



# 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 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.



A 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 13<sup>th</sup> Street ♦ Wilmington, DE 19806 ♦ 302-654-5214 ♦ [www.wpc.org](http://www.wpc.org)



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

TOWER CHIMES

Susan Spilecki

PRELUDE

*Sonata in A Major, Op. 65, No. 3* (“Andante maestoso”)

Felix Mendelssohn

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to our virtual worship service. We invite you to participate in the liturgy by joining the worship leader on lines printed in **bold**.

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

**The flowers in the Sanctuary today** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Arthur C. Butters by his wife, Anna.

**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) to choose a date. The next available date is September 20.

CALL TO WORSHIP

We have come to worship the living God;

**Who creates heaven and earth.**

Let us celebrate the gift of life;

**And give thanks for the wonders of God’s world.**

HYMN NO. 4

*Holy God, We Praise Your Name*  
Vs. 1 & 3

GROSSER GOT, WIR LOBEN DICH

Holy God, we praise your name;	All apostles join the strain
Lord of all, we bow before you.	as your sacred name they hallow;
All on earth your scepter claim;	prophets swell the glad refrain,
all in heaven above adore you.	and the blessed martyrs follow,
Infinite your vast domain,	and from morn to set of sun,
everlasting is your reign.	through the church the song goes on.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we are quick to ask for grace when we have fallen short,  
and for patience when we have stubbornly turned away from you.  
Why are we slow to show the same mercy to others?  
We keep track of wrongs and cling to old hurts,  
rather than offering the forgiveness that could free others and ourselves.**

**Transform us, we pray.  
Pour out your mercy upon us,  
until it flows forth from us through acts of love. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Sudie Niesen Thompson

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 98:4-9  
John 15:9-11

SERMON

“Make a *Joyful* Noise?”

Greg Jones

HYMN NO. 366

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*  
Vs. 1 & 4

HYFRYDOL

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.	Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee: changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.
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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. 546

*Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*  
Vs. 2

SILICIAN MARINERS

Thanks we give and adoration  
for your gospel's joyful sound;  
may the fruits of your salvation  
in our hearts and lives abound.  
Ever faithful, ever faithful  
to your truth may we be found.

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*Ode to Joy*

Albert L. Travis

## 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](http://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  
Chorister: Hye Eun Choi  
Videographers: Chip Pfleegor, Roger Reinicker, Baden Saathoff and Sophia Wolff

## SOURCES AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are grateful to Westminster John Knox Press for making available the complete list of public domain hymns included in the *Glory to God* hymnal and to Illustrated Ministry ([www.illustratedministry.com](http://www.illustratedministry.com)) for our children's bulletins.

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 at the end of this Order of Worship.

The Prayer of Confession was written by our own Associate Pastor, the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson, and published in: "Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching and the Arts," Volume 53.1: Lectionary Aids for 2019-2020, Year A, ed. Kimberly Bracken Long (Office of Theology and Worship of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)).

# EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

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

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## Online Bible Study

**Wednesdays, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.**

New way to join! Go to [zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join), enter Meeting ID **899 3845 5537**, and click "Join."

Our Bible study continues and new faces are always welcome.

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## Women's Online Community Group

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays at 5:00 p.m.**

Coordinator: Jill Getty

For women of the church to provide connection and friendship, this group meets on Zoom. If you are interested, please email Jill Getty at [jgetty@wpc.org](mailto:jgetty@wpc.org) and she will add you to the weekly participant email list to receive the Zoom link and password.

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## WPC Peace & Justice Online Education Events

**The God of Second Chances**

**Part Two of a Two-Part Series on the Vaughn Prison Riot and Beyond**

Thursday, September 17, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Patricia May was a counselor at the James T. Vaughn Correctional Center in Smyrna who was taken hostage during the riot in February 2017. On September 10, Patricia described her reality of what transpired, the reasons why and her experience of God in the midst of chaos. On September 17, Patricia will share with us the compelling story of [Second Chances Farm](#), a new local enterprise that provides returning citizens with mentorship programs and green collar jobs at hydroponic, indoor, vertical farms in economically distressed communities. For more information about Patricia, [click here](#).



