



# First Sunday of Advent

**November 28, 2021**

**PASTORAL STAFF**

The Rev. Dr. Gregory Knox Jones, Head of Staff  
The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson, Associate Pastor  
The Rev. Jill Getty, Pastoral Care Assistant

**MUSIC STAFF**

Dr. F. Anthony Thurman, Director of Music/Organist  
Alexis Droke, Director of Music for Children and Youth

**YOUTH LEADERS**

Tommy Neilson, Interim 180 Leader  
Josh Cox, Molly McPheeters

**DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL OPERATIONS**

Colleen Falasco

**DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES AND SECURITY**

Paul Crothamel

**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](http://www.facebook.com/wpcdelaware)), or following us on Instagram ([www.instagram.com/wpcdelaware](http://www.instagram.com/wpcdelaware)).

## 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. See guidelines on page 5.
- 9:00 – 9:45 a.m.**      **Prayground** in Community Hall. Worship is live streamed and activities are provided for children. Masking (for those over the age of 2) and social distancing are required. See guidelines on page 5.
- 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.**      **Confirmation Class** in Classroom 7.
- 9:45 – 10:30 a.m.**      **Fellowship Time** in the Meeting Room.
- 10:15 – 10:45 a.m.**      **Psalms Alive!** in Grace Hall. Pre-registration is required. See page 6 for details.
- 11:15 – 12:00 p.m.**      **Living Mosaics** in Rodney Chapel. See announcement on page 5.
- 12:00 – 12:15 p.m.**      **Fellowship Time** in the Meeting Room.
- 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.**      **180 Youth** meet for Friendsgiving in Classroom 6. See page 6 for details.

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

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**Today's Music:** The fully vaccinated and masked Westminster Choir will lead our hymns. Beginning today, the congregation is invited to join the hymn singing! The anthem was composed by Paul Laubengayer using a text by Thomas Troeger, the Professor of Christian Communication at the Yale Divinity School and a well-known preacher, poet, and musician. Troeger has authored more than 20 books; his work appears in the hymnals of most denominations and is frequently set as choral anthems. Today's anthem text comes from *Borrowed Light* (Oxford University Press, 1994).

**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.

**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).

**The flowers on the chancel** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of his mother and with appreciation to all who have supported him along the way by Ralph Lewis.

**Recently hospitalized:** Chris Waisanen.

**Westminster's Prayer Team** prays for the needs of our community of faith. You may submit a prayer request by email: [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, NOVEMBER 28, 2021

TOWER CHIME

Craig Checkel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN PRELUDE

*Savior of the Nations, Come*

J.S. Bach

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Barbara and Carl Ohmott, Donna and John Carpenter

The church announces the coming of Christ because it speaks to a deep truth.

**Christ is coming.**

Christ is always coming,

**Christ is always entering a wounded heart and a troubled world.**

We light the first candle, the candle of hope,

**as we express our longing for healing, for justice and the well-being of all creation.**

ADVENT PRAYER

**Loving God, as we embark on this Advent season,  
we open all the dark places in our lives and memories  
to the healing light of Christ.**

**Prepare our hearts to be transformed  
and reveal your creative power of hope  
that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.**

\*HYMN NO. 88

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (Vs. 1, 2 & 7)

VENI EMMANUEL

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

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 21:25-36

New Testament, page 74

ANTHEM

*Advent Promise*

Paul Laubengayer

View the present through the promise, Christ will come again.  
Trust despite the deepening darkness, Christ will come again.  
Lift the world above its grieving through your watching and believing  
In the hope past hope's conceiving: Christ will come again.

Probe the present with the promise, Christ will come again.  
Let your daily actions witness, Christ will come again.  
Let your loving and your giving and your justice and forgiving  
Be a sign to all the living: Christ will come again.

Match the present to the promise, Christ will come again.  
Make this hope your guiding premise, Christ will come again.  
Pattern all your calculating and the world you are creating  
To the advent you are waiting: Christ will come again.

- Thomas Troeger

*Passages in bold print may be said by all. At the asterisk (\*), please stand as you are able.*

SERMON

Gregory Knox Jones

\*HYMN NO. 82

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE 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. 772

*Live into Hope*

TRURO

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Toccata on VENI EMMANUEL*

Thurman

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 a portion of our income in service to God. A tangible 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)).*

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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*Toccata on VENI EMMANUEL*, F. Anthony Thurman.  
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# COVID-19 Mask Policy and Safety Measures

**Mask Policy.** Masks are required inside the building, including in entryways, hallways, the staff wing, Rodney Chapel, and *all* areas of the sanctuary. Masks must fully cover the nose and mouth. This change was made by Session on November 22, 2021 in order to allow congregational singing. By wearing masks, we protect our children who are not yet vaccinated and our members who are immune compromised. In addition, it adheres to the guidelines of the American Choral Directors Association.

