



Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 26, 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 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

- 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.** **Food Collection** for Emmanuel Dining in the Westminster parking lot.
- 9:00 – 9:45 a.m.** **Worship** in the Sanctuary. See guidelines on page 6.
- 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 6.
- 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.** **180 Youth** meet in the WPC parking lot (please see p. 7 for details).

Please see page 7 for information on Educational Offerings for Adults.

Today's Music: The fully vaccinated Westminster Choir brings an anthem by Allen Pote, a lifelong church musician and composer for both youth and adult choirs. The Kansas native has served churches in Texas and Florida and now dedicates his time to being a full-time composer. *Awake, My Soul, and Sing* was inspired by Psalms 71 and 108 and expresses the enduring hope in God from one generation to another. This same hope is reflected in the organ postlude, which was inspired by Psalm 71.

Westminster has been certified as an Earth Care Congregation by the Presbyterian Church (USA) for the 11th 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.

The flowers on the chancel are given to the glory of God by Clark and Donna Collins with thanks for the blessings of 50 years of marriage.

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. Available dates are October 31, November 28, December 12 and 19.

Westminster's Prayer Team prays for the needs of our community of faith. You may submit a prayer request by email: 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.



ORDER OF WORSHIP- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

TOWER CHIME

Susan Spilecki

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Sleepers Awake!

J.S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lift your hearts! Lift your eyes! Lift your voices!

The living, moving Spirit of God calls us together.

What will happen to us if we open our lives to God's Spirit?

We will be alert for the surprises of God.

HYMN NO. 663

Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun (Vs. 1 – 3)

MORNING HYMN

Awake, my soul, and with the sun	Lord, I my vows to you renew.
your daily stage of duty run;	Disperse my sins as morning dew;
shake off dull sloth, and joyful rise	guard my first springs of thought and will,
to pay your morning sacrifice.	and with yourself my spirit fill.

Direct, control, suggest, this day,
all I design or do or say,
that all my powers, with all their might,
in your sole glory may unite.

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, restore our eyesight and awaken our insight.

We are in the presence of holiness,

but we fail to discern it.

We stand in the midst of your dynamic Spirit,

yet we do not perceive it.

We walk on the road of newness,

but we see only the dust and signs of the old.

Help us to see your activity in the ordinary as well as the extraordinary,

so that we may be aware of your power and work.

We pray in the name of the one who

opens our blind eyes,

heals our wounded souls,

and commissions us to spread your love. Amen.

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

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 25:1-13

ANTHEM

Awake, My Soul, and Sing

Allen Pote

Awake, my soul, and sing. Arise and sing a psalm.
For great are you, Lord, and great your love; your kindness is forever.
You have been my hope, my confidence since my youth.
I will proclaim your marvelous deeds. I will ever sing praises.
Even when I am growing old, do not forsake me, O God.
I will declare your strength and power to the next generation, to all who are to come.

HYMN NO. 683

Lord of All Hopefulness (Vs. 1 & 3)

COURTNEY

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy, whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy: be there at our waking and give us, we pray, your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.	Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace, your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace: be there at our homing and give us, we pray, your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
---	---

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. 771

What Is the World Like (Vs. 1, 4 & 5)

NEW WORLD

What is the world like when God's will is done? Mustard seeds grow more than we can conceive: roots thread the soil; branches reach for the sun. This is how God moves us each to believe.	What is the world like when God's will is done? Ready for feasting, we watch through the night, tending our lamps till the new day's begun. This is how God readies us for the light.
---	--

These are the stories that Jesus imparts,
filled with the Spirit who joins us as one.
Born through our voices, our hands, and our hearts,
this is a new world where God's will is done.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Sortie

Douglas E. Wagner

I will go in the strength of the Lord God –Psalm 71:16

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. 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).

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.

PERMISSIONS AND COPYRIGHTS

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE #A-736679 and CCLI License #CSPL187609. All rights reserved.

Awake, My Soul, and Sing, Allen Pote.

Copyright © 2013 MorningStar Music Publishers. All rights reserved.

Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-736679.

Lord of All Hopefulness, Jan Struther and David Schwoebel.

