

Westminster Presbyterian Church

November 21st, 2021 | 10:00am

Live Streaming | In Person

Order of Worship

Looking With Gratitude

Gathering Song of Praise

Steven Johnson

(Congregation may remain seated during song)

*1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.*

Refrain:

*Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!*

*2 Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.
[Refrain]*

*3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
[Refrain]*

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Len Hedges-Goettl

Call to Worship

Liturgist

One: God who calls us to worship this day,

Many: We thank you!

One: God our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,

Many: We thank you!

One: God our advocate and our helper,

Many: We thank you!

One: God who counsels and comforts and convicts us,

Many: We thank you!

One: God who teaches us, empowers us, and makes us holy,

Many: We thank you!

One: God who intercedes for us and forgives us,

Many: We thank you!

One: God who blesses us with all good gifts,

Many: We thank you!

One: God who loves us always and everywhere

Many: We thank you and praise you.

ALL: LET US WORSHIP OUR GOD

Hymn of Praise: *We Gather Together*

GTG #336

*We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
He chastens and hastens His will to make known;
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing;
Sing praises to His Name; He forgets not His own.
Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
Ordaining, maintaining His kingdom divine;
So from the beginning the fight we were winning;
Thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glory be Thine!
We all do extol Thee, Thou Leader triumphant,
And pray that Thou still our Defender will be;
Let Thy congregation escape tribulation;
Thy Name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!*

Preparing for the Word

Call to confession

Liturgist

As we gather before our God, let us humbly and honestly admit who we are. Please join me in our prayer of confession

Prayer of confession (in unison)

O God, when our minds are closed to the blessed lessons You would teach, forgive us.

O God, when our eyes are shut so that we do not see You in those around us, forgive us.

O God, when our ears are deaf to those You bring to ask us for help, forgive us.

O God, when our mouths are mute when You give us knowledge of injustice, forgive us.

O God, when our hands go numb and fail to reach out to those You bring across our path, forgive us.

O God, when our hearts grow hard toward the creation You place in our care, forgive us.

Dear God who is the source, the means and the power for our lives, help us to thank You and to always be Your people. Amen

Words of forgiveness*

Liturgist

How much does God love us?

Enough to send the divine heart, hope, and spirit to us, not to condemn us, but to save us.

We are saved not by our speaking or doing, but by God's good and precious grace.

Thanks be to God as we proclaim the Good News:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Gloria Patri

Hearing the Word

Message for all God's Children:
Showing we are Thankful

Rev. Dr. Len Hedges-Goettl

Prayer for illumination: *Liturgist*

God of extravagant grace, may your Spirit refresh our hearts through the reading of the scriptures

So that we may perceive all the good we can do for Christ and thus grow in our faith. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson: 1 Chronicles 16:8-13 *Liturgist*

⁸O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.

⁹Sing to him, sing praises to him, tell of all his wonderful works.

¹⁰Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

¹¹Seek the Lord and his strength, seek his presence continually.

¹²Remember the wonderful works he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

¹³O offspring of his servant Israel, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

Anthem: “*Give Thanks*” *Choir*

New Testament Lesson: Acts 4:27-34 *Rev. Dr. Len Hedges-Goettl*

²⁷For in this city, in fact, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, gathered together against your holy servant^[i] Jesus, whom you anointed, ²⁸to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. ²⁹And now, Lord, look at their threats, and grant to your servants^[k] to speak your word with all boldness, ³⁰while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant^[l] Jesus.” ³¹When they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken; and they were

all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness.³² Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common.³³ With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.³⁴ There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold.

Sermon: Giving and Thanks

Rev. Dr. Len Hedges-Goettl

Hymn: *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

GTG #367

*Come, ye thankful people, come.
Raise the song of harvest home!
All is safely gathered in
Ere the winter storms begin;
God, our Maker, doth provide
For our wants to be supplied;
Come to God's own temple, come,
Raise the song of harvest-home.*

Responding to the Word

Invitation to the Offering

Liturgist

In the movie “It’s a Wonderful Life,” George Bailey learns the myriad of things the gift of his life brought to everyone his life touched. God has given every one of us a life that is wonder-filled and now we have the chance to respond in Thanksgiving with our tithes and offerings.

