



REFORMATION SUNDAY

Preparation for **Worship**

We pray to you, O God: be our helper and protector.
 Save the afflicted, have mercy on the lowly,
 raise up the fallen, help the needy, humble the proud,
 return the lost, feed the hungry,
 release the captive, heal the sick,
 revive the weak, and comfort those in fear.
 And help us to love the world as you so love the world. Amen.

Based on a prayer of Clement of Rome (1st century)

Gathering and Preparing for **God's Word**

Prelude Pastorale on HE LEADETH ME Young

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Stewardship Derek Pitman

Call to Worship from Psalm 133

How very good and pleasant it is
 when kindred live together in unity!
 It is like the dew of Hermon,
 which falls on the mountains of Zion.
 For there the Lord ordained his blessing,
 life forevermore.
 Let us worship God!

Hymn #370 *This Is My Father's World* TERRA BEATA

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon
 Almighty God, you know us better than we know ourselves.
 Search our hearts and minds this morning,
 so that we would see our lives in light that is clear
 and honest and full of your grace.
 Forgive us for all that we have done that was selfish.
 We have failed to see the ways that we ignore violence,
 shrug at poverty, and wrap ourselves in self-centered worries.
 Give us eyes to see the greater good to which you call us.
 Grant us the courage we need to give ourselves for our community.
 Make us new people, through whom the love, justice,
 and hope of Jesus Christ will spread abundantly. Amen.

The Sacrament of Baptism *Evan Rick Black, II*

Presentation
 Questions to the Parents
 Question to the Congregation
 Thanksgiving over the Water
 Baptism
 Prayer

Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination
 Gospel Lesson, *Matthew 22:34-40*
 Old Testament Lesson, *Jeremiah 29:4-7, 10-11*

Leader: **The Word of the Lord.**

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "A Future with Hope"
 Anthem *I Believe in the Sun*

arr. Miller

*I believe in the sun, even when it's not shining.
 I believe in love, even when I don't feel it.
 I believe in God, even when God is silent.*

Responding to **God's Word**

Affirmation of Faith, *The Apostles' Creed*
 I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
 and in Jesus Christ his only 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 saints;
 the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body;
 and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The 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.

Hymn #353 *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* SOLID ROCK

Charge and Benediction

Postlude Our God, Our Help in Ages Past arr. Young

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*
 Lauren Slingerland, *liturgist*
 Bob Dellert, *elder sponsor*
 Paul Grier, *lay reader*
 Nancy Smith, *organist*
 Amanda Warren, Kelly Kemp, Judy McKenney,
 Hunter Ditsch, Mark Kemp, *vocalists*

Join Us in Welcoming

BAPTISM

This morning we welcome into our fellowship *Evan Rick Black, II*, son of Evan & Laurie Black.

VOTE FOR THIS YEAR'S NOMINATING COMMITTEE!

The slate of names can be found on our website at <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/nominating-committee-ballot/>. The Nominating Committee will meet in November to propose names for the next class of elders to serve on the Session.

OPEN HEARTS • Gathering@WPC

OUTDOOR PRAYER SERVICES END THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25th, 9am & 11:15am

Our outdoor Sunday morning prayer services in the Green Lot will end this Sunday, October 25. We will have services at 9am & 11:15am. Up to 50 WPC members may sign up to attend each service. No childcare will be provided. Please bring your own chair. Masks and social distancing will be the rule! We hope this time together will allow us to see one another in person, in a safe way, while worshipping God and growing together in our faith. Sign up at <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/outdoor-prayer-services/>.

OPEN SANCTUARY

Our sanctuary is open for individual prayer and reflection on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday (9a-1p). WPC members will need to sign up ahead of time at <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/prayer-in-the-sanctuary-at-wpc/>.

HIKING GROUP

On Tuesday, October 27, the Hiking Group is scheduled for a hike to the Green River. Anne Holleman will lead the hike at the Blue Wall Passage Preserve, a 3.2 mile hike with a 250-foot elevation gain. Anne's contact information is 979-1606 or holl2759@att.net.

TRICK OR TREAT MARK YOUR CALENDARS

On Thursday, October 29, our children will bring joy to residents at the Westminster Retirement Home in a Halloween costume parade. Families can sign up to join the parade at 5p or 5:30p. We will meet at the Sanctuary Bell Tower to line up and walk over together. The parade will go through the parking lot and children will be able to pick up treat bags to take home. Space is limited to 50 people per parade, masks and social distancing required. Please sign up on the church website under events registration. Contact Associate Pastor Lauren Slingerland (lslingerland@wpc-online.org) for more information.

NOVEMBER NIGHTS: DRIVE THRU DINNER & ONLINE WORSHIP, CRAFTS, AND EDUCATION

We are thrilled to offer November Nights this year on November 1st and November 8th. You will have an option to reserve a meal to pick up between 4:00-5:00p on Sunday followed by an online Vespers worship service at 5:30p. Education options (including a special guest for a craft class!) will begin at 6:15p for WPC Kids and adults. Youth will participate in Shepherd Groups (watch for more information from MK for the WPCYG schedule). Sign up now at <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/november-nights/>.

BAPTISM CLASS:

If you would like to have your child baptized at Westminster, our next Zoom class is scheduled for Sunday, November 1, at 2p. Please notify the church office if you would like to attend, and we will be glad to send you the Zoom information for this class.

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY ON SUNDAY MORNINGS THIS FALL!

