Date: October 1, 2023 Season of the Holy Spirit The Sacrament of Holy Communion World Communion Day

Prayer of Preparation Dare to Climb the Mountain

Unknown

Many people view the mountain, But few ever want to climb. For when you scale the mountain you must leave the crowd behind.

There's a mountain that God offers Those who climb it must be true, Its peak's called full-time service and it beckons me and you.

Will you dare to climb the mountain though at times you'll feel alone? Will you be a missionary, leave the comfort of your home?...

Gathering in the Presence of God

*Please stand as able, in body or in spirit

Gathering Music

In Holy Communion

G. Martin

Welcome

Minute for Mission

Springboard Pallet Village

Deb Norton

*Call to Worship (responsively)

Liturgist

We are called together this day to praise God.

We ask that God will put us in pathways to service to others.

The Lord will walk with us as we faithfully witness to Christ's love.

Open our hearts, Lord, to receive your words and will.

Come, let us worship God!

Let us sing our praises to God our Redeemer and Healer. Amen.

*Hymn

Know That God Is Good
Mungu ni mwema

GTG 659 Republic of Congo

Confessing Our Separation from God (unison)

Liturgist

Gracious Lord, you created the whole world and called it good, but we look out at your world and see division and suffering. You call us to maintain the unity of spirit in the bond of peace, but we choose division over diversity, confrontation over civility, conflict over peace born from justice. You call us to love the least of these among us, but we hear the cries of the oppressed and choose our own comfort. We allow senseless suffering rather than sacrifice for our neighbors. Forgive us. Grant us fresh vision to see one another as siblings in Christ. Rekindle in us your gifts — the spirit of power, love and self-discipline — that with faith in Christ, we might be made new and be part of bringing forth your peaceable kin-dom. Amen.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Jesus, Draw Me Close

Rick Founds

Jesus, draw me close; Closer, Lord, to You.

Let the world around me fade away.

Jesus, draw me close;

Closer, Lord, to You.

For I desire to worship and obey.

*Passing the Peace of Christ

Judy and Ken McDyer

We Hear God's Word

Prayer of Illumination

Liturgist

Prophetic Word

Isaiah 42:6

Source: NRSV

Anthem

At the Table of the Lord

Jay Althouse

Liturgist

Source: NRSV

Reflection

Hearing the Call: Missionaries in Taiwan Ken & Judy McDyer

We Respond to God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith

I Believe in Jesus

Marc Nelson

Joys and Hopes of the People of God

The Act of Gratitude

Offertory Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You

Jay Althouse

Soloist: Ric Fernandes

*Doxology: An Expression of Faith to God

GTG 606

Tune: Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

*Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

Liturgist

Loving God, when we stumble in our discipleship you do not give up on us, but instead invite us again to follow you. We recommit ourselves this day, giving these gifts as a symbol of our resolve to give ourselves entirely to you. Take our offerings, we pray, to relieve the suffering of your people. May these offerings be a means through which others find reasons to rejoice in life abundant and to praise you. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Hymn of Invitation

Sanctuary

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true; with Thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

Liturgy and Blessings of the Breads

These breads are a symbol of the many different people within the family of God- Pan Dulce-Latin America, Corn Bread-African Americans, Irish Soda, Old World Rye, Swiss Sopf, Shaobing-Northern China.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving & the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

It is right to give thanks and praise...Great is the mystery of our faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

* * *

Lord, we have received nothing that we asked for or wanted. And yet, we received everything that we needed. For this, we pray the way your son, our Lord and Savior taught us to pray... "Our Father..."

The Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread & the Cup

Communion Prayer (unison)

We have been fed with the bread of life, the life of Christ: let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage until we come to that place where hunger and thirst are no more; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Follow God's Word into the World

*Hymn We've Come This Far By Faith GTG 656

Benediction Ken and Judy McDyer

Postlude The Heavens Rejoice F. Ritter

Next Week's Liturgist: Charlotte Jacobs

WORSHIP TEAM

Rev. Eddie Jusino Liturgist: Faith Duncan

Ushers: Greg Estes and Jim Reed

Music: Sally Waugaman Soloist: Ric Fernandes The Westminster Choir

A/V Tech: Melissa Schrock and Blue Jade

Thank you for today's Communion Bread

Pan Dulce – Pam Jusino

Corn Bread – Sarah Altvater

Irish Soda – Lois Gillespie

Old World Rye - Phil Franz

Swiss Sopf – Silvia Ritchie

Shaobing – Ken and Judy McDyer

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 – NOVEMBER 8 @ 10am - Adult Ed Bible Study returns with Alan Keohane's "Picturing Scripture", an engaging online Bible Study.

Oct. 4, 11, 18 & 25 – Paul's Early Letters (Acts 13v1 – 28-31)

Nov. 1 & 8 – Paul's 2nd Mission Letters (Thessalonians and Galatians)
Please join us for these interesting and thought-provoking sessions via Zoom.
The link is accessible on the Back of the Bulletin email and on WPC's website.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7 @ 9:00am – BOARDWALK BUDDY WALK – Join us as we unite for a common cause and raise funds for the 2023 Boardwalk Buddy Walk®. Whether you have Down syndrome, know someone who does, or just want to show your support, take the first step and donate or register today! Contact Silvia Ritchie (302-604-9529 or silaxritchie@gmail.com) to walk with Westminster and get a free-t-shirt.

Westminster has been a proud sponsor of the Buddy Walk over 19 years!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7 @ 2:00-3:30pm – BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS WPC is partnering with St. Edmond's for the Blessing of the Animals. Bring your pets to the church yard to receive a blessing and celebrate the bond of love that animals have with their humans, and that humans have with all of God's creation.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8 @ 10am – SUNDAY SERVICE with Fellowship. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.

OCTOBER 1-22 - Clothing Drive for Residents of the Springboard Pallet Village. WPC is partnering with Coolspring and other local organizations to provide the Springboard Pallet residents with Hoodies and Magic Gloves. Sign-up sheet in the narthex and/or Fellowship Hall.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14 @ 3:00-4:00pm – Afternoon Jazz at Westminster with the David Libby Trio featuring Ben Koly. Free will offering to benefit the Cape Henlopen High School Jazz Program.