*If you have children too young to be vaccinated, you are welcome to worship in the sanctuary or Rodney Chapel, but we have also created a safe, kid-friendly space called the **Prayground**. This worship space is in Community Hall on Sundays from 9 to 9:45 a.m. We livestream our worship service into Community Hall and provide materials to help young children engage in worship. Masking (for those over age 2) and social distancing is required.*

**Safety Measures.** We are committed to your safety during the pandemic. No-touch hand sanitizing stations are located near the doors and in the hallways. The sanctuary, Rodney Chapel, the main hallway and the staff wing are all equipped with the same high grade air filters as in hospitals plus air purifying devices that use needle-point bi-polar ionization on the air handlers that operate in these areas. These devices break down viruses, bacteria, mold, allergens, smoke, and odors in the air. These devices, along with the fact that we have a very high vaccination rate among our worshipers, makes Westminster one of the safest environments you can find.

## *Living Mosaics* Worship Returns!



TODAY AT 11:15 A.M.

Our 11:15 a.m. Sunday service resumes today – the first Sunday of Advent. If you find it difficult to make it to church by 9:00 a.m., or if you prefer the more casual style of our *Living Mosaics* service, we hope to see you at our 11:15 service. As before, this service will be held in Rodney Chapel.

# 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 discover other Education Offerings for Adults on [YouTube](#).

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## **"Psalms Alive!" – Sundays at 10:15 a.m. in Grace Hall**

Come worship, jump, and jive with *Psalms Alive!* This innovative and custom-made program fuses elements of worship and music education together to create a God-focused music program for families. Due to space constraints, participation is limited and registration is required. Please email Alexis Droke at [alexisdroke@wpc.org](mailto:alexisdroke@wpc.org) for more information.

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## **180 Youth - Sundays from 5 to 7 p.m. meet in Classroom 6**

Hey 180! Join us for our own little Thanksgiving gathering this coming Sunday at church! We'll talk about what we're grateful for, play some great games, and, of course, eat a lot of food! A lot of people might be away, so please email Tommy at [tommyjneilson@gmail.com](mailto:tommyjneilson@gmail.com) if you can make it! Don't forget your mask! See you there!

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## **Online Bible Studies**

### **Midweek Manna Bible Study - Wednesdays at Noon on Zoom (resumes December 1)**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89503349345?pwd=SIJrY2V2Y2tYa3JWQXk5ak1iZU1ldz09>

Midweek Manna will *not* meet on Wednesday, November 24. We will resume on December 1.

The Midweek Manna Bible Study, facilitated by the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson, is exploring the genre of the Hebrew Short Story by reading three Old Testament novellas: Ruth, Jonah, and Esther. In addition to being sacred texts with important theological themes, these works are also great stories! Join us weekly on Zoom and spend some time with Ruth, Jonah, Esther and other compelling figures from the Old Testament.

### **Thursday Evenings – 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. on Zoom**

Our Bible Study, facilitated by Randy Williamson and Mary Anne Peters, continues and new faces are always welcome. Contact Randy Williamson at [randywilliamson1@comcast.net](mailto:randywilliamson1@comcast.net) and he will send the zoom link.

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## **WPC Peace & Justice Online Education Events**

### **Let's Talk About It: What Do Recent High Profile Criminal Trials Mean for Our Future?**

**Thursday, December 2, 7 p.m. on Zoom**

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

In recent weeks, three high profile criminal trials – in Kenosha, WI; Brunswick, GA; and Charlottesville, VA – have captured our attention as we seek to come to grips with the fear and violence that serve as strong undercurrents in America as we struggle to deal with issues of race and justice. Join us as we reflect on these events and share our perspectives on what they say about us as a country and what they may portend for our future.

Our classes are accessed via Zoom using the Zoom link above, or go to [zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join), enter Meeting ID **860 2752 1655** and click "Join."

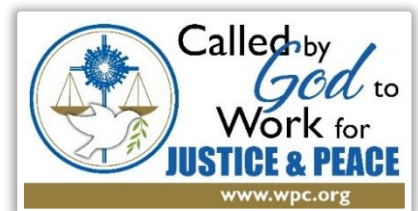
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### **Women's Online Community Group - 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays at 5 p.m.**

The women of Westminster connect for heartfelt and enriching discussions on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 5 to 6 p.m. The Rev. Jill Getty facilitates this group on Zoom.

Use the Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/477914100>

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## 2021 Christmas POINSETTIAS

You are invited to make a contribution toward the decoration of the church for the Christmas season in memory of, or in honor of, loved ones. Please complete [this form](#) (also available on the literature table at church), make check payable to *Westminster Presbyterian Church*, and mail to Susan Alexander at the front desk by **Wednesday, December 15**. For any form received *after* that date, the names will be listed in the December 26 bulletin.