You are invited to participate in a Zoom Bible study at 10am on Sunday mornings led by Ben and other members of the pastoral staff! The Zoom information will be sent the preceding Thursday in the weekly newsletter and each Friday with the weekly emailed Harbinger. We will take a look at the texts that are being used in that particular Sunday's worship service. Please join us!

WESTMINSTER BOOK CLUB

The Westminster Book Club will meet in the Green lot on Tuesday, November 3 at 6pm (NEW TIME: to be able to be done before it gets dark!). In case of rain, we will hold the session on GoToMeeting. Send Ellen Stevenson an email (ellens7377@gmail.com) if you want the log in information to join the meeting.

This month, Kathryn Algary will lead our discussion of The Yellow House: A Memoir by Sarah Broom. A brilliant, haunting and unforgettable memoir from a stunning new talent about the inexorable pull of home and family, set in a shotgun house in New Orleans East beginning in 1961.

Please join us - new people are always welcome.

**TOGETHER:
INTRODUCING THE PLEDGE THRU
FOR COMMITMENT SUNDAY**

This year Commitment Sunday will feature donuts and coffee under Westminster's own "golden arches" – The Niven Memorial Bell Tower. For generations members of Westminster have brought their pledges forward on Commitment Sunday as a public act of faithfulness. When we pledge we commit the fruits of our labor to one another, making our faithfulness known to our families, children, friends, and the gathered congregation. We align ourselves with the vision and values of this congregation, and commit to the ways God is working through us.

This year the bringing of our pledges will look a bit different but carry the same significance. If you are joining us in person, you will have an opportunity to drop your pledge card in baskets as you retire. For those who can't join us or those who wish for another public act of faithfulness, you're invited to participate in our Pledge Thru. From 2-5p on November 8th, drive through our "golden arches" (the Niven Memorial Bell Tower), and greet a pastor with your pledge card.

When you Pledge Thru you will experience the benefits of communal giving and, as a token of our gratitude during this difficult time, a custom WPC mug and (*drum roll, please*) a donut (*COVID precautions honored!*).

As always, you are also welcome to pledge online.

We'll see you November 8th!

THE HARBINGER

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DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME:

Remember to turn your clocks back one hour next Saturday, November 1.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS
October 25-31, 2020**

SUNDAY	9:00 a.m.	Online Worship Service Green Lot Prayer Service
	10:00 a.m.	Zoom Bible Study
	11:15 a.m.	Online Worship Service Green Lot Prayer Service
	2:00 p.m.	K5 Bible Bags & 3rd Grade Bible PickUp
	3:00 p.m.	Zoom New Member Class
	5:00 p.m.	WPCYG Middler Shepherd Groups
	6:30 p.m.	WPCYG Senior High Shepherd Groups
MONDAY	9:00 a.m.	Prayer in the Sanctuary (thru 1pm)
TUESDAY	8:30 a.m.	Hiking Group
	10:00 a.m.	PW Circle #5 in the Green Lot
WEDNESDAY	9:00 a.m.	Prayer in the Sanctuary (thru 1pm)
	11:00 a.m.	Luncheon Group Meeting in the Green Lot
	3:00 p.m.	It's Elementary PopUp in the Green Lot
	4:30 p.m.	Ukelele Club (grade 1-5)
	8:00 p.m.	Zoom Music Gathering
THURSDAY	3:30 p.m.	WPCYG in the Green Lot
	5:00 p.m.	Trick or Treat Parades to Westminster Retirement Center
FRIDAY	9:00 a.m.	Prayer in the Sanctuary (thru 1pm)

the
HARBINGER
open minds open hearts

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From the Pews, Keith Stevenson:

Church is about community. It's all about bringing people together. People supporting people. Having friends. Doing good with people that you respect. Trying to implement the things that Jesus taught us; that Jesus showed us how to do; and it is a continuous struggle. It's not easy.

But then a virus showed up that interrupted our standard way of doing things. It interrupted our sense of community and put a halt to many of the ways we connect. Worries and concerns about cross-contamination have driven us apart. For me, this pandemic is a reminder that we have taken things for granted. Hopefully one day we'll look back and recognize what lessons we learned from dealing with this crisis. When we get to that point, we can be thankful for the wisdom that we gained.

We are now finding new ways to come together. Opportunities such as: Prayerful meetings in our grassy parking lot. New ways of worship. Committees to study how we can bring ourselves back together. Clubs meeting virtually. Sunday school using Zoom. Committees reaching out to each other via Go-To-Meeting. Other committees meeting in the green lot. Choir, VBS, and It's Elementary via Zoom.

The pandemic can't keep us apart. It's another challenge that we're facing and it's bringing us together in different ways. Our Habitat for Humanity project continues. Our work at Camp Thornwell continues. Church luncheons, Circle Groups, Confirmation, baptisms, clothing drives, and funerals. Good things that we want to continue can continue in safety in spite of this new challenge.

Our initial response was to avoid small businesses and charities to protect ourselves. For those of us who can, our thoughtful response is to provide continuing support to our favorite charities and our favorite local businesses that need us right now. Our thoughtful response is to reach out to each other in many ways to provide and accept support that we all need daily.

Westminster needs our support now too. Now is the season to renew your promise of support to the church. Your tithe is all important to allow our work to continue.

So be the one to take the initiative. Renew your tithe. Reach out to others during this time. Join a group in the church that brings people together. Create a group in the church that brings people together. And take care of yourselves as you take care of others.