

# Westminster Presbyterian Church

July 10th, 2022 10:00am

Live Streaming In Person

## Order of Worship Homecoming

### *Gathering Music*

#### *Surely the Presence*

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place  
I can feel His mighty power and His grace  
I can hear the brush of angel's wings  
I see glory on each face  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

We are Standing on Holy Ground  
When I walked through the door, I sensed God's presence  
And I knew this was a place where love abounds  
For this is a temple; the God we love abides here  
And we are standing in God's presence on holy ground

(chorus)

We are standing on holy ground and I know that there are angels all  
around  
Let us praise Jesus now, we are standing in His presence on holy ground.

In His presence there is joy beyond measure  
And at His feet peace of mind can still be found  
If you have a need I know He has the answer  
Reach out and claim it for you are standing on holy ground.

(chorus)

We are standing on holy ground and I know that there are angels all  
around

Let us praise Jesus now, we are standing in His presence on holy ground.

**Welcome**

*Rev. Barbara Macfie*

**Introduction of Dignitaries**

*John Still*

**Introduction of Pastors**

*Rev. Barbara Macfie*

**Call To Worship** (Based on Psalm 122)

L: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."

**C: It is here where together we give thanks to the Lord.**

L: It is here where together we pray for peace.

**It is here where we say to one another, "Peace be within you."**

L: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."

***Hymns of Praise***

***O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing***

*O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear redeemer's praise*

*The glories of my God and King the glory of God's grace*

***All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name***

*All hail the power of Jesus' Name!*

*Let angels prostrate fall,*

*Let angels prostrate fall;*

*Bring forth the royal diadem,*

*And crown Him, crown Him, crown Him, crown Him,*

*And crown Him Lord of all!*

***My Hope is Built on Nothing Less***

*My hope is built on nothing less*

*Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;*

*I dare not trust the sweetest frame,*

*But wholly lean on Jesus' name.*

*Refrain:*

*On Christ, the solid Rock I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand,  
All other ground is sinking sand.*

*When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh may I then in Him be found,  
Dressed in His righteousness alone,  
Faultless to stand before the throne. (Refrain)*

### PREPARING FOR THE WORD

#### **Call to Confession**

Proverbs 28:13

*Rev. Charles Gilmore*

Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy. In the spirit of proverbial wisdom let us confess out sins.

#### **Prayer of Confession** (Based on John 15: 1-11)

*Rev. Charles Gilmore*

**We thank you, gracious God, for Jesus Christ the true vine, whose roots are eternally entwined in you. We rejoice that by grace we have been grafted into Christ and nurtured to be branches on a vine which bear much fruits. Yet we confess that some of that some of our branches are weak and some of our fruit is rotting with addictions, malice, violence; or spotted with diseases of ill will, selfishness, and greed.**

**Please forgive us and have mercy on us. Nourish us, heal our sick and diseased branches, so that we may bear fruits of love, grace, mercy, kindness, and peace. For your Name's sake. Amen.**

#### **Words of Forgiveness**

*Rev. Charles Gilmore*

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. (Eph 4:32). God is good, God is kind, God is tenderhearted, and in that spirit, in that personal, beautiful, loving way God forgives us.

*Gloria Patri*

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.**

**HEARING THE WORD**

**Prayer of Illumination**

*Elder David Norton*

O Lord, may the Spirit open our hearts to receive the understanding and wisdom of The Word so that as your church we may share the power and grace of Your love with everyone. Amen.

**A Reading From The Psalms**

*Elder David Norton*

**Psalm 84**

“How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, indeed it faints, for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God. Even the sparrow finds a home and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise. *Selah*

Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion. As they go through the valley of Baca, they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools. They go from strength to strength; the God of gods will be seen in Zion. O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob! *Selah* Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed.

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live in the tents of wickedness. For the Lord God is a sun and shield; he bestows favor and honor. No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

**Epistle Reading:**

*Rev. Barbara Macfie*

**Ephesians 4:32 - 5:2**

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

**Gospel Reading:**

*Rev. Charles Gilmore*

**John 15: 1- 11**

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes[a] so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete."

