

*Westminster Presbyterian Church*



**This is the day that our God has made;  
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

*The Service for the Lord's Day*  
*The 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*  
*September 13, 2020*

*Our Mission: "Caring, sharing and growing God's love in our communities."*

*Reflection and Prayer* (Please take a personal moment to prepare for worship.)

*Westminster Chimes*

*Words of Welcome*

*Organ Prelude*

*"Meditation"*

*~ Callender*

*Call to Worship*

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

✠ **Where shall I go from your Spirit? O where shall I flee from your presence?**

If I ascend to heaven, you are there. If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

✠ **If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,  
Even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.**

If I say, "Let only darkness cover me, and the light about me be night,

Even the darkness is not dark to you, the night is bright as the day,

For darkness is as light with you.

✠ **Search me, O God, and know my heart. Try me and know my thoughts.**

**And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.**

Let us worship God.

*Hymn*

*"Here in This Place"*

*(All are invited to join Ric Fernandes in singing the hymn.)*

Here in this place the new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away;  
see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame;

Call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven light years away;

Here in this place the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, and now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own;

gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

## *Call to Confession*

### *Prayer of Confession*

✠ Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, Our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Do not cast us away from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

### *Silent Confession*

### *Assurance of Pardon*

The steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.  
The Lord does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

✠ **Thanks be to God!**

### *\*Passing the Peace*

The peace of Christ be with you.

✠ **And also with you.**

### *Prayer for Illumination*

Gracious and Merciful God, as we attend to these ancient words of Scripture, may your Holy Spirit open our hearts and illumine our minds that we may hear your Word for us today, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

✠ **Amen.**

### *First Lesson – Psalm 103: 1-19*

Here ends the first lesson.

✠ **Thanks be to God!**

### *Vocal Solo*

“His Eye Is On the Sparrow”  
Ric Fernandes

~ Martin/Gabriel

*Second Lesson – Luke 18:9-14*

May these ancient words of scripture become for us the living voice of God.

✘ **Amen!**

*Sermon*

“Two Prayers in the Temple”

*The Rev. Dr. James Kay*

*Affirmation of Faith – From a Brief Statement of Faith of the PC (USA), 1991*

✘ **We trust in God, whom Jesus called, Abba, Father.**

**In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.**

**But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.**

**Ignoring God’s commandments,**

**we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,**

**accept lies as truth,**

**exploit neighbor and nature,**

**and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.**

**We deserve God’s condemnation.**

**Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.**

**In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people**

**to bless all families of the earth.**

**Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.**

**Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.**

**Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,**

**like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,**

**God is faithful still.**

*Pastoral Prayer*

*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.**

*The Offering*

*If you have your offering ready to mail or to set aside until we are able to worship together again, please hold it in your hands as we pray together.*

## *Prayer of Dedication*

From your bountiful gifts, O God, receive these tokens and signs of our thanksgiving and praise. In the name of Jesus, may they serve the message of your gospel and the mission of your church.

✠ **Amen.**

## *\*Hymn*

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

*(All are invited to join Ric Fernandes in singing the hymn.)*

There’s a wideness in God’s mercy, like the wideness of the sea.  
There’s a kindness in God’s justice, which is more than liberty.  
There is no place where earth’s sorrows are more felt than up in heaven.  
There is no place where earth’s failings have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.  
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.  
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God’s Word,  
And in our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

## *\*Benediction*

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice.  
Let your gentleness be known to everyone.  
The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything,  
but in everything by prayer and supplication  
with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God  
and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,  
guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

✠ **Amen.**

## *Benediction Response*

## *Assisting in Worship*

Our Music Director is Sally Waugaman

Our Soloist is Ric Fernandes

Our Lay Reader and Service Recorder is Beverly Cook

## ***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:*

Audrey Bachman & family - friend of Sarah Altvater, dealing with the sudden, tragic death of her son.

Linda Book – is feeling stronger as she continues chemotherapy.

Peggy Burkat – friend of Karen & Glenn Dixon, being treated for cancer.

Bonnie Charnock – neighbor of Deb Norton's Sister, has had to postpone chemo therapy because of fever resulting from poor blood platelet count.