## COMING UP! TWO CHRISTMAS CONCERTS



### **Westminster Choir Concert** Sunday, December 12, 3 p.m.

God's Promise: Lessons, Readings, and Carols, including scriptures and poetry by Thomas Troeger, with the Westminster Choir, Westminster By Heart Storytellers, and Ted W. Barr, piano. Pre-concert Tower Chime Recital by Susan Spilecki at 2:30 p.m.



### **Wilmington Handbell Ensemble Concert** Saturday, December 18, 4 p.m.

Experience the joy and wonder of the season through a child's eyes as the Ensemble presents *A Child's Christmas*, with Kerry Dietz, artistic director, and F. Anthony Thurman, organ. Pre-concert Tower Chime Recital by Susan Spilecki at 3:30 p.m.

Join us in person or online! Concerts are livestreamed on our [YouTube channel](#). Visit [WPC.ORG](#) for our most up-to-date COVID-19 mask policy and safety measures.

# 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 once again been reimagined for 2021. We can still bring holiday cheer to 120 families! Be a part of this joyful project!

- **Check and Online Donations**

By **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12**, make a check or online donation so that we can purchase Walmart gift cards for kids 0-18 years old and ShopRite food cards for each family. This again replaces the tradition of “Wish Star” gifts and food collection we used for so many years. Write and mail check to *Westminster Presbyterian Church* (memo: Christmas Boxes) or make an online donation by going to [www.wpc.org](http://www.wpc.org), click on “Donate Now” at the top of the page, and choose “Christmas Boxes Project” from the list of options. Donate what you can. Every dollar helps make the goal of this mission a reality!

- **Bake a Batch of Cookies**

Email Jim and Polly Carter ([pylecarter@comcast.net](mailto:pylecarter@comcast.net)) by **DECEMBER 1** to sign up to bake a batch of cookies in your kitchen. (No nuts, please!) Package one dozen cookies per zip-lock bag. If you’re feeling festive, you may put your bag of cookies in a decorated container. Drop-off instructions below.

- **Decorate an “Advent Bank”**

Calling all children and youth in our congregation! Decorate an “Advent Bank” that you’ll find in your Bible Box or pick one up at the Reception Desk. Then start saving part of your allowance or extra money you earn doing chores during Advent so the Christmas Box Elves can buy presents for the little ones who receive Christmas from Westminster. Drop-off instructions below.

- **Drop Off Cookies and Advent Banks**

Deliver Advent Banks and cookies to the Elves inside the Blue Doors (Community Hall entrance off 13th Street) on **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, FROM 8:45 TO 11:00 A.M.**

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

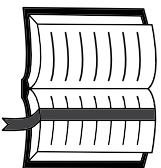
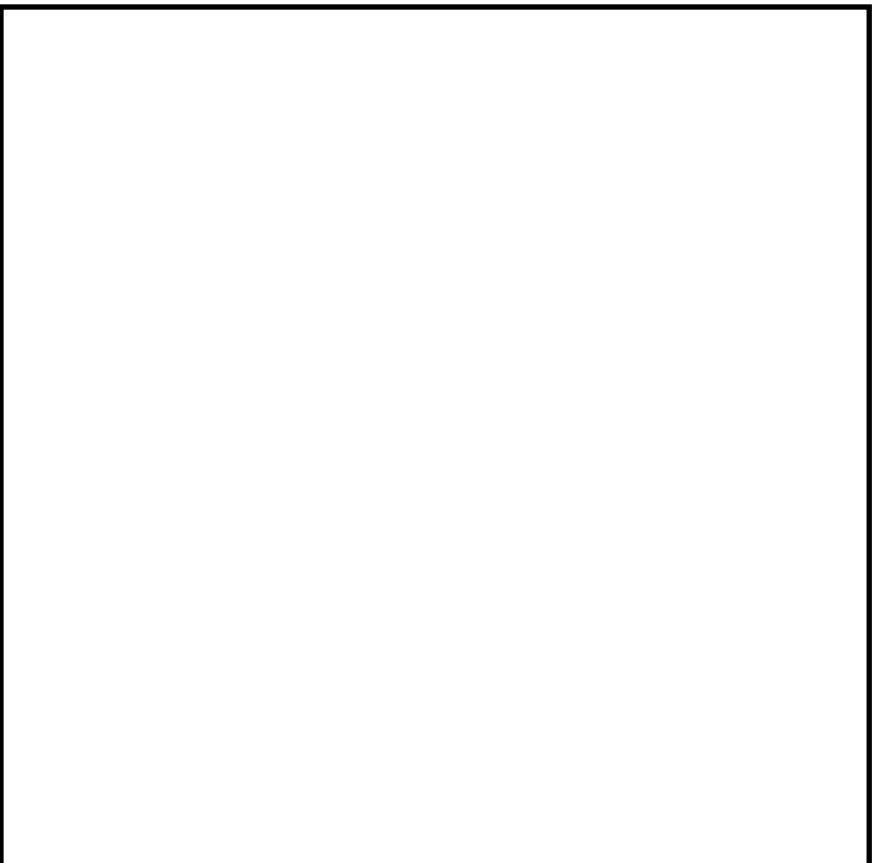






# DRAW IT

1 Thessalonians 3 describes how we can pray and share gratitude for our faith family. Who in your faith family or church are you especially thankful for? Draw a picture here and say a prayer for them.