Join us using this Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86027521655>. Or go to [zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join), enter Meeting ID **860 2752 1655** and click "Join." Look for more topics and information on the WPC [Facebook](#) page.

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180 Youth Ministry will resume in September.

# Join Us! Worship Service on the Church Lawn

**Saturday, September 19, 5:30 p.m.**



On Saturday, September 19, we will worship on our church lawn at 5:30 p.m. (ending by 6:10 p.m.). To ensure the safety of everyone, attendance is limited and an online reservation is required. Please submit **ONE reservation per family**. When we reach the maximum number of family units we can host, the reservations will close.

Everyone who attends the service must wear a mask, practice social distancing by keeping a distance of at least six feet from anyone who is not in your family, and sit where indicated by an usher. Children must remain with their parents at all times. There will be no congregational singing; however, Tony will play a digital piano and some of our choristers will sing. Sue Spilecki will play the Tower Chimes. Remember that at that time of day it may still be warm, so dress accordingly and feel free to bring a bottle of water. **IMPORTANT! Please bring your own lawn chairs or blanket to sit on.**

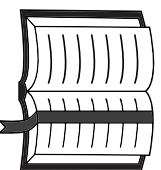
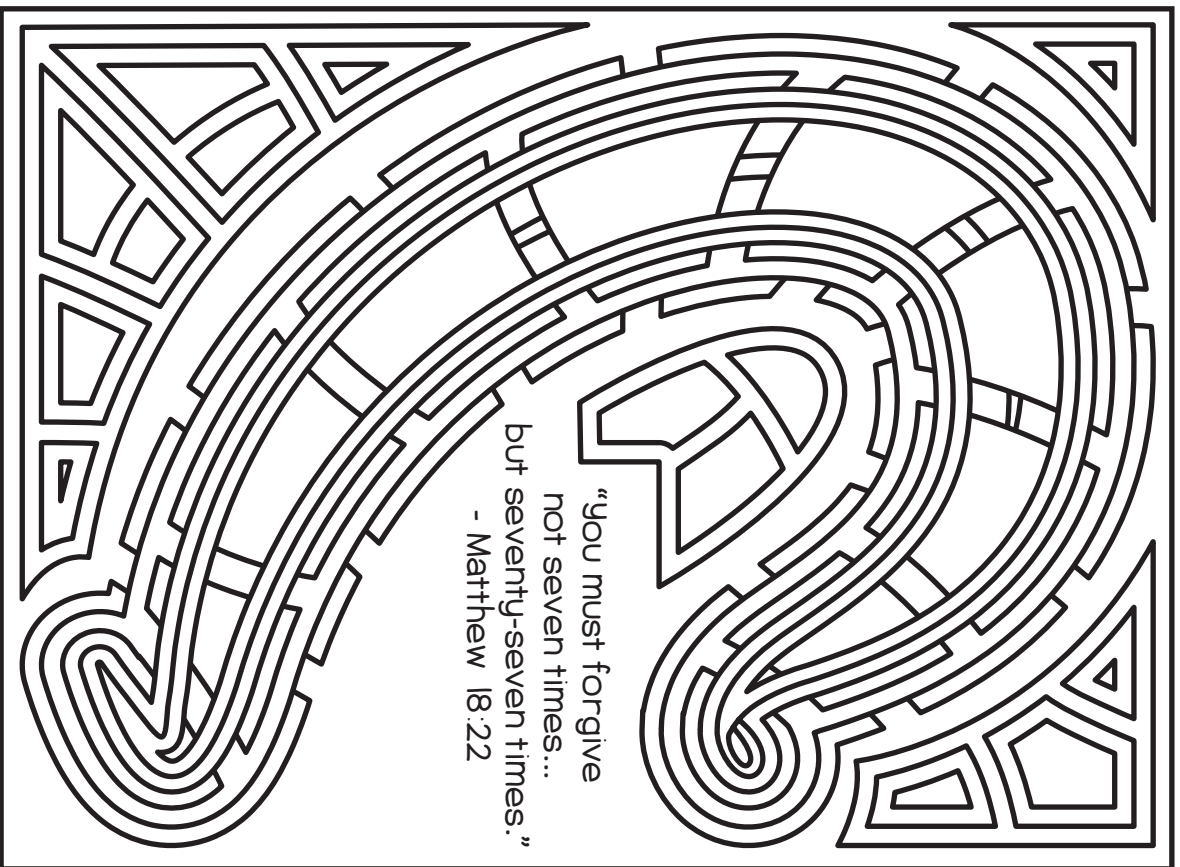
The liturgy will be emailed to you after you make your online reservation. Please print it and bring it to the service. If it rains, the service is cancelled. Worship on the lawn does not replace our virtual worship service, which will be available on our [website](#) on Sunday, September 20.

