



23rd Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 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)

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

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.

12:00 p.m. – 3 p.m. 180 Youth hike along the Brandywine river (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 are given to the glory of God and in memory of our son Matthew Hammond Mah (11/10/80-05/08/2016) given by Marsha & Dennie Mah. "We are all made of stardust."

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: Doris Larson and Richard Dawson

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.

ORDER OF WORSHIP- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2020

TOWER CHIME

Craig Checkel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

This Is My Father's World

Dale Wood

CALL TO WORSHIP

In a world of partial truths, we need a time of truth-telling.

In a world of many gods, we need to encounter the one true God.

In a world that makes many demands on our time,

we need to be confronted by the ultimate claim on our lives.

We are here to worship the Creator of heaven and earth.

HYMN NO. 624

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art
Vs. 1 & 3

TOULON

I greet thee, who my sure Redeemer art,
my only trust and Savior of my heart,
who pain didst undergo for my poor sake;
I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.

Thou art the life, by which alone we live,
and all our substance and our strength receive;
sustain us by thy faith and by thy power,
and give us strength in every trying hour.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Eternal God, in every age there have been men and women
who have lived faithful and obedient lives.**

We confess that we are not always in harmony with your will.

You call us to proclaim the truth in love, but there are times when we are silent.

You command us to do what is just, but too often we sit idle.

You beckon us to live faithfully, but minor matters distract us.

Forgive us and transform us

so that we may follow your guidance

and share Christ-like love with the world. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

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

ANTHEM

This Is My Song

Jean Sibelius/arr. Thurman

This is my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is; here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
But other hearts in other lands are beating with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean, and sunlight beams on clover leaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight, too, and clover, and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
So hear my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for their land and for mine.

This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms: thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him, and hearts united learn to live as one.
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations: myself I give thee; let thy will be done.

O God of every nation, of every race and land,
redeem the whole creation with your almighty hand.
Where hate and fear divide us and bitter threats are hurled,
in love and mercy guide us and heal our strife-torn world.

Keep bright in us the vision of days when war shall cease,
when hatred and division give way to love and peace,
till dawns the morning glorious when truth and justice reign
and Christ shall rule victorious o'er all the world's domain.

Today we all are called to be disciples of the Lord,
to help to set the captive free, make plowshare out of sword,
to feed the hungry, quench their thirst,
make love and peace our fast, to serve the poor
and homeless first, our ease and comfort last.

Pray justice may come rolling down
as in a mighty stream, with righteousness in field and town
to cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore an earth where conflicts cease
a world that was created for a harmony of peace.

May we in service to our God act out the living word,
and walk the road the saints have trod till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we give thanks in one accord
to God who calls us all to be disciples of the Lord.

*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.*

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).

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
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: Chip Pfleegor, Roger Reinicker, Baden Saathoff and Sophia Wolff
Tower Chime: Craig Checkel

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.

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Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples, H. Kenn Carmichael.

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EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

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

Bible Boxes for Children (Age 2 – Grade 4)

Westminster's virtual Sunday school programming continues with BibleBox, a YouTube 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 20th. If you have questions about the Bible Box program or would like to sign up, please email Alexis Droke at alexisdroke@wpc.org.

180 Hike!

TODAY (November 8), 12pm - 3pm, Brandywine Trails

Hey WPC students! Join us Sunday, November 8, for a hike along in the woods along the Brandywine River! Bring a mask, a packed lunch, and shoes that you don't mind getting a little muddy! Pick-up and drop-off will be in the parking lot directly across the street from Ramsey's Farm in North Wilmington! See you there! For more information about 180, please contact Tommy Neilson at tommyjneilson@gmail.com.

Presbyterian 101 Podcast

Episode 2 – By Grace Alone: What Presbyterians Believe

Now available on YouTube! Tune in here: <https://youtu.be/FNeRLiawISs>

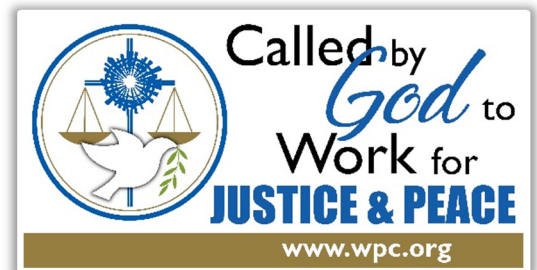
Episode 1 – By Faith Alone: The Reformation & Beyond

Missed Episode 1? Watch it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hobwm-WZsfg&t=10s>

So, you're Presbyterian. Or – at least – you've found a spiritual home at Westminster Presbyterian Church. But what does that even mean? Have you ever wondered what makes our denomination unique? Or where we fit in the broader Christian community? Or – here's a big one – what Presbyterians believe? Whether you are a lifelong Presbyterian or are new to this Christian tradition, you may be wondering about that not-so-little word in the middle of our congregation's name. The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson is here to answer (some) of your questions. Tune in to our Presbyterian 101 podcast and learn a bit about our denomination's history, theology, and governance ... In other words – what it means to be Presbyterian.

