



21st Sunday after Pentecost

October 25, 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)
An Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
A 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.

11:00 a.m. Adult Education: How the Opioid Crisis Affects All of Us (please see p. 6)

5:00 – 7:00 p.m. 180 Youth meet in the Westminster parking lot (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.



Daylight Saving Time ends on **Sunday, November 1, at 2:00 a.m.** Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night, October 31!

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Sandy White from the Book Talk Group.

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. Dates currently available are December 6, 20 and 27.

Recently hospitalized: Richard Dawson and Julie West.

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 at 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.

ORDER OF WORSHIP- SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2020

TOWER CHIMES

Craig Checkel

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

In the beginning, O God, when the firm earth emerged from the waters of life you saw that it was good. The fertile ground was moist, the seed was strong, and earth's profusion of color and scent was born. Awaken my senses this day to the goodness that still stems from Eden. Awaken my senses to the goodness that can still spring forth in me and in all that has life.

J. Philip Newell, *Celtic Benediction*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

How Firm a Foundation

Wilbur Held

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather in this sacred space to worship God
**whose standards are right,
whose commandments are clear,
and whose judgments are true.**

We come to have our hearts stirred and our eyes opened wide.
**May our words, thoughts, and actions
be in harmony with God's will.**

HYMN NO. 23

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets
Vs. 1 & 3

PLEADING SAVIOR

God, you spin the whirling planets, fill the seas
and spread the plain, mold the mountains, fashion blossoms,
call forth sunshine, wind, and rain. We, created in your image,
would a true reflection be of your justice, grace, and mercy
and the truth that makes us free.

God, your word is still creating, calling us to life made new.
Now reveal to us fresh vistas where there's work to dare and do.
Keep us clear of all distortion. Polish us with loving care.
Thus, new creatures in your image,
we'll proclaim Christ everywhere.

OPENING PRAYER

**Ever-present God, stir in our hearts a holy expectancy
so that we will be alert and willing to hear your voice.
May our spirit be open to the call of your Spirit,
that in listening for you we might hear you,
that in searching for you we might meet you,
that in recognizing you we might follow you. Amen.**

Today's Time with Our Children is available on the "Time with the Children" playlist on Westminster's YouTube Channel. Watch it here: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIAr0EliSEqZTAQYB5rfE463fxEpPiXBh>.

ANTHEM

How Can I Keep from Singing?
A Choral Triptych

Ted W. Barr

Singing, how can I keep from singing?
My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentation,
I hear the real, though far-off hymn that hails the new creation.
Above the tumult and the strife, I hear its music ringing.
It sounds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?
How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
What more can he say than to you he hath said? How can I keep from singing?
Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it, how can I keep from singing?

SCRIPTURE

Romans 2:12-16

SERMON

“The Human Conscience”

Greg Jones

HYMN NO. 783

When We Are Tested
Vs. 1 & 4

ANGELS OF HEALING

When we are tested and wrestle alone,
famished for bread when the world offers stone,
nourish us, God, by your word and your way,
food that sustains us by night and by day.

When we have struggled and searched through the night,
sorting and sifting the wrong from the right,
Savior, surround us with circles of care,
angels of healing, of hope, and of prayer.

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. 275

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
Vs. 1 & 4

EIN’ FESTE BURG

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.
Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth.
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also.
The body they may kill; God’s truth abideth still.
His kingdom is forever.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Johann C. Kittel

*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
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
Piano: Ted W. Barr
Videographers: Chip Pfleeger, Roger Reinicker, Baden Saathoff and Sophia Wolff
Tower Chimes: 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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EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

Virtual Christian education and small group opportunities can also be found on the homepage of the Westminster website (www.wpc.org).

How the Opioid Crisis Affects All of Us

Sunday, October 25, 11:00 a.m. on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4937200361> | Zoom Meeting ID: 493 720 0361

Presented by Karl Fischer with Attack Addiction

Delaware is the **first** in the nation in prescribing of high dosage long acting opioids for several years. And Delaware is **second** in the nation in opioid deaths per capita, up from fifth in 2017. Learn from atTack addiction how this can affect **all** of us – from the suburbs to the inner city and rural areas, and trends and warning signs.