**[Click here](#) to make your online reservation for September 19 worship on the lawn!**

## VIRTUAL TRIVIA NIGHT CONTINUES!

**Wednesday, September 23 • 7:00 p.m. on Zoom**

Team up with your family members and friends to play against other Westminster households to answer questions about church history, the Bible, and other surprising topics. This month's theme is all about food, drink, and Disney! Virtual trivia night is appropriate for the entire family and no experience is required. We will be using an online game called Kahoot! You will need access to Zoom and a separate device with internet to access Kahoot! Must have two electronic devices to play (computer, tablet, smart phone). Please email Deacon Jenn Blackford to RSVP ([blackfordj11@gmail.com](mailto:blackfordj11@gmail.com)).

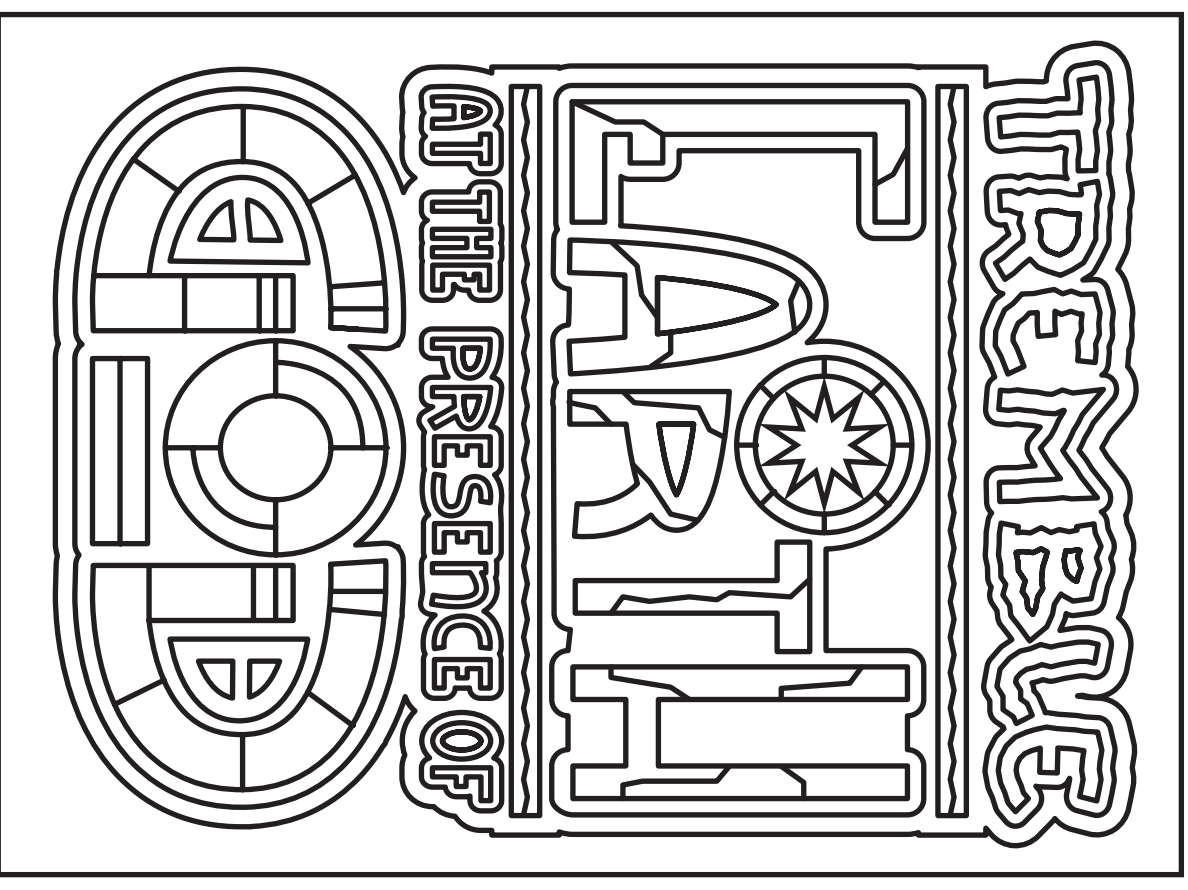


illustrated  
— MINISTRY —

Suggested for use on September 13, 2020 based on the RCL.  
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# CHILDREIN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

