

# Westminster Presbyterian Church

Sunday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
8:30am Communion Service



Photo by James Coleman on Unsplash

*The Session of Westminster Presbyterian Church, out of care and concern for all those who are not yet vaccinated or who cannot be vaccinated, has decided that social distancing (3-6ft.) and masks (covering nose and mouth) are required of all, while inside the church building for Sunday worship. We encourage compassion for all who are sick and vaccination, at the soonest time possible, for all who are unvaccinated.*

Welcome families! If your little ones need nursery space or some space to play and move, parents are welcome to take them down to our (unstaffed) Sunday school/nursery room, which is downstairs, off the main fellowship hall, opposite the library.

## **\*Call to Worship**

Come, let us sing to the Lord;

**Let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.**

Hear the voice of my prayer when I cry out to you,

**When I lift up my hands to your holy of holies.**

The Lord is in his holy temple;  
**Let all the earth keep silence before him.**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord;  
**we bless you from the house of the Lord.**

### **\*Morning Song of Praise**

*"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" vs 1 & 3 GTG #475*

### **Confession**

Holy God, Maker of all  
**Have mercy on us.**

Jesus Christ, Servant of the poor  
**Have mercy on us.**

Holy Spirit, Breath of life  
**Have mercy on us.**

Let us in silence confess our faults and admit our frailty.

### **Silence**

Before God, with the people of God,  
I confess to my brokenness:  
To the ways I wound my life,  
The lives of others, and the life of the world.

**May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.**

Amen.

**Before God, with the people of God,  
We confess to our brokenness:  
To the ways we wound our lives,  
The lives of others, and the life of the world.**

May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.  
**Amen.**

### **Prayer for God's Help**

Move among us, O God; give us life:

**Let your people rejoice in you.**

Make our hearts clean within us:

**Renew us in mind and in spirit.**

Give us again the joy of your help:

**With your Spirit of Freedom sustain us.**

And now, as Jesus taught us, we say:

**Our Loving God, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name. . . .**

### **Affirmation**

With the whole church

**We affirm that we are made in God's image, befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit.**

With people everywhere

**We affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity, planted more deeply than all that is wrong.**

With all creation

**We celebrate the miracle and wonder of life; the unfolding purposes of God, forever at work in ourselves and the world.**

### **Psalm & Reflection of the Day**

Alleluia: O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

**Glory to you, Creator, Redeemer, Sanctifier. Now and forever. Amen.**

Holy Reading: *Psalm 19:1-6*

The heavens are telling your glory, O God;

And the skies display your handiwork.

Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.  
There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;  
Yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

In the heavens, God has set a tent for the sun, which comes forth with the grandeur of a wedding procession, with the eagerness of an athlete ready to race.  
Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hidden from its heat.

Silent Reflection: When and where do you usually hear God's voice? Without talking, without preaching, how can you tell of God's glory, proclaim God's joy, and share God's love to all you meet this week?

\*Praying with Body, Heart, and Soul:  
Glory to you, Almighty One.  
*Inhale: Lift your arms high to the heavens.*

Only you deserve glory and praise.  
*Exhale: Bow. Acknowledge Creator God.*

At daytime you guide my steps.  
*Inhale: Open your arms and offer your heart.*

At night you teach my heart wisdom.  
*Exhale: Release your fears and worries to make room for God's truth.*

Like a glorious wedding procession on the wedding night,  
*Inhale: Raise your arms and inhale the Spirit of God.*

You made me for love, for joy.  
*Exhale: let love and joy fill your heart.*

All sing "Alleluia" to you, O God,  
*Inhale: Express "Alleluia" as you offer your heart to the Holy One.*

From the beginning of time to forever.

*Exhale: Let go of all guilt and fears.*

For no body, no heart, and not one soul

*Inhale: Offer yourself to the One who loves you.*

Shall escape your saving love.

*Exhale: Surrender your whole being to the power of God's love.*

Sitting with the Divine Presence: Sitting quietly, feel the presence of the Divine with you. Breath in God's Spirit deeply and reverently. After a few rounds of breath, on your inhale, receive divine joy, and let its warmth and joy-filled light fill your heart. On your exhale, completely empty your heart of darkness, discontent, and dissatisfaction. When you feel calmer and more at peace, imagine inviting a friend in need to join you and the Divine, just breathing in joy, just breathing out sadness. Stay with the Divine Presence for a while.

Living Your Prayer: This week, at a public place, smile and bow your head slightly at a stranger, and inwardly bless the person, "May God's joy fill your heart." Or use your own blessing.

