

# Westminster Presbyterian Church

July 18, 2021 | 10:00am  
Live Streaming | In Person

## Tending the New Creation: *Breaking Down the Walls*

“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 [Wylly Suhendra](#) 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

## Welcome

## Call to Worship

*Deb 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*

Building and Reconciling God, in Jesus and through the Spirit, you are intent to use all of us together, because of our differences, for your New Creation purposes in the world.

**Thank you for being so open and free to make something new and beautiful from the vast sum of different experiences, perspectives and callings within the Body of Christ.**

Send your Holy Spirit on us now, that we would learn anew how the reconciling love of Jesus Christ is the cornerstone, the one that anchors and structures the whole thing. And may we, reinvigorated, tend to building this house, this new creation, together!

**Opening Hymn**     *“Let Us Build A house: All Are Welcome” vs 1 & 4 GTG #301*

## 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**

*Deb 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**

Ephesians 2:11-22

*Deb Norton*

### **Sermon**

Extreme Home Makeover            *Rev. Dr. Shannon Smythe*

## **Tending New Creation**

### **Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer**

*Rev. Dr. Shannon Smythe*

### **Offering Our Resources & Lives**

*Deb 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 be in prayer for our Ice Cream On Us outreach event tomorrow night.

## **Blessing New Creation**

**Hymn for Stepping Out** "*Called As Partners in Christ's Service*" vs 1 & 3     GTG # 761

### **Benediction**

*Rev. Dr. Shannon Smythe*

### **Postlude**

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Thank you to those involved in worship today:

Ushers: Mary Boyer & Adele Trout

Liturgist: Deb Norton

Musician: Steve Johnson

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:*

**Jay Carlson, Clare MacDonald's son-in-law**, and father of 2 young daughters- suffered a blood clot in his head- He is in the ICU. Pray for courage for the family and wisdom for the physicians caring for him.

**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.

**Honey Hill** - Sue Culin's step-niece, as she undergoes, and awaits the results of, a biopsy.

**Lacey Meade** - daughter of Betty Pratt, completed her last round of chemotherapy and is doing well.

**Betty Pratt** - is feeling better, but she has some memory issues.

**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](mailto:cmarshjr@verizon.net)**