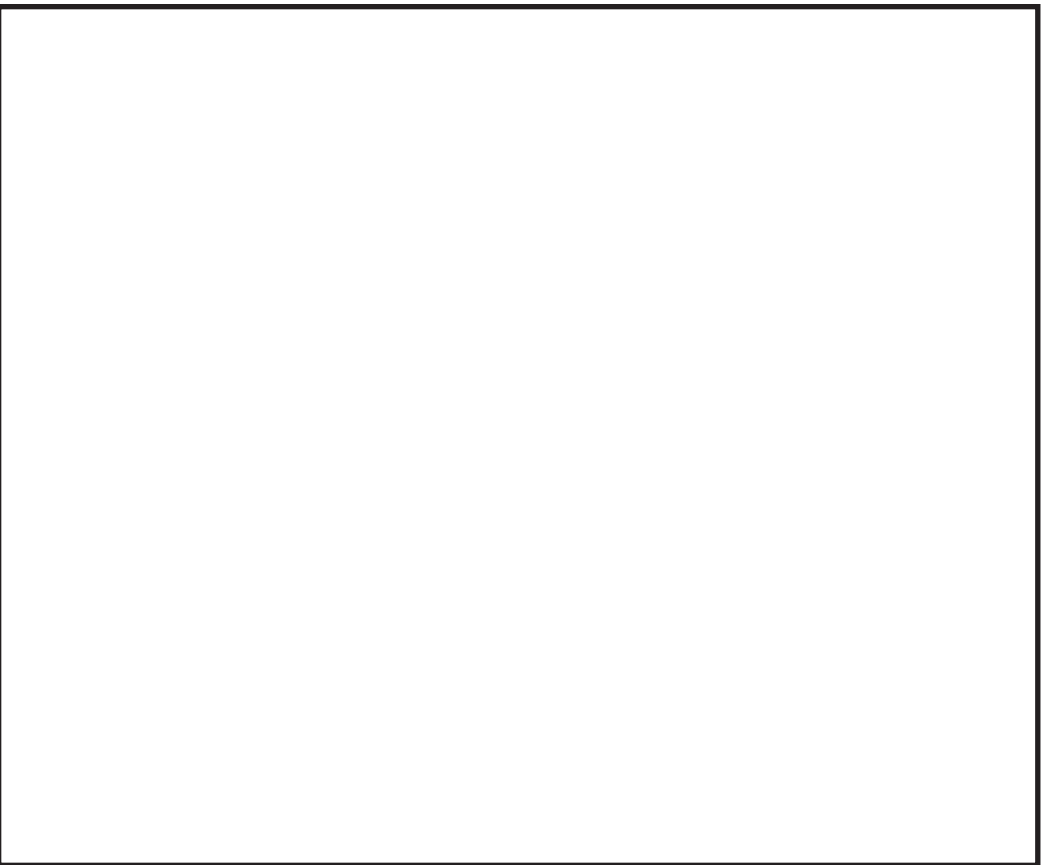
Activities based on Exodus 14:14-31, Psalm 114, Matthew 18:21-35.





## DRAW IT

Exodus 14 tells the miracle of Moses and the Israelites crossing the Red Sea. When Moses stretched his hand over the sea, the water parted and created a path for the people to escape to QASsafety. Draw how you imagine this amazing scene looked.



## FINISH <sup>the</sup> DRAWING

In Matthew 18, Jesus teaches us our forgiveness should be endless, just like God's. One way to think of forgiveness is to picture open hands - hands which receive, accept, and are open. Finish the drawing of the hands. Inside the hands, draw or write something your someone you might need to forgive.