Dedication of Pledges

Rev. Dr. Len Hedges-Goettl

A pledge is a solemn promise, a purposeful undertaking. The pledges and those we have yet shared will be blessed and multiplied to do our work as the Body of Christ here and now. We are thankful for the money, and time and talents you grant us to share in the Wonderful Life. So Lord of Light and Lord of Life we dedicate these pledges and we dedicate those who made them to you that your will can truly be done. Amen.

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up lifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayers of the people

Rev. Dr. Len Hedges-Goettl

Now thank we, all, our God with our hearts and with our hands and with our voices

For the beauty of the earth, we thank and praise you

For God above, Source of boundless love: spring wind, summer rain, harvest grain.

We thank and praise you

For amazing grace, how sweet the sound, we thank praise you

For Joy to our World: the Lord has come, so we thank and praise you

For wonderous love is this: that the Lord of bliss would bear the heavy cross for our souls

So we thank and praise you

For Christ the Lord is risen again, Christ has broken every chain: we thank and praise you

This day, we lift our prayers O Love Divine, all loves excelling

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, we trust in your mercy and grace.
Hear O Lord, the sound of our call
For our world and for those who strive their place in it,
For the luckless ones and those who strive to find a way,
For the nations that rage so furiously together,
For those who are sick in body, sick in mind, sick at heart,
For those who are poor and for those who are poor in spirit,
For those who mourn, for those who are meek,
For those who hunger and thirst and those who hunger and thirst for
righteousness
For those who are persecuted and those persecuted because of
righteousness

For those we name in silence and those we name aloud now:
(prayers shared aloud)

God our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, we pray and we
believe.

Help our unbelief even as we pray as Jesus taught us:

The Lord's Prayer

Going forth in Joy!

Closing Hymn: Let All Things Now Living

GTG #37

*Let all things now living
a song of thanksgiving
to God our Creator triumphantly raise,
who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us,
by guiding us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us;
Pure light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,*

*till shadows have vanished
all fearfulness banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.*

*By law God enforces;
the stars in their courses
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains,
the rivers and fountains,
the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing
our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration a song let us raise,
till all things now living
unite in thanksgiving:
to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!*

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Len Hedges-Goettl

Go forth with thanksgiving into the world in faithfulness.
Join all those who have danced with the Lord throughout the generations.
Take the song and rhythm of God's Word into the world
and invite others to celebrate the joy with you.
And see what Love the Father has for us:
That we should be called the children of God: and so we are!

Postlude

Steven Johnson

Thank you to those involved in worship today:

Rev. Dr. Rev. Dr. Len Hedges-Goettl

Ushers: Deb and Dave Norton

Liturgist: Lois Gillespie

Musicians: Steve Johnson and Choir

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:

Anna Beebe Moore died on 11/8/21 at the age of 102. She is survived by a large, close family, many of whom reside in the area. She will also be missed by long-time WPC members who were fortunate enough to call her friend.

Theresa Altvater (Sarah Altvater's grandmother)

Linda Book

Chuck Burton (Lois Raynor's relative)

Jay Carlson (Clare MacDonald's son-in-law)

Ed Carter

Pauline Cottingham

Frances Cowgill

Peter Culin (Sue Culin's brother-in-law)

Rob Harkins (Bob and Claudene Harkins' son)

Bill and Sandra Hrin

Lib Macnab

Marcy

Sharon

Lacey Meade (Betty Pratt's daughter)

Rev. Innocent Mabuza

Karen Reed Noel (Jim Reed's half-sister)

Betty Pratt

Robbie

Janet Waugaman (Sally Waugaman's daughter)

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

Westminster Presbyterian Church

301 King Charles Avenue

Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

(302)227-2109

rehobothwpc20@gmail.com

Pastoral Care Rev. Barbara Macfie cell (732) 501-2097

bmacfie@me.com