Text copyright © 1931 Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

Music copyright © 2008 Celebrating Grace. All rights reserved.

Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-736679.

Sortie, Douglas E. Wagner.

Copyright © 2016 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved.

Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-736679.

What Is the World Like, Adam M.L. Tice and Sally Ann Morris.

Copyright © 2009 GIA Publications. All rights reserved.

Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-736679.

Confirmation Class

Begins Sunday, October 10, 10–11 a.m. in Rodney Chapel

Confirm not Conform is the curriculum for our 2021-2022 Confirmation Class for high school youth (grades 9-11). It will begin on Sunday, October 10, 10–11 a.m., in Rodney Chapel. Class leaders Sue Spilecki, Diane Chandler, Sandy Wermus, and Emily Knepper look forward to a great time with this class. Please contact Sue Spilecki (susanspilecki@gmail.com) or Susan Williamson (susanwilliamson@comcast.net) to register for the class.

Sunday Worship COVID Policy

Given the level of transmission in New Castle County, we are strongly encouraging everyone – including those who are fully-vaccinated – to wear masks at all times while in the building, in accordance with current CDC guidance.

- If you are fully vaccinated and comfortable going without a mask please sit in the front part of the sanctuary and the side transepts. These sections are open seating and mask optional for fully vaccinated people. Please access these sections via the lectern-side transept door off the main hallway.
- If you are not vaccinated or choose to wear a mask, you will be able to social distance in the back part of the sanctuary and balcony. Masks must be worn at all times in these sections. Please access these sections through the Narthex (behind the screen at the rear of the sanctuary).
- Ushers at both entrances will be masked and available to direct you to the proper section.
- *Everyone* is required to wear a mask when entering or exiting the building. This is for the well-being of those who are not vaccinated.
- If you have children too young to be vaccinated, you are welcome to worship in the sanctuary, but we have also created a safe, kid-friendly space. We call it the **Prayground**. This worship space is in Community Hall. 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.

EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

You can find virtual Christian education and small group opportunities on the homepage of the Westminster website (www.wpc.org) and check out other Education Offerings for Adults on [YouTube](#).

180 Youth meet in the WPC parking lot! Join us TONIGHT from 5 to 7 p.m.

We'll be playing our favorite games, chatting it up with our small groups, eating dinner, and spending some much needed fellowship time together! If the weather is lousy, we'll meet inside in Classroom 6. Don't forget your mask! See you there! For more information about 180 Youth Ministry for grades 6 – 12, contact Tommy at tommyjneilson@gmail.com.

Online Bible Studies

Midweek Manna Bible Study

Wednesdays at Noon on Zoom

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

This fall the Midweek Manna Bible Study, facilitated by the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson, will explore 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, 6–7 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 and he will send the Zoom link.

Climate Topics Join Our Thursday Education Events

Sponsored by Westminster's Peace & Justice Work Group

Environmental and justice issues are inextricably interwoven as climate change disproportionately affects those in minority and poor communities. September 30 begins a series of climate education and discussion sessions that will continue on a regular basis.

The Most Important Thing You Can Do to Fight Climate Change: Talk About It

TED Talk and Discussion

Thursday, September 30, 7 p.m. on Zoom

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

We'll begin with Katharine Hayhoe's TED talk, "The most important thing you can do to fight climate change: talk about it." Followed the same night with a video explaining the science behind climate change. We will take time to discuss both. Use the Zoom link above, or go to zoom.us/join, enter Meeting ID **860 2752 1655** and click "Join."

Women's Online Community Group

2nd and 4th Thursdays at 5 p.m.

Coordinator: Jill Getty

The women of Westminster connect for heartfelt and enriching discussions on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 5:00 – 6:00 PM. The Rev. Jill Getty facilitates this group on Zoom. Use this Zoom link to join the meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/477914100?pwd=WmZZUFZ2UEFhZWozOTRnN1hwQnpDQT09>

Jacqueline Means “the STEM Queen” to Speak at Westminster

Sunday, October 3, 10 AM

Join us in person or online!