Peter Culin – Sue Culin's brother-in-law, going back on chemotherapy.

Shannon Dunford – under Hospice home care

William Fox – brother of Joan Velez, undergoing treatment for his brain tumor.

Susan Frost – Sally Waugaman's daughter, diagnosed with inoperable pancreatic cancer.

Kathryn Hacker – Mimi Peters' daughter, had two hip replacements and is undergoing therapy.

Leon Hendershot – cousin of Sandra Hrin and Mary Boyer, has suffered liver failure and has been removed from the clinical trial at Sloan Kettering.

Erin Jones – Bill & Sandra Hrin's dog walker, diagnosed with multiple embolisms in her lungs. She is in Bay Health on blood thinners.

Judy Marsden – friend of Deb Norton, still in discomfort but having at-home physical therapy.

Bob Moore – is dealing with pulmonary fibrosis.

Elise Moore – Bob & Dee Moore's daughter-in-law, recovering from knee surgery.

Joan Nicholls – undergoing physical therapy to regain strength and mobility.

Bud Nicholson – Bob Nicholson's brother, severe circulatory problems complicated by pneumonia. Facing surgery after he recovers from pneumonia.

Bob Paulding – John Paulding's brother, remains in critical condition.

Betty Pratt - working hard on therapy but still weak and tires easily.

Col. Richard Quinn (Ret.) – in and out of the hospital, still battling numerous health issues.

Mike Sant Angelo – brother of a friend of Mary Boyer, on hospice care and declining each day.

Emily Sutherland – Glenn Dixon's cousin, diagnosed with a rare type of stroke, has been released from the hospital but is still being monitored.

Betsy Tellier – Deb Norton's niece, diagnosed with serious heart problems and severe sleep apnea

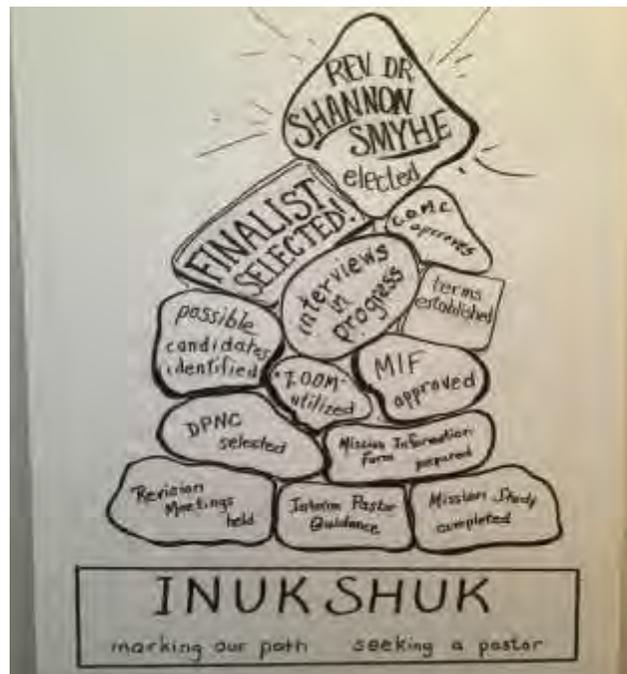
Carl Wager – Bob & Jane Nicholson's son-in-law, suffering from a herniated disk and a partial rotator cuff tear. Anticipating surgery.

Janet Waugaman – Sally's Waugaman's daughter, diagnosed with Parkinson's disease two years ago has developed Multiple System Atrophy, a more progressive form of Parkinsons.

*Our prayers and condolences to Bob Forrest and his family on the death of his wife, Jane. There was a gravesite service on Friday at 12 noon at the GAR Cemetery in Summit Hill, PA. There are no plans at this time for a memorial service here at Westminster, due to the covid-19 pandemic.*

***Our church has a prayer chain of members who will pray for any person you ask. Contact Karen Dixon by phone at 302-858-8968 or email at [k\\_dixon221@hotmail.com](mailto:k_dixon221@hotmail.com)***

## Announcements



Dear Members and Friends of WPC,

After a long process we reached the day (August 30th) to choose our next pastor. Thank you for giving us your meaningful support, thanks for your patience and, finally, thanks for your vote. The count clearly demonstrated your intent to elect our next pastor, Rev. Dr. Shannon Smythe: 44 "yes" votes and 8 "no." Thank you! Thank you!

