

Westminster Presbyterian Church

June 20, 2021

Tending the New Creation: *Living Out Loud*

“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



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Gathering as New Creation

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Brian Harron

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 in-tends for us!

Opening Prayer

Rev. Dr. Shannon Smythe

Expansive and Open God, you desire that we would have life abundant. You have reconciled us to yourself through Christ, and given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Thank you for not counting our sins against us but forgiving us, making us right with you, and becoming friends with us.

Send your Holy Spirit on us now, that we might become representatives of Christ, living our lives with openness to all and stepping into the spaciousness created for us by your grace. Amen.

Opening Hymn

“Just As I Am, without One Plea”

GTG #442

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

Brian Harron

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	2 Corinthians 6:1-13	<i>Brian Harron</i>
Special Music	"Open Wide the Door"	<i>Glenn Pruitt</i>
Sermon	"Wide Open Spaces"	<i>Rev. Dr. Shannon Smythe</i>

Tending New Creation

Gestures of Openness *Rev. Dr. Shannon Smythe*

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer *Rev. Dr. Shannon Smythe*

Offering Our Resources & Lives *Brian Harron*

God shows us grace upon grace in reconciling us back to God in Christ. The generosity of Christ knows no bounds: Jesus, who knew no sin, was made by God to be sin so that we might become the righteousness of God. We are encouraged not to accept this grace of God in vain. One way to do that is to live generous lives of service and compassion and to share our resources of time, talent, and money, which all come from God, for the work God is doing in our church and community. 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.

Blessing New Creation

Hymn for Stepping Out "Open the Eyes of My Heart" GTG # 452

Benediction *Rev. Dr. Shannon Smythe*

Postlude

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Thank you to those involved in worship today:
Ushers: Mary Boyer and John Still
Liturgist: Brian Harron
Musician: Judy Moore Soloist: Glenn Pruitt
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:

Sarah Altavater is requesting prayers for an easy transition back to work and that she will be financially stable.

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.

Rev. Kim Brinkmeyer –continued healing and recovery.

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

Al Costa- Brother of Rosemary Mirocco, fell from his bicycle and has a head injury that has left him disabled. Pray for healing and answers from Doctor's.

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.

Ginny Hendricks- friend of Sarah Altavater- Ginny's father passed away from Hernia repair operation. Prayers for Ginny and her family.

Susan Frost – Sally Waugaman's daughter, has been placed in Hospice care. Please keep her and the family in your prayers

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

Joan Merola- Cancer Breast surgery, moved to June 21st , prayers for minimal invasion and healing.

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.

Praises for Prayers Answered

Bonnie Charnock - we prayed for Bonnie Charnock while she was battling cancer. Recent tests have determined that there is no evidence of further cancer growth. Praise the Lord! However, Bonnie had hip replacement surgery, Thanks be to God for a clean report! Bonnie is in this morning's prayers for a good recovery from the surgery.

**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.**