



17th Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 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 13th Street ♦ Wilmington, DE 19806 ♦ 302-654-5214 ♦ www.wpc.org



ORDER OF WORSHIP

TOWER CHIMES

Susan Spilecki

PRELUDE

God's Time Is the Very Best Time

J.S. Bach

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), liking us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/wpcdelaware), or following us on Instagram (www.instagram.com/wpcdelaware).

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Teddy Bedrossian by Ned Bedrossian and family.

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. Next available date is October 11.

CALL TO WORSHIP

A new day has dawned; a day ripe with possibilities.

**Now is the time for new beginnings,
a time to encounter God anew.**

God calls us to new commitments and new actions.

We pray that we may be faithful to God's calling.

HYMN NO. 612

We Praise You, O God
Vs. 1 & 2

KREMSER

We praise you, O God,
our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion
our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you;
we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name;
glad praises we sing.

We worship you,
God of our fathers and mothers;
through trial and tempest
our guide you have been.
When perils o'take us,
you will not forsake us,
and with your help,
O Lord, our struggles we win.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Loving God, you desire that we have the same mind as Christ
and imitate his compassionate service.
But our minds are fixed on attitudes and ambitions that draw us away from you.
We labor for ourselves and attend to the needs of a precious few
before considering how our time and talents could bless the world.
We admire those who are wealthy and famous
and overlook those who are lowly rather than affirming the dignity of all.
We pray that we may be transformed by your Spirit
so that we may love as Jesus loved and live as he lived.
In his name, we pray. Amen**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Sudie Niesen Thompson

SCRIPTURE

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

SERMON

"A Time to Be Born"

Greg Jones

HYMN No. 846

Fight the Good Fight
Vs. 1 & 4

DUKE STREET

Fight the good fight with all thy might. Christ is thy strength and Christ thy right. Lay hold on life, and it shall be thy joy and crown eternally.	Faint not nor fear: God's arms are near. God changeth not, and thou art dear. Only believe, and thou shalt see that Christ is all in all to thee.
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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. 687

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past
V. 1

ST. ANNE

Our God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fugue in E-Flat Major (“St. Anne”)

Bach

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).

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: Sharon Babcock, mezzo soprano
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) 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 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).

Adult Education: Won Buddhism

Today (September 27), 1:00 p.m. on Zoom

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

Presented by Grace Song, Won Institute of Graduate Studies

Adult Education is back! Join us at 1:00 p.m. for the first Sunday Seminar of the fall semester. Guest Grace Song will present on Won Buddhism – a religion that emerged in Korea in 1916. One unique characteristic of Won Buddhist temples is that they do not place a Buddha statue at the altar but, instead, enshrine a circle image called the Il-Won-Sang (one circle image). The circular symbol represents the awakened mind of Buddha and symbolizes the interdependence of all things in the universe. Grace will share how Won Buddhism has changed her life and discuss its relevance in contemporary society.

180's First Outdoor Event of the Year!

Tonight (September 27), 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Westminster parking lot

Attention youth of Westminster: Our first in-person event of the school year is coming up this Sunday! We will be running around the church parking lot, playing games, catching up, and kicking off a great year. Dress to be outside the whole time, wear good shoes to move around in, and don't forget your mask. We cannot wait to see you there!

WPC Peace & Justice Online Education Events

All In: The Fight for Democracy

Thursdays, October 1 and 8, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

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

On October 1, Westminster's Peace & Justice Work Group will watch the Amazon Prime video "All In" and follow up with a discussion on October 8. This new documentary examines the often overlooked yet insidious issue of voter suppression in the United States. The film interweaves personal experience with current activism and historical insight to expose a problem that has corrupted our democracy from the very beginning. Join us as we explore this timely topic! Use the Zoom link above, or go to zoom.us/join, enter Meeting ID **860 2752 1655** and click "Join."



Colaborate Sunday School for Tweens

Sunday, October 4, 4:15 – 5:00 p.m. on Zoom

Tweens (grades 5-8) are invited to join Mrs. Mary Anne Peters and Mr. Tom Hogue for a very special “Zoom return to your Church.” All questions and curiosity about faith and God are so important. Your stories, Bible and the *Colaborate* booklet, which was sent in August, are all you will need for this time together. Please contact Susan Alexander (susanalexander@wpc.org) if you would like to receive a booklet. Please send your preferred email address for receiving the Zoom invitations to Alexis Droke (alexisdroke@wpc.org) with “Colaborate Tweens” in the subject line.

Dates for *Colaborate* Zoom Sunday School are October 4 and 18, November 1 and 15, and December 13 (the time is 4:15 – 5:00 p.m. for all dates).

