



Westminster Presbyterian Church

October 3rd, 2021 | 10:00am

Live Streaming | In Person

Prayers by Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Prelude

Steve Johnson

Welcome

Rev. Barbara Macfie

***Call to Worship**

Lois Ann Gillespie & congregation

Our help is in the name of the Lord

Who made heaven and earth.

Come, let us praise the Lord in song, word, and prayer.

***Song of Praise**

"Let Us Build a House of Praise"

Glory to God # 301

Let us build a house where love can dwell

and all can safely live,

a place where saints

and children tell

how hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions,

rock of faith and

All are welcome;

all are welcome;

all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

All are welcome;
all are welcome;
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine, and wheat;
a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:

All are welcome;
all are welcome;
all are welcome in this place

Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:

All are welcome;
all are welcome;
all are welcome in this place

Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured,
taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

All are welcome;
all are welcome;
all are welcome in this place.

Call to Confession

Lois Ann Gillespie

Our scripture reminds us today that often in the face of hurt, what people really need is the simple presence of love. So let us pray to God today, acknowledging that we are works in progress, and that relationships always come with mistakes and confession. Let us pray:

Prayer of Confession | Truth Telling

Lois Ann Gillespie & congregation

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We may give to those in need, but we don't necessarily welcome them into our fold. No, we don't love them as ourselves. In your mercy forgive us. Help us to love you, to love ourselves, and to love our neighbors. Amen

Words of forgiveness

Lois Ann Gillespie & congregation

Family of faith, God knows when we try and miss the mark, and God surrounds us in grace. So hear and believe the good news of the gospel: Every day is a new day for love. We are claimed. We are forgiven. We are invited into relationships. Thanks be to God for growth and grace that know no end. Amen.

Children's Message "The Shema"

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Prayer for Illumination

Lois Ann Gillespie

Living God,

help us to hear your holy Word that we may truly understand;

that, understanding, we may believe and believing, we may follow. With grateful hearts we pray. Amen

Scripture Reading

Mark 12:28-34

Lois Ann Gillespie

28 One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" 29 Jesus answered, "The first is, "Hear, O Israel; the Lord our God, the Lord is one; 30 you shall love the Lord with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength," 31 The second is this," You shall love your neighbor as yourself." "There is no other commandment greater than these." 32 Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other', and to him love with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength', and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,' - this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." 34 When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

Scripture Reading

Ruth 1:1-10

Lois Ann Gillespie

1 In the days when judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. 2 The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the name of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. 3 But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi died and she was left with her two sons. 4 These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpha and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there

about ten years, 5 both Mahlon and Chilion also died., so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

6 Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, fo she had heard in the country of Moab that the Lord had considered his people and given them food. 7 So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me, 9 The Lord grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. 10 They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Making the Possible, Possible"

Rev. Barbara Macfie

***Affirmation of Faith**

Lois Ann Gillespie & congregation

Let us confess the faith of our Baptism

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead; I Believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of the Saints; the forgiveness for sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life Everlasting. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Lois Ann Gillespie

In worship, when we give to the offering, we are declaring that strangers, whom we have never met, are just as worthy of our gifts as those whom we love.

In worship, when we give to the offering, we are declaring that all of creation deserves love and care. Please give generously to the mission and ministry of this church.

Prayer of the People | Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Rev. Barbara Macfie

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sanctus

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

Intercessions for the Church and The World

The Lord's Prayer

***Closing Song**

"The Church of Christ in Every Age"

GTG 320

The church of Christ in every age,
beset by change but Spirit-led,
must claim and test its heritage
and keep on rising from the dead.

Across the world, across the street,
the victims of injustice cry
for shelter and for bread to eat,
and never live before they die.

Then let the servant church arise,

a caring church that longs to be a partner in Christ's sacrifice,
and clothed in Christ's humanity.

For Christ alone,
whose blood was shed,
can cure the fever in our blood,
and teach us how to share our bread
and feed the starving multitude.

We have no mission but to serve
in full obedience to our Lord:
to care for all, without reserve,
and spread Christ's liberating word.

***Benediction**

Rev. Barbara Macfie

The guarding of the God of life be on you,
the guarding of the loving Christ be on you,
the guarding of the Holy Spirit be on you,
to aid you and enfold you each day and
night of your lives. Amen

Postlude

Steve Johnson

Thank you to those involved in worship today:

Pastor Rev. Barbara Macfie
Ushers: Deb & Dave Norton
Liturgist: Lois Ann Gillespie
Musicians: Steve Johnson & 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:*

Rev. Innocent Mabuza, Bishop of some churches in Swaziland and friend of **John Hawkins**, is seriously ill.

Ed Carter (102) is under hospice care in the skilled nursing unit at The Moorings. He is comfortable and appreciates our prayers . There are no visitors at this time.

Glenn Bellinger passed on Friday. His daughter in law will be sending a link with more information

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

Carol Geiger, cousin of Charlotte Jacobs and John Still, is struggling to heal and recover mobility following a fall that left her with 100 stitches to her face, a concussion and cracked bones on the left side of her face.

Rob Harkins, son of Bob and Claudene Harkins, is fighting a serious, resistant foot infection. Bob and Claudene have returned to Florida to support him.

Bill Hrin fell on August 25th, fractured his knee- cap, he is ambulating with difficulty, using a walker.

Sandra Hrin is home and recovering from surgery, but is still dealing with back pain. We keep Sandra and Bill in our prayers.

Clare MacDonald reports that her son-in-law, **Jay Carlson**, who suffered a blood clot in his head, has returned to work on a part-time basis and is gradually improving. She requests our continued prayers for him and his young family.

Lib Macnab Is feeling better and recovering at home. Lib appreciates the continued prayers.

Sharon's sister, Marcy who has just begun her chemotherapy.

Robbie who has lung complications from Covid 19.

Pastor Len's daughter, Izzy, is recovering from surgery, and his grandson, **Isaac**, is feeling better while recovering from an illness.

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

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

Greg Solt, friend of Karen and Glenn Dixon, is battling pancreatic and liver cancer.

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

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

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