WPC Peace & Justice Online Education Events

The Potter's Fields of DHSS's Herman Holloway Campus (Farnhurst) – Lessons for Life, Presented by Faith B. Kuehn
Thursday, November 11, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86027521655>



Cemeteries are sacred ground, the final resting place of our earthly bodies. They can also reflect our prejudices and the inequities in our society that do not end at death. This is the story of three New Castle County Potter's Fields and projects to restore the dignity of all those buried there. Use the Zoom link above, or go to zoom.us/join, enter Meeting ID **860 2752 1655** and click "Join."

Online Bible Studies

Wednesday afternoons, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. on Zoom

Midweek Manna Bible Study – NEW Zoom Login!

<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, has new Zoom information. Please note that a Passcode is now required to join the meeting. The group is continuing our study of Exodus and will soon decide where to turn next on our journey through Scripture. New faces always welcome!

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88941171153?pwd=MmxuZWVvREhZSVExS3IveXQvTUhaQT09>

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

Virtual Conversation with Best-Selling Author Ibram X. Kendi

Sunday, 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! [Click here](#) to register.

GOD'S VISION IS CLEAR...
WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER



Please remember to submit
your financial pledge for 2021.
Thank you for your support!

www.wpc.org/pledge

Stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one.

Philippians 1:27

Worship Service in Our Sanctuary

Sunday, November 15, 9:00 a.m.



Our Session voted unanimously to reopen 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. The Session has 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.

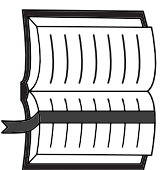
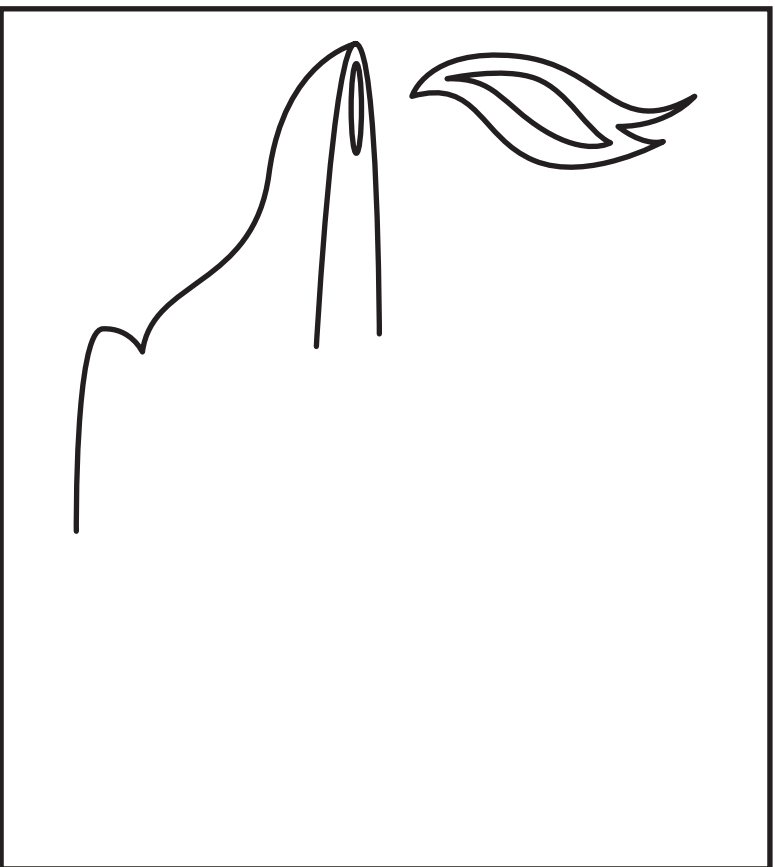
The liturgy will be emailed to you after you make your online reservation. Congregants are encouraged to print the liturgy from home and bring it to the service or pull it up on your mobile device; a limited number of printed copies will be available. In-person worship in the sanctuary does not replace our online worship service, which will continue to be available on our website at www.wpc.org.

**[Click here](#) to make your online reservation
for November 15 worship in the sanctuary.**

IMPORTANT: If you make a reservation, please make every effort to attend the service. If you make a reservation but cannot attend, please cancel your reservation. This allows a spot to open up for someone wanting to attend. You can cancel via the original Eventbrite confirmation email you received when you made your reservation. There is a link under Order Summary to "View and manage your order online." You may also contact Cathy Lang at cathylang@wpc.org or (302) 654-5214 ext. 129 up until 4:00 p.m. on the prior Friday to cancel your reservation.