Update on Bible Boxes for Children

Available for pickup on Sunday, October 18

Dear Parents: We are working hard to create a truly unique and meaningful program for our elementary-aged children. We need a few more weeks to put the finishing touches on the Bible Box program. As such, Bible Boxes will be ready for pickup on **October 18** at the Fall Festival, and content will start the following week on **October 25**. If you are attending the Fall Festival, RSVP to Jenn Blackford (see Fall Festival announcement on the next page). We appreciate your patience and support and look forward to sharing this new initiative with your soon! If you have any questions about the Bible Box program or would like to learn more, please email Alexis Droke at alexisdroke@wpc.org.

Online Bible Studies

Wednesdays, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88941171153?pwd=MmxuZWFrREhZSVExS3lveXQvTUhaQT09>

Our Bible study continues, facilitated by Randy Williamson and Mary Anne Peters.

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

Begins Wednesday, September 30, at 12:00 p.m. on Zoom

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

The Thursday “Eat & Exegete” Bible Study has a new meeting time, a new name, and a new facilitator. 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!



Sunday, October 18

10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

(after the 9:00 a.m. worship service)

on the church lawn

Join our Board of Deacons for our Fall Festival! There will be pumpkin decorating, treat bags, card writing to our friends at large, and a short costume parade. Family units will be given individual materials and their own table. All activities will take place outdoors. Costumes welcome! Masks and social distancing required. RSVP is a must! Please email Jenn Blackford (blackfordj11@gmail.com) to RSVP. This is in addition to your worship reservation. Hope to see you there! Weather permitting, this event will be held on Westminster's front lawn. In the event of rain, this event will be canceled.



Women's Online Community Group

2nd and 4th Thursdays at 5:00 p.m.

Via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/477914100>



The Women's Online Community Group meets on the second and fourth Thursday of every month from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. via Zoom to provide connection and friendship. All women are welcome to join us for large group prayer time followed by small group discussions using Zoom breakout rooms. Small groups have a set of questions that facilitate our discussions, enabling fellowship and the opportunity to get to know each other. No preparation is needed. Use the Zoom link above to join this stress-free and happy group fellowship. Or, go to zoom.us/join, enter Meeting ID **477 914 100** and click "Join." For information or questions, email Jill Getty (jgetty@wpc.org).

Join Us! Worship Service on the Church Lawn

Saturday, October 3, 5:30 p.m.



On Saturday, October 3, 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.

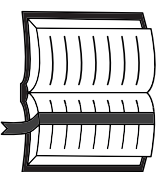
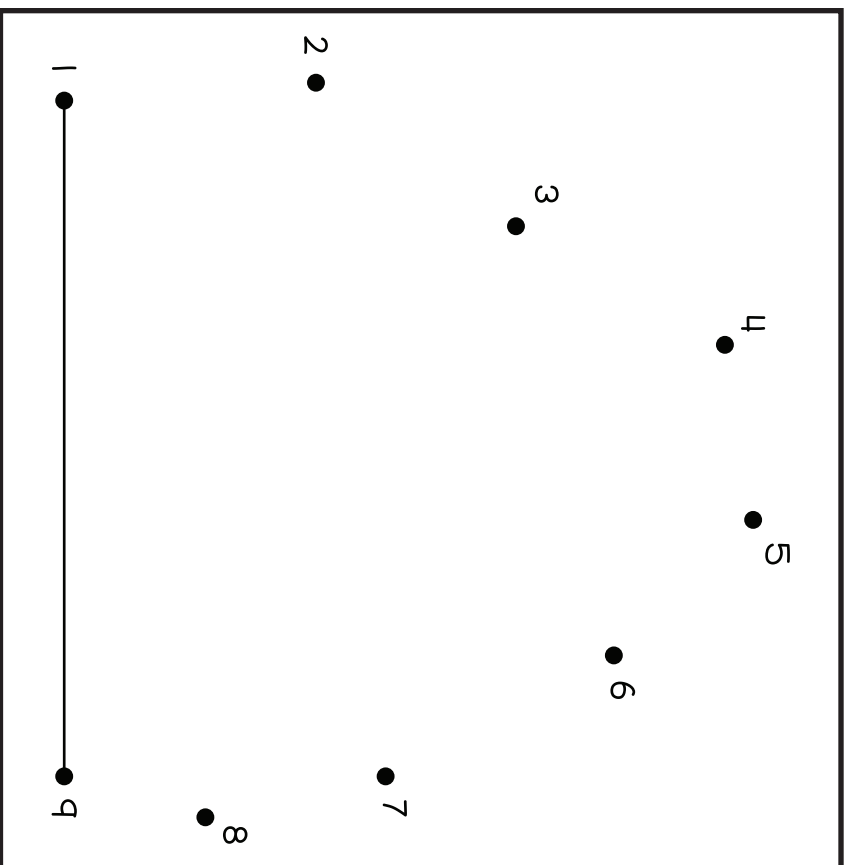
Everyone who attends the service must wear a mask, practice social distancing by keeping a space of at least six feet from anyone who is not in your family, and sit where indicated by an usher. Children must remain with their parents at all times. There will be no congregational singing; however, Tony will play a digital piano and some of our choristers will sing. Sue Spilecki will play the Tower Chimes. Remember to dress according to the weather 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 to print and bring 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, October 4.