We are excited as we look forward to Shannon leading us into the future and we have high hopes and expectations for what the future holds.

According to Presbytery rules, there must be four weeks between Doug's departure and Shannon's beginning. She will officially start on Monday, October 5th and conduct her first worship service on Sunday, October 11th. We are anxious for her to begin and optimistic for the future.

Thank you for supporting and encouraging us over the last six months and the support we know you will give Shannon as she leads us down the path God has in mind.

May God bless us all!

*John Rotach, Chair*  
Designated Pastor Nominating Committee

**Welcome to worship!** Even though we are not able to be together physically, we hope that as you participate in the recorded worship service today that you will encounter the unity that we share in Christ's Spirit. If you would prefer to listen to the worship service by phone, you may contact Leslie Marsh; either send her an email ([cmarshjr@verizon.net](mailto:cmarshjr@verizon.net)) or call her at (302-945-4604) to arrange a conference call in which you will listen to the service together.

**Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM, via zoom.** If anyone who has not been attending would like to join the group, we extend a warm invitation to all. Please call the church office for details on how to join the zoom meeting and where and when you can get a copy of the Study Guide for Part II of the study on John, the Apostle.

**Are you a Facebook user?** Please like and share our WPC's Facebook page with all your friends. This action would widen our presence in our community and beyond. Thank you.

<https://www.facebook.com/Westminster-Presbyterian-Church-121313251212684>

Rev. Jim Kay will lead worship today and on Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>. Rev. Barbara Macfie will lead worship next Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. Both Rev. Kay and Rev. Macfie will be available for pastoral emergencies until the Rev. Dr. Shannon Smythe begins her ministry on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

Rev. Kay can be reached at: 917-327-1560

Rev. Macfie can be reached at: 302-945-9582

**The Rehoboth Beach Historical Society's on-line series (Zoom) about the religious history of Rehoboth Beach** continues on Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 PM with Part two which covers ten church congregations in Rehoboth, beginning from 1937. Betty Carnahan and Karen Dixon prepared the portion dedicated to Westminster. **You must register to view the program.** Type *Rehoboth Beach Museum* in your browser and when it comes up, click on *events* to register.

*(The work of the Church goes on. Events are routinely scheduled using Zoom virtual meetings online or by phone. Check with the office for details.)*

## *Calendar*

**Tuesday, September 15** – Praying the Psalms at 11:00 AM. Carol Pillsbury will be the facilitator on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Karen Dixon will be the facilitator on September 29<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Shannon will lead *Praying the Psalms* beginning October 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Wednesday, September 16** – Bible Study is in recess until October 7<sup>th</sup>, when Pastor Shannon will begin the study of John II. Bible Study guidebooks are available at the church.

**Sunday September 20** – Recorded Worship Service (and bulletin) available on our website. Rev. Barbara Macfie will be our guest preacher.

*The church office is closed. However, calls and emails to the church office will be addressed during regular office hours, Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM.*

**DEACONS 2020**

*Moderator: Deb Norton*

Class of 2020

Diana Green  
Linda Huxtable

Class of 2021

Suzi Berry  
Bill Hrin  
Ed Pillsbury

Class of 2022

Nancy Brock  
Linda Crowe  
Deb Norton

**SESSION 2020**

*Moderator – Rev. Dr. Douglas Griffin, Interim Pastor*

*Clerk of Session – Lois Gillespie*

Class of 2020

Beverly Cook  
Bill Huxtable  
Sally Stokes

Class of 2021

Charlotte Jacobs  
David Norton  
Silvia Ritchie

Class of 2022

John Paulding  
John Rotach  
John Still

***Westminster Presbyterian Church***

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

**Church Office Hours:** 9:30 to 1:30 Tuesday through Friday

Telephone: (302) 227-2109

email: rebothwpc20@gmail.com

web site: <http://www.westminster-reboth.org>

Church Secretary: Carol D. Jones