As a 12-year-old from Wilmington’s Southbridge, Jacqueline Means was concerned by the poor academic records of the children and youth around her. She founded the Wilmington Urban STEM Initiative to inspire children to see how fun and accessible Science can be. Jackie’s workshops have reached over 5,000 girls, who are often less likely to pursue STEM subjects. Now a sophomore at the University of Delaware majoring in neuroscience, she is leading by example. Wear your mask and join us in the sanctuary or follow along with the livestream as Jackie shares her story and several of her exciting experiments!

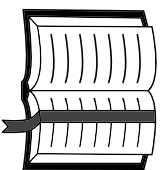
FALL FESTIVAL

Sunday, October 17, 10 AM
on the Church Lawn

We would love to see you in your costume. You can make a craft, decorate a pumpkin, make a card for a homebound member, enjoy refreshments and goodie bags! Come and join us for some fall fun! Masks recommended. Please observe social distancing.

DRAW IT

The book of Esther shares the incredible story of a very brave woman who used what she had to do great things for God. When have you done something brave that helped others? Draw the picture here.

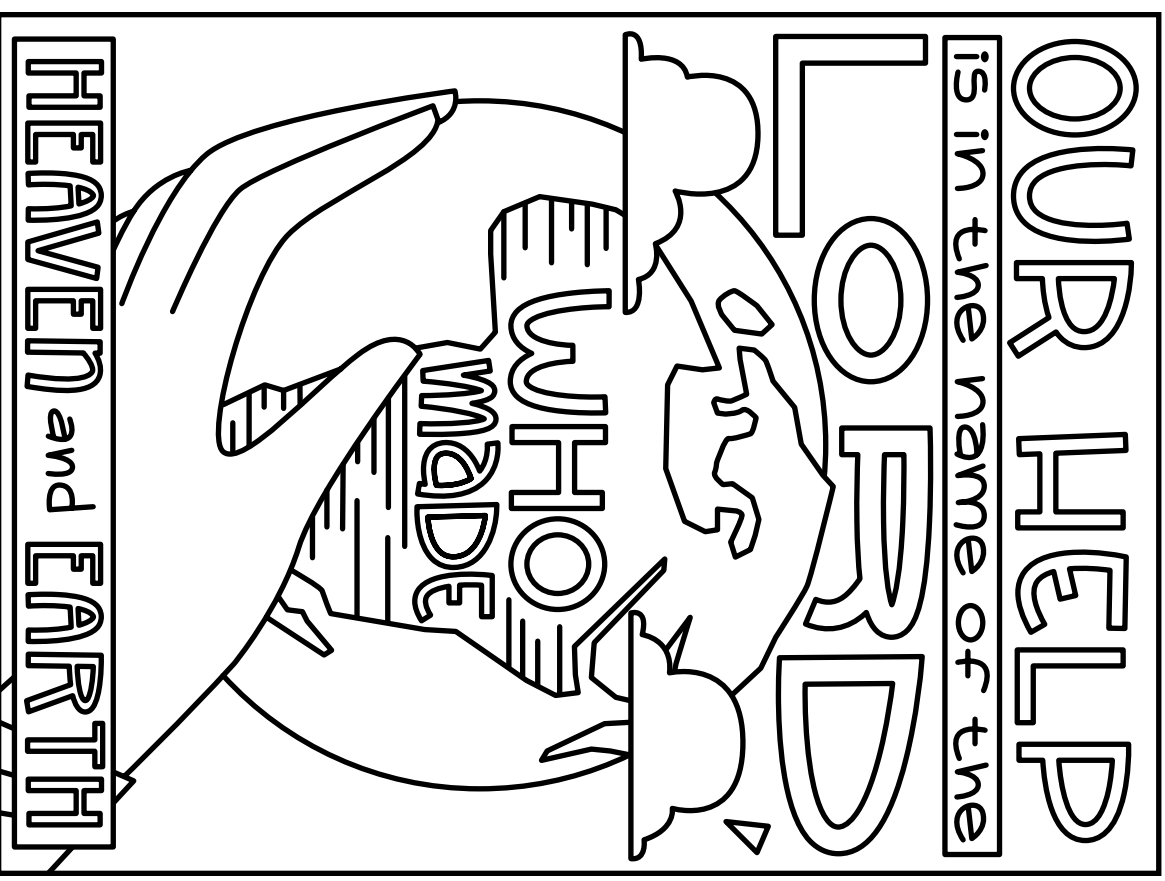


illustrated
— MINISTRY —

Suggested for use on September 26, 2021 based on the RCL.
Copyright © 2021 Illustrated Ministry, LLC. All rights reserved. May be reproduced for congregational use provided each copy carries this notice. illustratedministry.com

