

Westminster Presbyterian Church

July 4, 2021 | 10:00am
Live Streaming | In Person

Tending the New Creation: *Sharing the New Creation*

“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!”
2 Corinthians 5:17



Photo by [Tim Mossholder](#) 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.

Gathering as New Creation

Prelude *“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring “*

Welcome

Call to Worship

Dave Norton

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation!

Everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

But what does it mean to be a new creation?

We yearn for renewal . . .

But are we willing to pursue it? And how is our own personal renewal connected to “new creation” in others, in communities, and in the world itself? **“Tending” is to lean in the direction of something; to “attend” to something is to nurture it, grow it, build it, . . . pay “attention.”**

As those baptized into Jesus, may the Spirit so stir the waters of our baptism that we might be newly propelled to journey toward the new creation Christ intends for us!

Opening Prayer

Rev. Dr. Shannon Smythe

Sharing and Sending God, in Jesus, you have shared your very self with us. You sustain us moment by moment with your very Spirit-breath in our lungs.

Thank you for giving us everything we need for new life with you and one another--grace upon grace, a new beginning, unending forgiveness.

Send your Holy Spirit on us now, that we might live as your witnesses, not shirking from opposition but pressing forward with joyful urgency and seeking after the fullness of life for all people and all of creation. Unite our hearts to Christ, in communion, that we might find life in ourselves but in union with Jesus, our Lord.

Opening Hymn

“Come! Live in the Light We are Called” vs 1 & 2

GTG #749

Greetings in Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

(Exchange waves and smiles with your siblings in Christ.)

A Story for All Ages

Rev. Dr. Shannon Smythe

Proclaiming New Creation

Prayer for Illumination

Dave Norton

After Pentecost, those who had gathered together were exhorted by the apostle Peter to change their hearts and lives. Today, we who have been baptized in Jesus' name, come again before sacred scripture to listen for the Living Word, Jesus, to speak a word of new creation that we, too, might be renewed and transformed. Come, Holy Spirit, change our hearts and lives, through your Word, we pray. Amen.

Gospel Reading

Mark 6:1-13

Dave Norton

Sermon

Joyful Urgency

Rev. Dr. Shannon Smythe

Tending New Creation

Ways to Witness

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Shannon Smythe

Offering Our Resources & Lives

Dave Norton

Every good thing is a gift from God — the food we eat, the things we have, the time we spend, our whole lives. We give our lives back to God as a way of saying thank you — sharing money with those who are in need, giving food to those who are hungry, spending our time to help others, and building relationships with those who may never become an official church member here. We invite you to join this community in stewarding not only your money, but also your lives. Your pledges and offerings may be given securely online or by cash or check in the baskets as you enter and exit the church. We also invite you to fill out the volunteer card for our upcoming Ice Cream on Us community outreach event and commit to supporting this new endeavor at the church.

Communion

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

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:

Prayer after Communion:

Blessing New Creation

Hymn for Stepping Out *"Will You Come and Follow Me" vs 1 & 5"* GTG # 726

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Shannon Smythe

Postlude "America the Beautiful"/ "God of Our Fathers"

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Thank you to those involved in worship today:

Ushers: Charlotte Jacobs and Genie Hindall

Liturgist: Dave Norton

Musician: Brad Ucci

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Shannon Smythe

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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 - fell and injured her arm and is experiencing pain. Also, her general health is declining.

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 - Experienced a break in her scapula (shoulder blade) which was spontaneous and due to her brittle bones from osteoporosis. She is experiencing a great deal of pain, so please pray for healing.

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.

Praises for

Sarah Altavater for her new job!

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