FINISH ^{the} DRAWING

In Matthew 25, Jesus tells a parable about bridesmaids who prepared lamps in preparation for a wedding feast. It is a powerful story about being awake and watchful for God in our lives. Finish the drawing of the lamp. Inside, write or draw one way you see God in your life.

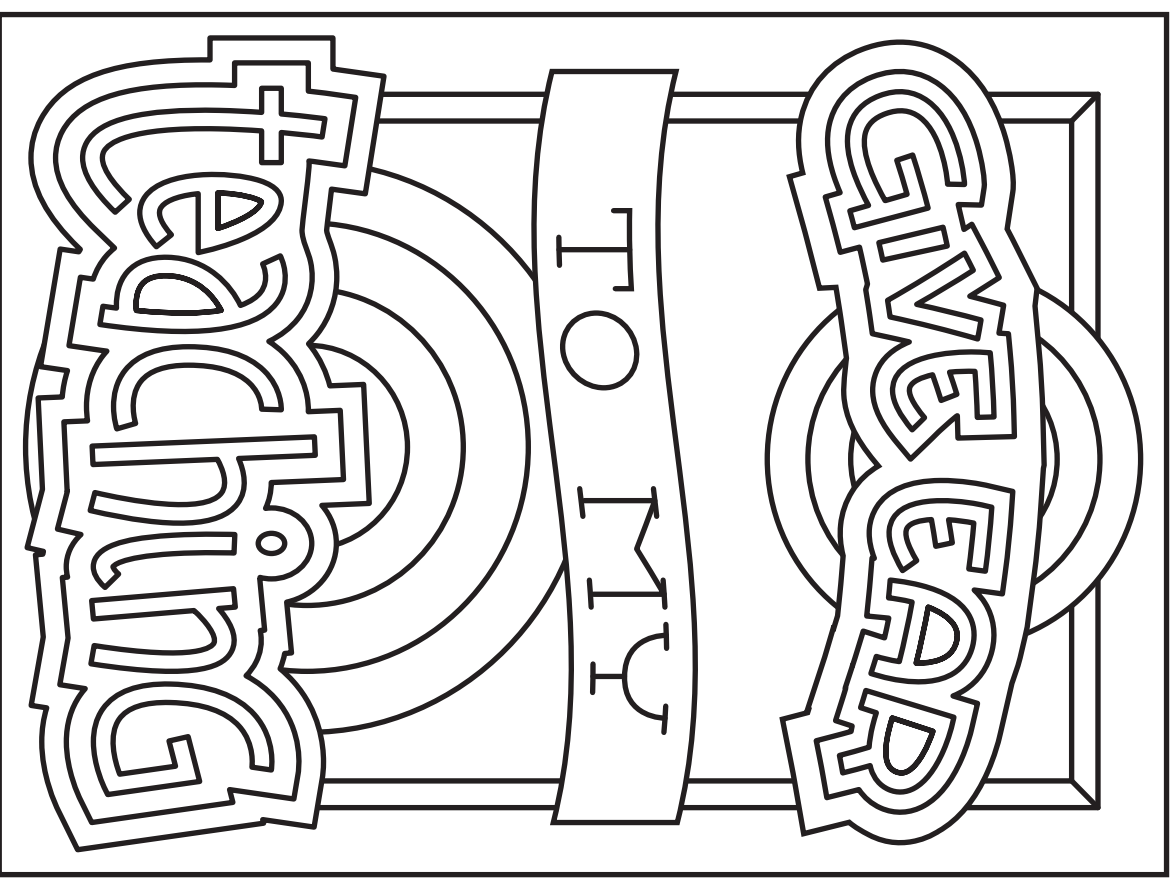


Illustrated
— MINISTRY —

Suggested for use on November 8, 2020 based on the RCL.
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CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25, Psalm 78:1-7,
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Matthew 25:1-13.





DRAW IT

In 1 Thessalonians 4, we are reminded of the promise that we will be with God forever - even after this life is done. Draw how you imagine this will look.

UNSCRAMBLE IT

In Joshua 24, Joshua challenges the people to decide whom they will serve and live for. How do the people respond to Joshua? Unscramble the words to find out.

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RFA EB TI MOFR SU ATHT EW

--- -- -- -- --
DSOHL KASROEF OGD

--- -- -- -- --
HET ORLD ROU DOG EW

--- -- -- -- --
LWLI VERSE' DAN DGO

--- -- -- -- --
EW WLLI JOBE

DOODLE AREA

Draw a picture of someone you want to pray for.