Pentecost
May 31, 2020

Westminster Presbyterian Church extends an enthusiastic welcome, in Christ’s name, to all who worship here or join us in fellowship. Our church family seeks to embody God’s boundless love by embracing, liberating and empowering people – whoever they are and wherever they may be on their faith journeys – to realize the transforming power of Christ in our congregation, community and the world beyond.

A Covenant Network Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
An Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

1502 West 13th Street ♦ Wilmington, DE 19806 ♦ 302-654-5214 ♦ www.wpc.org
ORDER OF WORSHIP

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Spirit of God, brooding over the waters of our chaos, inspire us to generous living.
Wind of God, dancing over the desert of our reluctance, lead us to an oasis of celebration.
Breath of God, inspiring communication among strangers, make us a channel of your peace.

Kate McIlhagga

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to our virtual worship service. We invite you to participate in the liturgy by joining Dr. Jones on lines printed in bold.

The materials attached at the end of the bulletin for worshipping with children are provided by Illustrated Ministry. Please print them to participate in this service or for family devotions throughout the week. Westminster’s educational offerings have also moved online. You can find this week’s opportunities at the end of this Order of Worship.

We hope you will stay connected with our community of faith during this season of social distancing by subscribing to the Westminster Weekly Word e-newsletter through the homepage of our website (www.wpc.org), liking us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/wpcdelaware), or following us on Instagram (www.instagram.com/wpcdelaware).

The flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Judy Stoddard on her birthday, by her family.

The cloths on the communion table are from Guatemala. The large cloth was purchased in 2009 by member Jose Varela when Greg and Camilla Jones, and Chad Miller led a trip for New Castle Presbytery. The small cloth was a gift from Rosario who runs a health clinic in Guatemala.

Let us worship God!

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather for worship to listen for the voice of God.

We come eager for an encounter with God.

Let us open our hearts, minds, and souls

so that we may be transformed by God’s Spirit.

HYMN NO. 286 “Breathe on Me Breath of God”
Vs. 1 & 2

Breathe on me, Breath of God;
fill me with life anew, that I may love
what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will,
to do and to endure.
OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, we give thanks for our community of faith where you assure us of your immeasurable love for us and provide opportunities to share your love with others. Through words of Scripture and your Spirit whispering in our soul, may we discover the work that is ours to do, and summon the courage to carry it out. Embolden us to resist evil, injustice, and violence; inspire us to speak the truth, to show respect, and to live generously; and energize us to spread joy, create beauty and foster hope. Amen.

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE LESSON Acts 2:1-21

SERMON “Together in One Place” Greg Jones

HYMN No. 407 “Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers”

Vs. 1 & 2

Spirit divine, attend our prayers, and make this house your home.
Descend with all your gracious powers. O come, great Spirit, come!

Come as the light. To us reveal our emptiness and woe.
And lead us in those paths of life where all the righteous go.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Jan Patrick

LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN No. 279 “Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove”

Vs. 1 & 2

Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove, with all thy quickening powers; kindle a flame of sacred love in these cold hearts of ours.
In vain we tune our formal songs; in vain we strive to rise; hosannas languish on our tongues, and our devotion dies.

3
GOING FORTH: OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OUR LIVES TO GOD

With gratitude for the grace we have received, we go forth from worship to offer our energy, our hands, and part of our income in service to God. One way we respond to Christ’s call is by giving our financial gifts to further God’s mission in the world. You may mail a check to the church or make an online offering to support the many ministries of Westminster Presbyterian Church by clicking “Donate Now” on the homepage of our website (www.wpc.org).

PASSING OF THE PEACE

According to John’s Gospel, the Risen Christ appeared to his disciples as they huddled behind locked doors and offered them the gift of peace (John 20:19). We invite you to share signs of Christ’s peace with those with whom you are gathered, or to pass the peace virtually by calling, emailing, or texting your family and friends in our congregation and beyond.

