027521655

Westminster member Lynne Kielhorn is serving on the Community Policing and Engagement subcommittee of Delaware's recently





Online Bible Studies

Wednesday afternoons, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. on Zoom (no Midweek Manna on November 18)

The Midweek Manna Bible Study, facilitated by the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson, will not meet on Wednesday, November 18, as Sudie will be out of the office for Professional Development.

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

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88941171153?pwd=MmxuZWFvREhZSVExS3IveXQvTUhaQT09

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

Check out other Education Offerings for adults on YouTube.

POP-UP ADULT EDUCATION:

Single, COVID-19, and the Holidays... How to Survive and Thrive

Sundays, November 22, 29, and December 6 7:00 p.m. via Zoom



Join an informal discussion group as we share our plans, hopes, fears and challenges about the approaching holidays during these challenging times. If possible, let Margo Reign (margoreign@gmail.com) know you will be attending so you can receive some of the discussion questions ahead of time. Last minute drop-ins are welcome. Go to zoom.us/join, enter Meeting ID 999 4853 1730 and click "Join."

Join Us for In-person Worship in Our Sanctuary

Sunday, November 22, 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 November 22 worship in the sanctuary, click here!

Christmas Boxes Are Under Way!

Every year, Westminster fills boxes at Christmas for families in need in our community. Due to the pandemic, our Christmas Box Project has been reimagined, and we can still bring holiday cheer to 75 families. Be a part of this joyful project!

- Check and Online Donations Due by Sunday, December 6
 Instead of collecting non-perishable foods and taking stars from the "Star Trees," we are accepting check and online donations so that we can purchase ShopRite food gift cards for each family, a Walmart gift card for each of their children, and seasonal art supplies for the youngest kids to feel the joy of having a gift to open. Please write checks out to Westminster Presbyterian Church with "Christmas Box Project" on the memo line or visit www.wpc.org, click the "Donate Now" button at the top of the page, and select "Christmas Box Project" from the list of options.
- Bake Cookies for the Christmas Boxes and Drop Off by December 13
 If you would like to bake cookies in your home, please email Cookie Elves Polly and Jim Carter (pylecarter@comcast.net) and they'll put you on the Cookie Angels list. Pack each dozen in quart size zip-lock baggies for our recipient families and follow the drop-off instructions below.
- Make Cards for the Christmas Boxes and Drop Off by December 13 Instead of making cards together on Zoom as described in the October/November Chimes, card-making kits were handed out at WPC's Fall Festival for children to make at home for our Christmas Box recipients. Drop-off instructions below.
- Drop Off for Cookies and Cards
 Please drop off your homemade cookies and cards at the church parking lot on Sunday, December 13, between 8:45 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. For COVID safety, place your homemade cards and cookies in the trunk of your car. When you see the Elf just pull up and non open your trunk. The Collection Elf will uplead your

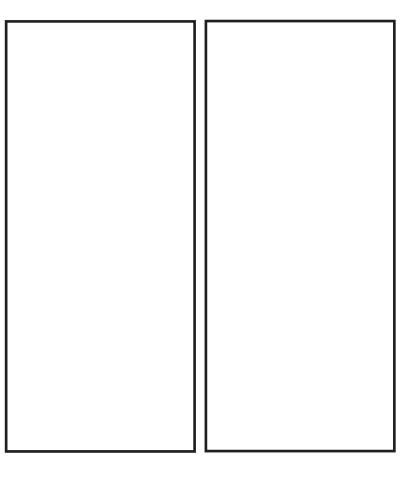
place your homemade cards and cookies in the trunk of your car. When you see the Elf, just pull up and pop open your trunk. The Collection Elf will unload your donation from your open trunk. Please stay safe inside your car.

Check the Westminster Weekly Word e-newsletter each week for any unanticipated updates and additional information. Thank you for sharing the love of Christ!





Iln Judges 4, we meet one of God's amazing and strong leaders - a prophetess named Deborah. She was a wise and gifted leader to God's people. Draw a picture of how you imagine Deborah looked. In the second box, draw a strong woman you admire in your own life.

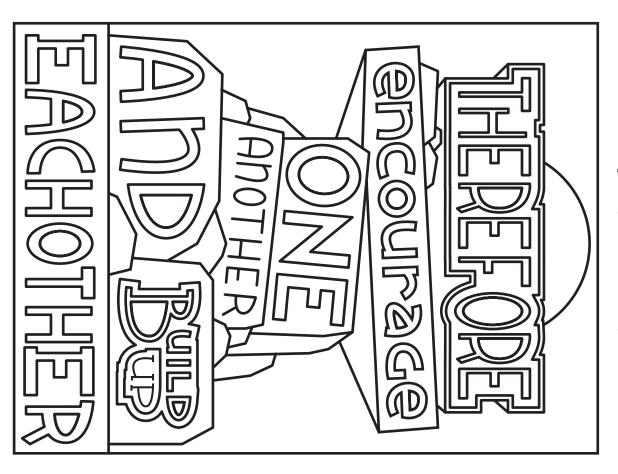




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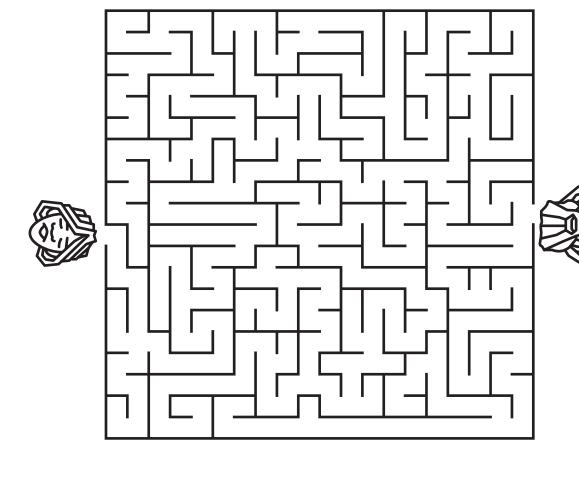
WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Judges 4:1-7, 1Thessalonians 5:1-11, Matthew 25:14-30.



SOLVEGHOMAZI

The army leader, Barak, needs to get to Deborah for her help and wisdom. Help him find his way!



(WORD) SEARCI

Try to find the words from Matthew 25 in the word search below. Words may go diagonal, up OR down and forward OR backward.

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HOLE	ONE	TWO	FIVE	TALENTS	JOURNEY
AFRAID	WELL	hOr	CHARGE	TRUSTWORTHY	GOOD
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