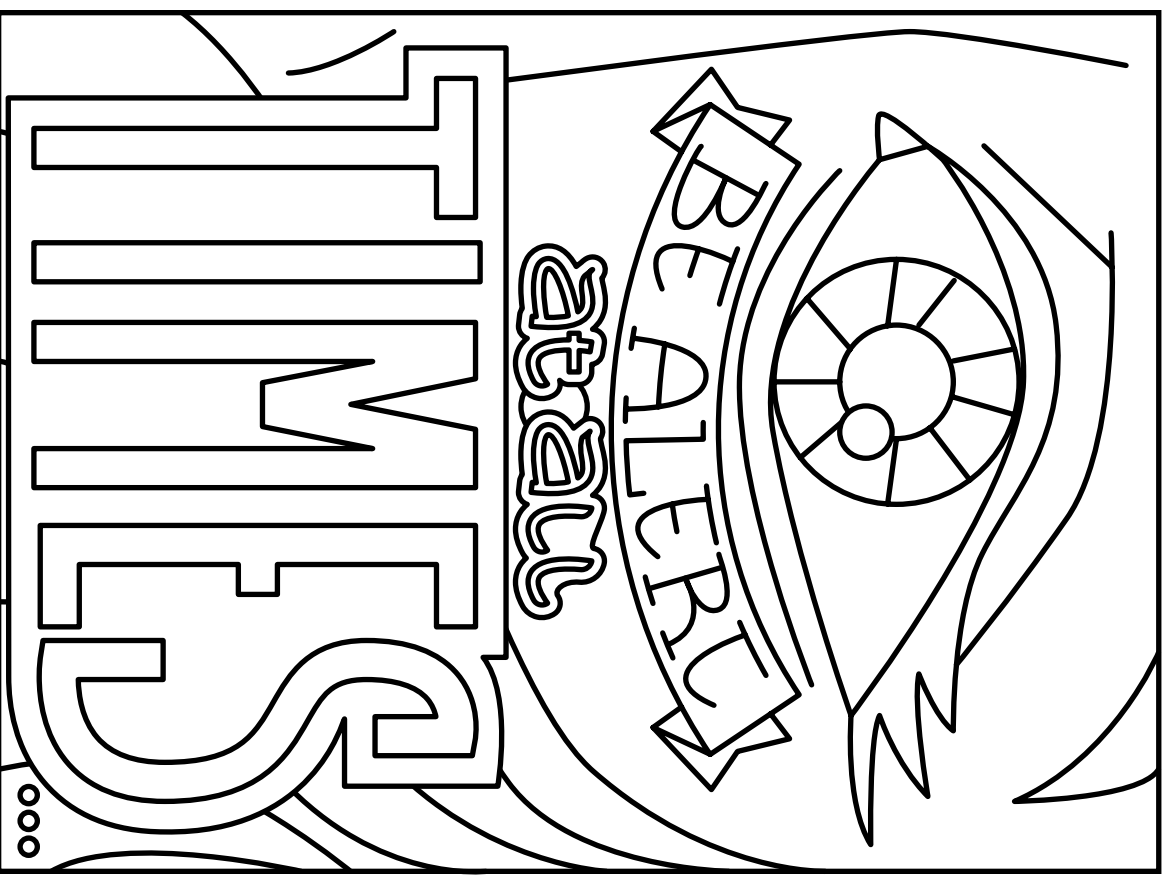


ILLUSTRATED  
MINISTRY

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# CHILDREIN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Jeremiah 33:14-16, Psalm 25:1-10,  
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13, Luke 2:125-36.



# WORD SEARCH

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

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

- |       |           |           |
|-------|-----------|-----------|
| LORD  | PATH      | STEADFAST |
| SOUL  | TRUTH     | GOODNESS  |
| TRUST | SALVATION | UPRIGHT   |
| WAIT  | MINDFUL   | HUMBLE    |
| KNOW  | MERCY     | COVENANT  |
| TEACH | LOVE      | RIGHT     |

# FOLLOW THE PATH

Who does the prophet Jeremiah say God will "spring up" from David's family? Follow the path of letters, and each time you come to a capital letter, write that letter down at the bottom of the page. When you get to the end of the path, see a description of the leader God will bring spelled out below.

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