Participants

The Rev. Dr. Gregory Knox Jones
Interim Director of Music: Sharon Babcock
Alexis Droke: Director of Music for Children and Youth
Soloists/Section Leaders: Hye Eun Choi, Olivia Forney, Jason Berger, Brenton Mattox
Prayers of the People: Jan Patrick
Videographers: Chip Pfleegor and Baden Saathoff

SOURCES AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are grateful to Westminster John Knox Press for making available the complete list of public domain hymns included in the Glory to God hymnal and to Illustrated Ministry (www.illustratedministry.com) for providing free resources for children of all ages to use during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This Week’s Educational Offerings

A list of all virtual Christian education and small group opportunities can be found on the homepage of the Westminster website (www.wpc.org).

Sunday School at Home

See the young families email blast for PDF downloadables you can use for a 20-minute Sunday school class geared toward elementary age kids. Check our YouTube channel each Sunday for a new video lesson. Not receiving the email blast for young families? Email Chesna Hinkley (chesnahinkley@wpc.org) and request to be added to the list.
Today at 10:10

The Qur’an
Presenters: Bob Cox and Kara Francis
https://zoom.us/j/4937200361 (no password)

Our Qur’an series concludes this week, taught by Bob Cox and Kara Francis. Even if you missed the rest of the series, you will learn something fascinating! Contact Chesna (chesnahinkley@wpc.org) with questions.

Wednesdays 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. OR Thursdays 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. on Zoom

Online Bible Studies
https://zoom.us/j/4937200361 (no password)
Presenter: Chesna Hinkley

Our Bible studies are always open, always drop-in, and there’s never any homework. Right now both groups are studying Genesis. Pick a time and join us! Contact Chesna (chesnahinkley@wpc.org) with questions.

Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.

Online Evening Prayer
https://zoom.us/j/4937200361 (no password)
Presenter: Chesna Hinkley

Click the link above on Wednesday evenings for a short, informal LIVE prayer service. Join us for a short prayer service and time to pray together for our congregation's needs. Contact Chesna (chesnahinkley@wpc.org) with questions.

Thursdays at 5:00 p.m.

Women’s Online Community Group
Coordinator: Jill Getty

For women of the church to provide connection and friendship, this group meets on Zoom. If you are interested, please email Jill Getty at jgetty@wpc.org and she will add you to the weekly participant email list to receive the Zoom link and password.

180 Youth Ministry Activities

Summer Schedule for 180 Youth Ministry (6th – 12th grade)
https://zoom.us/j/4937200361

We will meet on Zoom from 4:00 -5:00 pm on Sundays through July. Tonight is kickback night—catch two of your leaders on Zoom to chat about whatever’s on your mind. Drop-in/drop-out. See your eblast for details or contact Chesna (chesnahinkley@wpc.org) with questions. Follow us for more on Instagram @180youth_wpc.
Faith Formation
Resources for the Day of Pentecost

1 Corinthians 12 describes how every person is given gifts or talents by God to use in blessing the world. Draw a picture of you using a gift or talent you have!
RESOURCES FROM ILLUSTRATED MINISTRY

As the world struggled to adjust to life amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, necessary disruptions have affected all aspects of our lives. Schools closed, places of worship canceled services, sports seasons were suspended, and we all adjusted to this new way of life. During the past 12 weeks, Illustrated Ministry has provided free, weekly, faith formation resources to over 20,000 individuals and congregations around the world.

To see an archive of these free, weekly resources, you can visit the following website:

https://www.illustratedministry.com/weekly-resources

There you will find links to download 12 weeks of coloring pages, children’s bulletins, devotionals, and other freebies that will give you an idea of the type of resources Illustrated Ministry creates.

In addition to these free, weekly resources, Illustrated Ministry creates children’s bulletins, coloring pages, and illustrations with leader guides throughout the year. We follow the Revised Common Lectionary, and you can find the most recent published edition of our worship resources here:

https://illstrtdm.in/WorshipResources

We hope you enjoy this resource, and if you have any questions about it, you can always reach us at info@illustratedministry.com. If you want to connect with others and see how they are using our resources, you can also follow us on social media:

Facebook: fb.com/illustratedmin
Instagram: instagram.com/illustratedmin
Twitter: twitter.com/illustratedmin
Pinterest: pinterest.com/illustratedmin

Our Facebook Group is a growing community. If you're looking for ideas and suggestions for using this resource, you can request to join here:

fb.com/groups/illustratedmin

Peace,

The Illustrated Ministry Team
This page left blank intentionally.
Describe a time when something completely unexpected happened, and you were surprised (ideally, in a good way). Note: If you are with a group, have each person take a turn sharing.