[Click here](#) to make your online reservation for October 3 worship on the lawn!

CONNECT the DOTS

In Exodus 17, God tells Moses to tap a rock with his staff. Water came out of the rock and saved the people from being thirsty. Connect the dots to make the rock. Inside the rock, write or draw something God has provided for you.



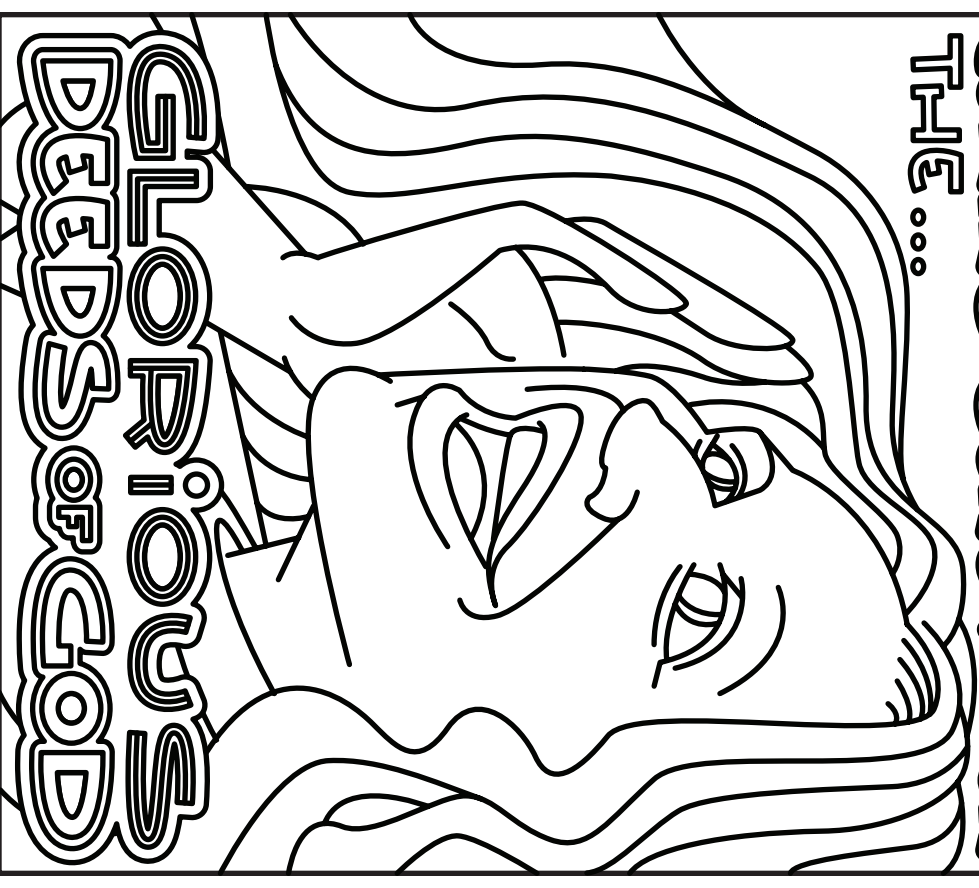
Illustrated
—MINISTRY—

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CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Exodus 17:1-7, Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16,
Philippians 2:1-13, Matthew 21:23-32.

WE WILL TELL THE
COMING GENERATION
THE ...





DRAW IT

Philippians 2 gives a beautiful picture of how to live your life like Jesus did - having his mind, love, humility, and faithfulness to God's call. Draw what you imagine it looks like to live like Jesus did.

WORD SEARCH

Try to find the words from Matthew 21:23-32 in the word search below. Words may go diagonal, up OR down and forward OR backward.

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

- JESUS
PRIEST
ELDER
PEOPLE
AUTHORITY
QUESTION

ANSWER
BAPTISM
HEAVEN
VINEYARD
SONS
KINGDOM

GOD
JOHN
RIGHTEOUS
BELIEVE
CHANGE
MIND