Bible Boxes for Children (Age 2 – Grade 4)

Short classes will feature a Bible story, craft, and music. Content starts today, October 25, on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...). If you have questions about the Bible Box program, please email Alexis Droke at alexisdroke@wpc.org.

Youth Ministry in the Parking Lot

Sunday, October 25, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Westminster parking lot

Join our 180 youth (grades 6-12) in the WPC parking lot for some fall activities. Bring a mask and a snack for yourself. We'll see you there!

180 Youth meets every week, either virtually or in person. For questions, contact Tommy Neilson at tommyjneilson@gmail.com.

Presbyterian 101 Podcast

Episode 1 – By Faith Alone: The Reformation & Beyond

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

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. Well, 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



Reimagine Probation – Improve Lives

Thursday, October 29, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

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

There are many aspects of Delaware's criminal justice system that cry out for reform. For individuals returning home after incarceration, the hurdles to successful re-entry are substantial as they struggle to find housing, transportation, medical care and employment at a livable wage. The current probation system and its myriad of reporting requirements, meetings, costs for treatment, curfews and surveillance are insurmountable hurdles for too many. Can we work toward a better system? Join us as we hear Javonne Rich of Smart Justice Delaware describe a series of proposed reforms that would benefit us all.

Join us at the Zoom link above, or go to zoom.us/join, enter Meeting ID **860 2752 1655** and click "Join." Look for more topics and information on the WPC [Facebook](#) page.

Online Bible Studies

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

Midweek Manna Bible Study – *New Day, New Name, New Facilitator, Same Study*

<https://zoom.us/j/94774770650> | Meeting ID: 947 7477 0650

Join the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson for "Midweek Manna" on Wednesdays from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. on Zoom. The group will continue its study of Exodus, and then decide where to turn on our journey through Scripture. Join us!

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88941171153?pwd=MmxuZWVvREhZSVExS3lveXQvTUhaQT09>

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

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 1, 9:00 a.m.



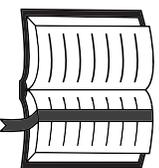
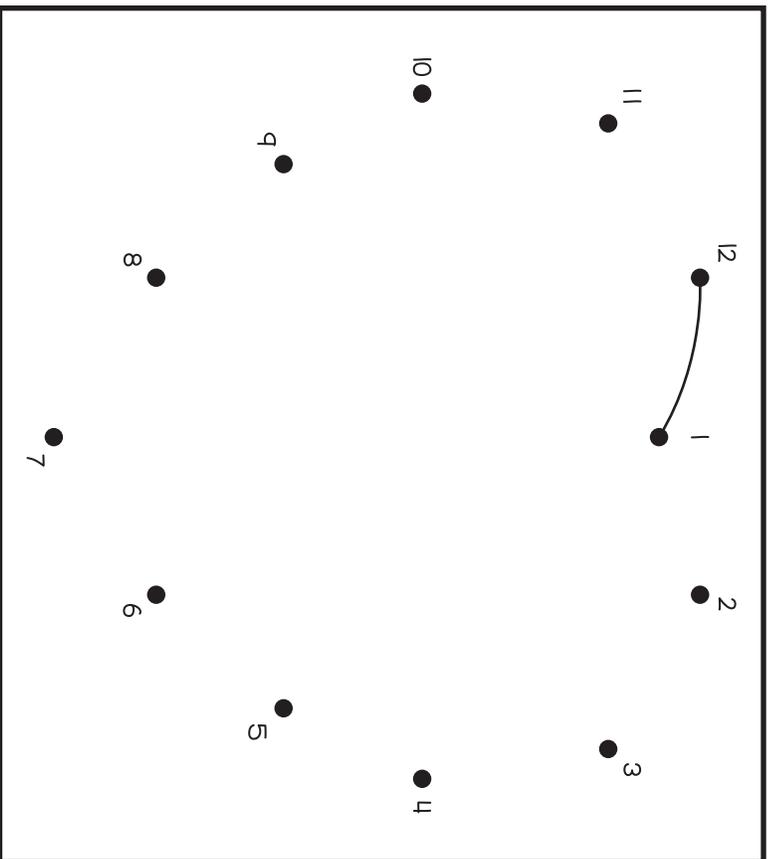
Our Session voted unanimously to reopen our sanctuary on Sunday mornings for one worship service at 9:00 a.m. Attendance is limited and an online reservation (*one per family*) is required. When we reach the maximum number of reservations we can host, the reservations will close. The Session has established 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 1 worship in the sanctuary.**