Scripture Reading: Acts 2:1-12

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?”

Reflection

Today we celebrate Pentecost, the day when the Holy Spirit burst into the church with mighty gusts of wind and tongues of fire! Take a look at the illustration. These tongues of fire sat above everyone’s heads and gave people the power to speak in other languages. Suddenly, everyone from different nations could hear the good news about Jesus in their own language. Before he ascended to heaven, Jesus told his followers God would send the Spirit to be with them after he was gone. This was probably not what they expected.

Stories throughout the Bible are especially full of surprises. God surprised Moses when God spoke to him through a burning bush. When God’s people were wandering in the desert, God provided manna, food to keep them nourished when there wasn’t anything else around. Jesus did all sorts of miraculous signs and wonders during his time on earth; he walked on water, healed people, and rose from the dead! Pentecost is another amazing story that demonstrates how God surprises and delights us.

Discussion Questions

1. What kind of surprises can you think of? What face do you make when you’re surprised? What does it feel like?
2. Have you ever gotten a big surprise? What was it?
3. Does God ever surprise you? How?

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for sending your Holy Spirit among us in surprising and delightful ways. Help us look for how your surprising presence in our lives and the world can help us share the gospel with one another. Amen.
This page left blank intentionally.
1 Corinthians 12 describes how every person is given gifts or talents by God to use in blessing the world. Draw a picture of you using a gift or talent you have. It is described how every person is given.
How does the author of Acts describe the coming of the Holy Spirit?

Acts 2 describes the incredible coming of the Holy Spirit. There was a strong wind, little flames like tongues of fire, and the miracle of every person receiving God's Spirit.

Finish the drawing of the flames and gathered people. Draw yourself in the picture too, and imagine what it felt like to be there!

How does the author of Acts describe the coming of the Holy Spirit? Unscramble the words to find out!
ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS

ARIANNE BRAITHWAITE LEHN is a mother, one half of a clergy couple, writer, and ordained minister with the Presbyterian Church (USA). As a South Dakota native, Arianne originally planned on Law School until God called her to Taiwan where everything changed. She later graduated from McCormick Theological Seminary (Chicago). She and her family live in Wilmette, Illinois. Arianne is the author of Ash and Starlight: Prayers for the Chaos and Grace of Daily Life. You can connect with Arianne and her writing at her website ariannebraithwaitelehn.com.

CORBY ORTMANN is a digital illustrator and animator, whose work includes caricatures, graphic design, children's books, and animated commercials/music videos. He currently lives in Fargo, North Dakota with his wife and daughter, who help him to step away from the art table every so often. You can find more of his work at www.corbyortmann.com.

LAYTON WILLIAMS is a Presbyterian Church (USA) minister and a writer based in Charleston, SC. She serves as the Director of New Dawn Ministries at Sunrise Church on Sullivan’s Island, and she is the author of Holy Disunity: How What Separates Us Can Save Us. She received her M.Div from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, and previously served on staff at Sojourners in D.C. and Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago. Prior to ministry, Layton worked as a nonprofit educator for middle and high school students.

ABOUT THE EDITOR

REBEKAH LOWE, a local of Kansas City, Southern California, and Austin, Texas, earned a B.A. in Biblical Studies with a minor in Leadership Studies and a minor in Hebrew at Azusa Pacific University and served as the Director of Children’s Ministry at Brentwood Presbyterian Church (USA) in Los Angeles, California, for over five years. She resides in Austin, Texas with her husband and their two daughters.

ABOUT ILLUSTRATED MINISTRY’S FOUNDER + CEO

ADAM WALKER CLEavelAND is an artist, pastor, pastor’s spouse, and father of four (two living). Adam is an ordained Teaching Elder in the Presbyterian Church (USA), and after doing youth ministry for over 15 years, he founded Illustrated Ministry, LLC. He resides in Racine, Wisconsin with his wife and children.