Contemporary Psalm: There is something in the sun and stars that makes me believe in you: their vastness, yes, but also their steadfastness, their constant presence, whether I can see the shape of them or not;

**Something in the rising and the setting that shows me the beautiful goodness of dark and light, of new and old, of welcoming and letting go.**

In these most ordinary, everyday realities of your creation, made also astounding, I am reminded that you are at work in all things--and in me. Even in me.

**Let me be a witness like the sun and stars, an ordinary and astounding testament to Grace.**

*From deep in your heart, let a prayer of jubilation rise gloriously like the morning sun. Imagine your sunlike heart shining and radiating joy and kindness all around you.*

## **Offering Our Resources & Lives**

Just as we have engaged our bodies in praying the Psalm for today, so we can steward our financial resources, gifts from God to us, as part of our full-bodied worship of God. May we open our lives and our resources generously to God for the work of God in this church and community. Your pledges and offerings may be given securely online or by cash or check in the baskets as you enter and exit the church.

## **The Story of the Last Supper**

*(All are invited to stand for the story, then sit for the prayer)*

Let us pray:

**Loving God, through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made.**

**May we know your presence in the sharing of this bread, so that we may know your touch, in all bread, all matter.**

**We celebrate the life that Jesus has shared among his community through the centuries, and shares with us now. Made one in Christ and one with each other, we offer these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice. Amen.**

The Thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you,

**And also with you.**

Life up your hearts,

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God,

**It is right to give both thanks and praise.**

Sanctus and Benedictus:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer of Consecration:

## Communion

*Communion will be taken at your seat using prepackaged communion elements. Pastor Shannon will facilitate this process.*

Prayer after Communion:

Sharing of the Peace: (all are invited to stand)

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.** (Exchange waves and smiles with your siblings in Christ.)

## Blessing & Dismissal

May the everlasting God shield you, east and west and wherever you go. And the blessing of God be upon you.

**The blessing of the God of life.**

The blessing of Christ be upon you,

**The blessing of the Christ of love.**

The blessing of the Spirit be upon you,

**The blessing of the Spirit of grace.**

The blessing of the Trinity be upon you.

**Now and for evermore. Amen.**

Let us go into the world rejoicing. It is Christ who goes before us.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\* \* \* \* \*

Thank you to those involved in worship today:

Ushers: Charlotte Jacobs and Lois Ann Rayner

Musician: Steve Johnson

Liturgist:: Rev. Dr. Shannon Smythe

\* \* \* \* \*

Liturgy used in today's service was taken from *Iona Abbey: Worship Book* (Wild Goose Publications, 2001); *Praying with the Body: Bringing the Psalms to Life* by Roy DeLeon (Paraclete Press, 2009); *The Words of Her Mouth: Psalms for the Struggle* edited by Martha Spong (The Pilgrim Press, 2020); and *The Divine Hours: Prayers for Summertime* by Phyllis Tickle (Image Books, 2006) .

## Remember in Prayer

*Pray for all those touched recently by violence and natural disasters, the healing of national hostility and mistrust, efforts to feed the poor and provide shelter for the homeless in our area, and the following people:*

**Ed Carter** - At age 102, Ed is under hospice care in the skilled nursing unit at The Moorings. He is comfortable and appreciates our prayers and in-person visits by Covid-vaccinated friends.

**Lois Baldwin** - prayers as she recovers from surgery on her broken wrist.

**Linda Book** – for continued strength to fight the side effects of multiple myeloma cancer.

**Chuck Burton** – extended family of Lois Rayner, dealing with Cancer issues.

**Pauline Cottingham** – is doing well, despite the general decline in her health. She is grateful for our prayers.

**Peter Culin** – for Sue Culin’s brother-in-law, as he continues with chemotherapy.

**Lacey Meade** – daughter of Betty Pratt, is home recovering from her surgery. Prayers for continued healing and recovery.

**Pat Mossel** – Her shoulder injury has healed, and she is feeling much better. Thanks for your prayers.

**Betty Pratt** - swelling in her legs greatly reduced as she undergoes massage therapy.

**Janet Waugaman** – Sally Waugaman’s daughter, continues to lose mobility due to Multiple System Atrophy.

**John Witmer** - John is recovering at home following heart surgery, and he is working to regain his strength and energy.

**Our church has a prayer chain of members who will pray for any person you ask.  
Contact Leslie Marsh by phone at 302-542-9927 or email at [cmarshjr@verizon.net](mailto:cmarshjr@verizon.net)**