CONNECT the DOTS

Psalm 90 reminds us that even though we face all kinds of change in our lives and our world, God will always be our “dwelling place.” Connect the dots to form a heart, and think of it as God’s love and protection around you. Inside, draw a picture of yourself!

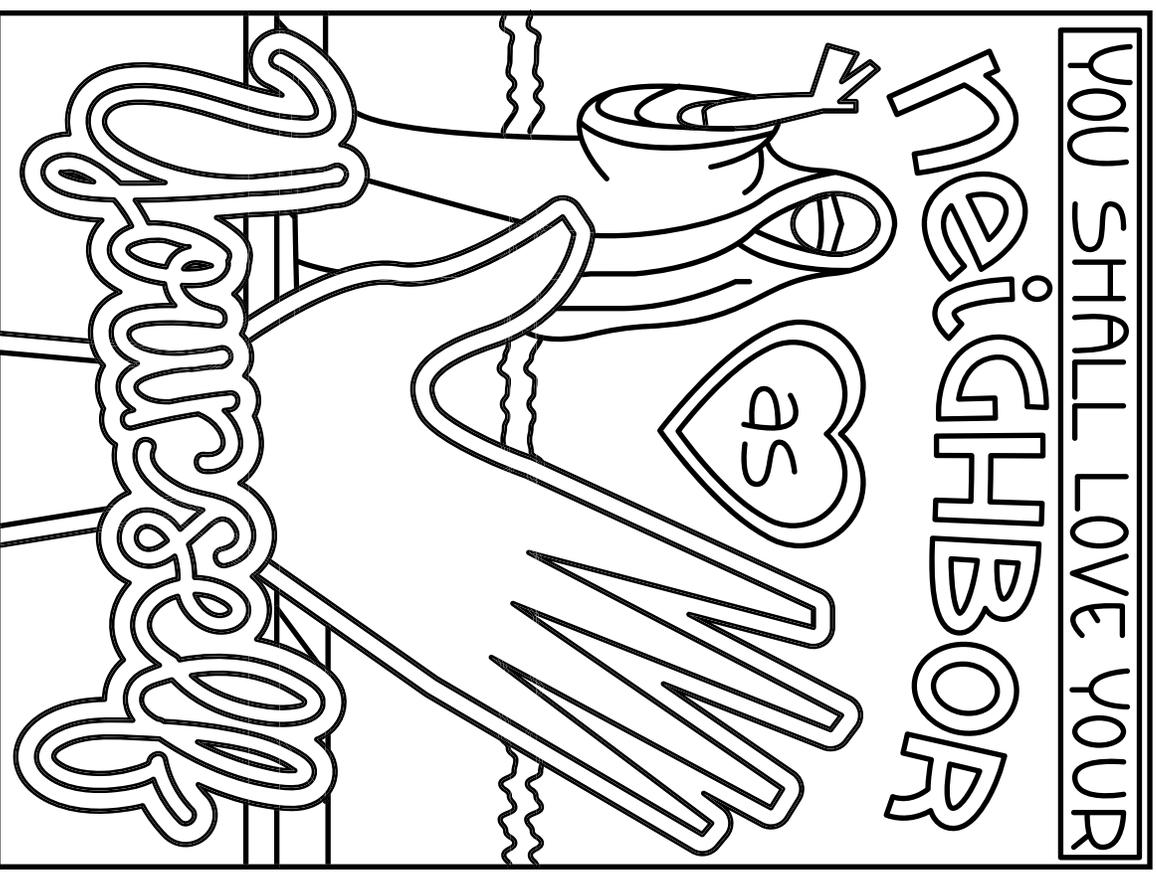


ILLUSTRATED
MINISTRY

Suggested for use on October 25, 2020 based on the RCL.
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CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