*Anthem*

*Find Us Faithful*

*Westminster Choir*

*We're pilgrims on the journey on the narrow road,*

And those who've gone before us line the way.  
Cheering on the faithful, encouraging the weary,  
Their lives a stirring testament to God's sustaining grace.  
Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,  
Let us run the race not only for the prize,  
But as those who've gone before us, let us leave to those behind us,  
The heritage of faithfulness passed on thru godly lives.

O may all who come behind us find us faithful,  
May the fire of our devotion light their way.  
May the footprints that we leave, lead them to believe,  
And the lives we live inspire them to obey.  
O may all who come behind us find us faithful.

After all our hopes and dreams have come and gone,  
And our children sift thru all we've left behind,  
May the clues that they discover, and the memories they uncover,  
Become the light that leads them, to the road we each must find.

**Sermon**

*The Ministers*

**“God's Love is the Unchanging Factor in an Everchanging World”**

### **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**Affirmation of Faith**

*Rev. Barbara Macfie*

**We, the members and friends of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, have both similar and various beliefs about our faith. We respect and are learning that our differences can make us stronger, more loving, caring, understanding, giving, and forgiving.**

**We believe in the triune God who has always existed. We believe God is love, unconditional and steadfast. We believe that all God does is done in the spirit of love. God created the universe and all that is in it. God became a human in Jesus Christ who taught us about hope, faith, and**

belief; who calls us to love and forgive; to care and respect, all of creation. We believe Jesus Christ endured all kinds of suffering even death on the cross and that he died, was buried, and rose again for us, so we could be forgiven. We believe God relates to us in the form of the Holy Spirit who is active in our lives, nurturing us and guiding our thoughts and decisions. The Holy Spirit helps us comprehend what it means to be created in the image of God, and blessed with attributes and gifts specific to each one of us. These attributes and gifts include compassion, love, empathy, and strength which help us care for our earth, our wildlife, our pets, ourselves, and one another; helps us to see the beauty in life; and helps us to work toward forgiveness and peace in the world.

### Invitation To The Offertory

*Elder David Norton*

Out of your providing, Lord, we make this offering brought from our daily living. Sanctify your gift, and bless the life from which it comes, that with a cheerful spirit and an ungrudging heart we may be devoted to your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

### *Offertory*

### *What Gift Can We Bring*

1 What gift can we bring, what present, what token?

What words can convey it, the joy of this day?

When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing,  
what song can we offer in honor and praise?

2 Give thanks for the past, for those who had vision,  
who planted and watered so dreams could come true.

Give thanks for the now, for study, for worship,  
for mission that bids us turn prayer into deed.

3 Give thanks for tomorrow, full of surprises,  
for knowing whatever tomorrow may bring,  
the Word is our promise always, forever;  
we rest in God's keeping and live in God's love.

4 This gift we now bring, this present, this token,  
these words can convey it, the joy of this day!  
When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing,  
this song we now offer in honor and praise!

### *Doxology*

Praise God whose breath fills all the earth. Whose love reveals our sacred  
worth,

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Whose Spirit forms one family, Whose grace brings peace and harmony,  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

### **Offertory Prayer**

*Elder David Norton*

**Lord Almighty, you are the supreme ruler of the Earth! You can make nations bow down to your will. You shine your luminescent light on the righteous and spread gladness of heart to those who are good. You have the omnipotent power to move majestic mountains and to calm the stormy seas. You rescue us from wickedness when we praise and worship your works. We acknowledge the strength of your spirit in our lives by giving these tithes and offerings. May you enrich these gifts with your blessing. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

**Presentation of Westminster's Donation to Brenda Milbourne, (Silvia to do)  
Director of Westside New Beginnings, Inc.**

We are proud to present you with a check to Westside New Beginnings, Inc. to help and support with the cost of their Day Camp



Trip to visit the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C.

**Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer**

*Rev. Charles Gilmore*

**Greetings and Blessings from  
New Castle Presbytery**

*Rev. Dr. Tracy Keenan,  
Missional Presbyter*

*Hymn      The Church's One Foundation / We are All One in Mission*

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord.  
She is his new creation by water and the word.  
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride.  
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,  
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.  
A single, great commission compels us from above  
to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.

We all are called for service to witness in God's name.  
Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same:  
to touch the lives of others by God's surprising grace,  
so every folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.

Now let us be united and let our song be heard.  
Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming word.  
We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,  
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

**Benediction**

*Rev. Dr. Tracy Keenan*

**Postlude**

*Steve Johnson*