

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Sunday, July 25th, 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**

Come, you who hunger for food.

Worship the Lord who turns wants into plenty.

Come, you who hunger for justice.

Worship the Lord who turns weeping into laughter.

Come, you who hunger for life.

Worship the Lord who is our hope and our strength.

***Morning Song of Praise**

Taste and See (*congregation sings the refrain*)

GTG #520

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 34:4-5, 11-14*

I sought the Lord, who answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

Those who look to the Lord are radiant, and their faces are never covered with shame.

Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you reverence for the Lord. Which of you loves life, and wants to enjoy a long life of prosperity?

Then keep your tongue from gossip and your lips from telling lies;
turn away from bad and practice good; seek peace and pursue it.

Silent Reflection: When was the last time you felt at ease and at peace in all your relationships? What brought about that condition? What can you do to bring more of that peace into your life now and in the future?

*Praying with Body, Heart, and Soul:

My Redeemer, My Savior,

Inhale: Open your heart and let those words pour in.

You protect me from harm.

Exhale: Feel God's love casting out everything you fear.

I look at your radiance.

Inhale: Radiate your arms from your heart like rays of the morning sun.

And my face lights up.

Exhale: Radiate God's goodness with a smile.

You call me your beloved child.

Inhale: Look up like a little child would to a loving mother.

Gently, you teach me obedience.

Exhale: Feel the acceptance that a much-loved, well-cared-for child might feel.

Only your beauty I will speak of.

Inhale: Left foot forward, right hand on your thigh, raise your left hand, and acknowledge the beauty of all creation. Repeat on other side.

Only your truth I shall proclaim.

Exhale: Bring your right hand to your front thigh. Swing your left hand toward the back, spreading God's love wherever you are. Repeat on other side.

Leave, vanity of vanities.

Inhale: Open your heart and release worldly attachments.

It is time for me to seek peace.

Exhale: Let your body go and rest in God's peace.

Sitting with the Divine Presence: Sitting quietly, being still in body and mind, on every exhale, relax the muscles of the face. Rest the area around the eyes and relax the forehead muscles. Lift the corners of your mouth slightly to a smile. See yourself as a child again, held with love by the Divine One. Feel the quiet and relaxing energy radiating from the Peaceful One. Absorb God's calmness and peacefulness on every inhale. On every exhale, feel calmer, more at peace. Enjoy this wonderful moment with God for a few more moments.

Living Your Prayer: This week, choose an hour to practice talking less. If there's a need to speak, first ask yourself these questions: Is it accurate? Is it needed? Is it loving? Does it glorify God?

Contemporary Psalm: Most Radiant One, O Magnificent God,
Your compassionate light delivers me from the darkness of fear and anxiety.

I look at your face, beaming like the sun, and joy and gladness fill my heart.

Your voice of truth and goodness casts away deceit and corruption.

May all seek and know your peace.

If you remember or had one, slowly recite a prayer learned as a child, savoring every word and the good memories that come with it. If that was not your experience, say a short childlike prayer of trust and gratitude to God. Smile as you return to the world.

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. Pastor Shannon 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: Steve Johnson

Liturgist:: Rev. Dr. Shannon Smythe

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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:

Jay Carlson, Clare MacDonald's son-in-law, and father of 2 young daughters, suffered a blood clot in his head. He has been released from hospital and is slowly recovering with the help of neuro physical therapy.

Ed Carter (102) 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 continues her battle with multiple myeloma cancer.

Chuck Burton, extended family of Lois Rayner, is dealing with issues related to cancer.

Pauline Cottingham is doing well, despite the general decline in her health.

Peter Cullin, Sue Culin's brother-in-law, is undergoing chemotherapy.

Honey Hill, Sue Cullin's step-niece, is awaiting the results of a biopsy.

Lacey Meade, Betty Pratt's daughter, completed her last round of chemotherapy.

Betty Pratt is feeling better, though she has some memory issues.

Janet Waugaman, Sally Waugaman's daughter, continues to lose mobility due to Multiple System Atrophy.

John Witmer is recovering at home following heart surgery, and 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

**Thank you to all the following Volunteers for the “Ice Cream on Us “
Event**

Sarah Altvater

Nancy Brock

Linda Crowe

Phil & Marylea Franz

Christine Hansvick

Glenn & Sharon Higbie

Charlotte Jacobs

Debbie Magliette

Suzi Berry

Julie Bucklin

Faith Duncan

Lois Gillespie

Claudine Harkins

Genie Hindall

Barbara Macfie

Rosemary Mirocco

Mary Boyer

Waneta Chaffinch

Bonnie Ekas

Brian Harron

John Hawkins

Bill & Sandra Hrin

Lib Macnab

Dave & Deb Norton

Sarah Ortolani
Lois Ann Raynor
Melissa Schrock
John Still
Cherie Touchet
Metropolitan Community Church of Rehoboth

Mimi Peters
Silvia Ritchie
Pastor Shannon Smythe
Kevin & Micah Subers
Adele Trout

Ed & Carol Pillsbury
John & Kay Rotach
Dave Smith
Nancy Tompkins
Ken & Nancy Witmer