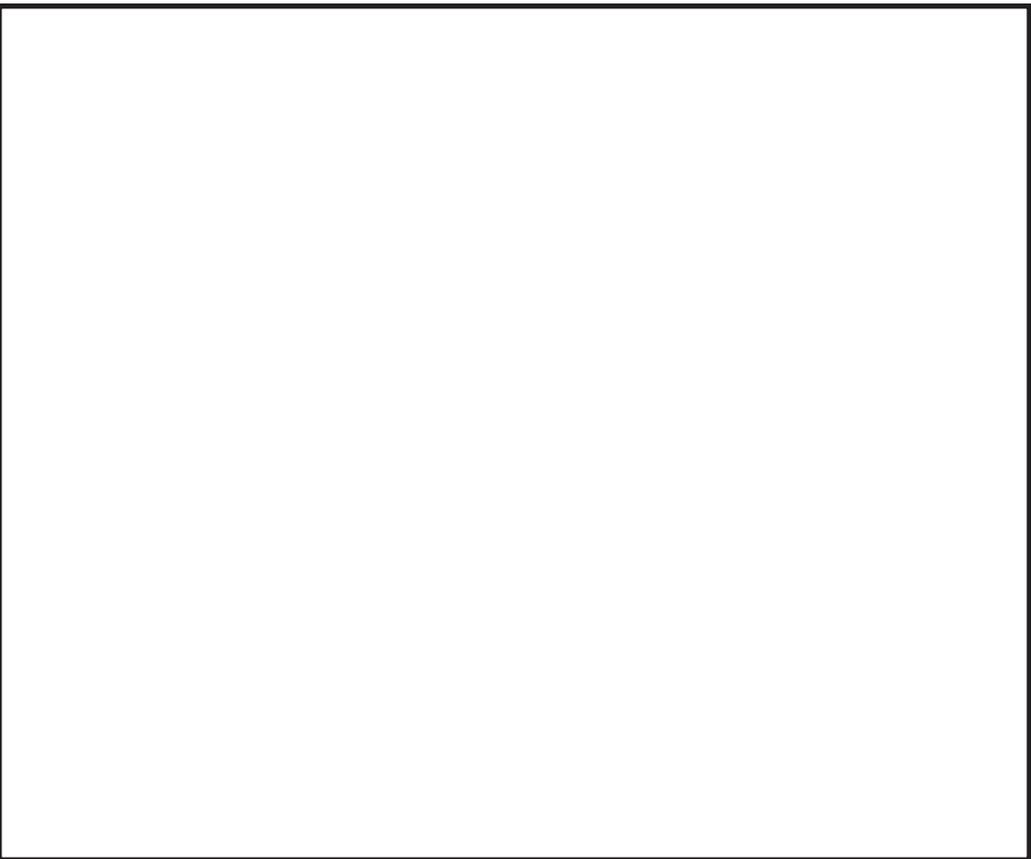
Activities based on Deuteronomy 34:1-12, Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17, Matthew 22:34-46.





DRAW IT

In Matthew 22, a lawyer asks Jesus what the greatest commandment is. Jesus says, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind... and you shall love your neighbor as yourself." Draw what you think it looks like to love God and love your neighbor.



SOLVE (the) MAZE

In Deuteronomy 34, Moses finally reaches the "promised land" after a long, long journey. Help him and the Israelite people make their way to the promised land.