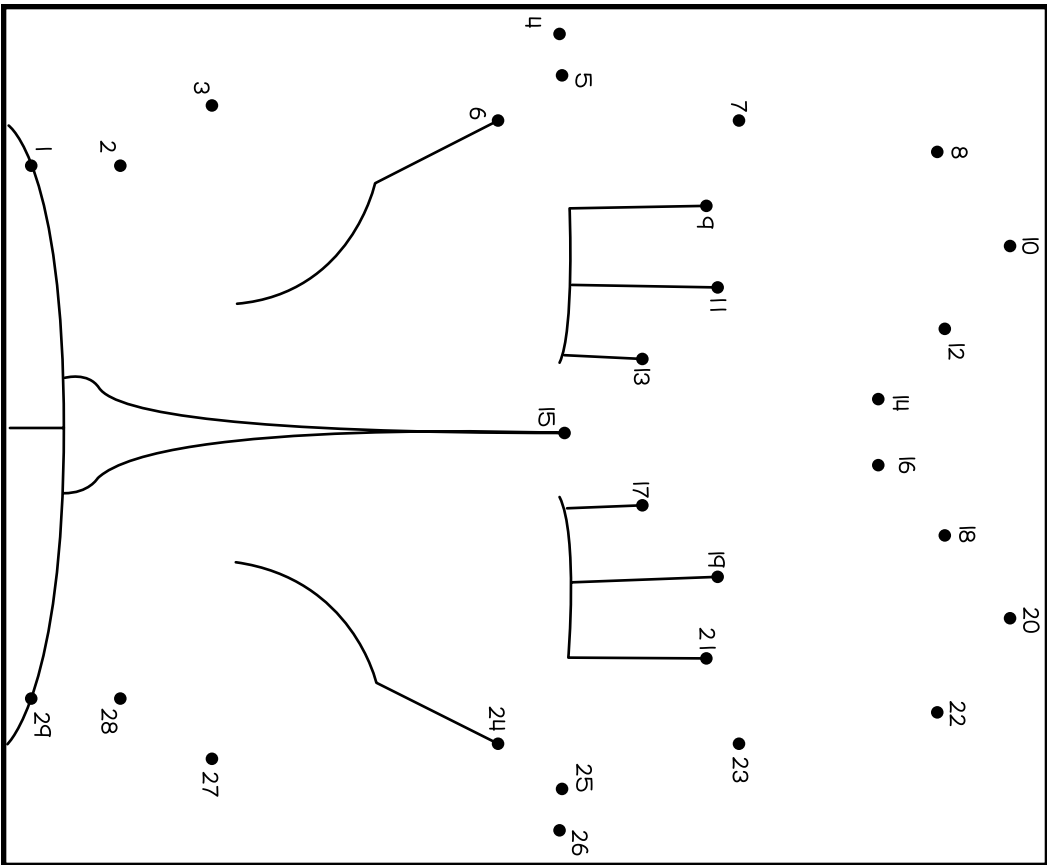
CHILDREEN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22, Psalm 124,
James 5:13-20, Mark 9:38-50.



CONNECT the DOTS

James 5 says, “the prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.” Part of prayer is opening our hearts and minds to whatever God has for us. Connect the dots to form open hands. Around the hands, write or draw what you would like to pray about today.



WORD SEARCH

Try to find the words from Mark 9 in the word search below. Words may go diagonal, up OR down and forward OR backward.

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

TEACHER	CHRIST	SALT
FOLLOW	REWARD	GOOD
JESUS	HAND	PEACE
NAME	FOOT	SPEAK
POWER	EYE	GIVE
WATER	FIRE	BETTER