

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Sunday, August 1st, 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**

Clap your hands, all you peoples!

Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

With praise and thanksgiving worship God,

Who reigns in majesty above the mighty waters.

We will not standing looking up toward heaven,
For God is moving in this place!

***Morning Song of Praise**

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

(vss. 2 and 4)

GTG 41

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 84:1-2, 10-12*

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.

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.

Silent Reflection: Which place of worship do you truly consider as a house of God (church, nature, gathering of people, etc.)? What one quality of that place can you bring into your own sacred space?

*Praying with Body, Heart, and Soul:

Praise to you, O Loving God.

Inhale: Say "Alleluia" with your body, heart, and soul.

How blessed I am to have you.

Exhale: Let go like a child relaxing, and feel totally loved.

My soul longs for you;

Inhale: Let your spirit rise up to God as you breathe in.

My heart, my body, too.

Exhale: Open your heart, and surrender your whole being.

A moment with you I'll choose,

Inhale: Raise your left hand to commit to your choice.

Over any time elsewhere.

Exhale: With the same upraised hand, sweep other choices toward the back.

For you are my benefactor,

Inhale: Lift up your heart. Acknowledge the Provider of your daily bread.

You reward those who walk your way.

Exhale: Press your hands to your chest, and feel the Divine Presence with you.

Praise to you, source of all life.

Inhale: Lift your head to the way, the truth, and the life.

Trusting in you brings me peace.

Exhale: Smile, feeling God's peace in and around you.

Sitting with the Divine Presence: Just sit, and simply breathe in and out. Continue to normally breathe in and out--and nothing else--for a minute. Then visualize the most decadent place you've visited. Feel the quality of the energy in this place. Watch those around you, and notice the sounds filling the place. Then with a few mindful breaths, picture yourself in the most sacred place you've ever been--for real or in your imagination. Again, feel the energy of this holy place, notice what's around you. Absorb the sights, sounds, and smells of this sacred space. Stay here with the Divine for as long as you like.

Living Your Prayer: This week, be an instrument of light for someone who is overwhelmed by life's demands. Simply be present with them, like a candle. Just be light. Use words only if necessary.

Contemporary Psalm:
Most Sacred One, my Lord and my God,
Open your door, lift up your gates.

**My soul aches to be with you.
My body trembles in anticipation,
My heart threatens to explode.**

But I will stay here, waiting for you.
Because there is nowhere else I'd rather be.

**For you do not without your lovingkindness
From those who long and desire for you.**

Be still, and listen to the Holy Spirit praying from the depths of your heart.

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. Rev. Macfie 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.

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Thank you to those involved in worship today:

Ushers: Lois Ann Rayner

Musician: Maribeth Dockety

Liturgist: Rev. Barbara Macfie

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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); *Call to Worship: Lectionary Aids for 2020-2021, Year B Vol. 54.1* (Office of Theology and Worship of the PC(USA), 2020) .

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.

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**