

Date: October 8, 2023
Season of the Holy Spirit

Prayer of Preparation

Anne Osdieck

My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside.

Master of the vineyard, you have given us a fertile garden to care for. But we failed. The garden is polluted, full of floods and fires. Lord, help us find ways to repair our vineyard, our common home, and our relationship with all our brothers and sisters who share it.

Gathering in the Presence of God

**Please stand as able, in body or in spirit*

Gathering Music

The Nutcracker Suite: Overture

Tchaikovsky

Welcome

***Call to Worship** (responsively)

Liturgist

We come to you, O God, to thank you for what is good.

We come to you, O God, to cry out for what is wrong.

We come to you, O God, to ask for help and restoration.

We come to you, O God, with aching hearts and glad souls.

Let us worship God.

***Hymn**

Help Us Accept Each Other (v.1,2 & 4)

GTG 754

Confessing Our Separation from God (unison)

Liturgist

Rejected, Dismissed, and Disregarded. Questioned instead of dignified.

Accusation instead of personhood. I've felt rejection's sting and hollowness

as have you, my Jesus. You understand my pain. Heal my wound. I am

most ashamed of aiming rejection at you, my Jesus. Pierce me with your

Divine sorrow. Deliver me, renew me, abide in me so there is more of my

true me and more of your strong foundation. For my healing and the healing of the world. 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**

We Hear God's Word

Prayer of Illumination

Liturgist

Anthem

*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace
Prayer of St. Francis*

GTG 753

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 21:33-46

Liturgist

Source: New International Version

Reflection

Unfaithful Tenants

We Respond to God's Word

Reception of New Members

Charlotte Jacobs, Clerk of Session &
Silvia Ritchie &

New members gather in the front as their names are called.

***Affirmation of Faith**

I Believe in Jesus

Marc Nelson

Joys and Hopes of the People of God

Offertory

Sonata in G Major, K.260 L.124,

Scarlatti

The Act of Gratitude

***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

Generous and giving God, you have offered us a deep and soul-satisfying relationship with you, one that extends far beyond our earthly journey; and too many of us have opted for a “faith-lite” experience. One day a week or a couple of times a month has been a better fit. We have rejected what you so generously offer us, even as we dwell in and are sustained by your vineyard. As we offer our gifts on this day, may we better receive the relationship you offer us and may we walk more closely. In Christ’s holy name, we pray. Amen.

We Follow God’s Word into the World

***Hymn**

May the God of Hope Go with Us

GTG 765

Song of Hope/Canto de Esperanza

Benediction

Postlude

The Nutcracker Suite: Waltz of the Flower

Tchaikovsky

Next Week’s Liturgist: Nancy Brock

WORSHIP TEAM

Rev. Eddie Jusino

Liturgist: Charlotte Jacobs

Ushers: Diana Green and Nancy Tompkins

Music: Markus Gromofsky

The Westminster Choir

A/V Tech: Melissa Schrock and Blue Jade

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.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15 @ 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.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

We keep **Don Smith** in our hearts and prayers as he prepares to have open heart surgery in Philadelphia. Don has been fighting coronary problems for many years. May his mind be at peace, confident that God is faithful to hear our prayer for the skill of his surgeons, compassion of his caregivers, and his complete recovery.

Leslie, Adele Trout's daughter, who suffers from a serious underlying medical condition, must undergo spinal surgery. May Our Lord's tender mercies protect Leslie and guide the surgeon's hands, so that she emerges fully restored, strong and pain-free. We ask the Holy Spirit to comfort Leslie and Adele, as they confront the challenges ahead.

Rob Book, Linda's son, is in hospital in Philadelphia for treatment of complex heart issues. Rob (52) is husband to Cara and father of Camille and Gabby. We pray that he receives prompt and effective medical care. May the Holy Spirit comfort Rob and his family, replacing anxiety and fear with the peaceful confidence that Our Lord walks with us through hardships. We pray he will be restored and returned to his family.

John Witt, a dear friend of Dave and Deb Norton, will undergo robotic laparoscopic surgery on October 19, in New Jersey, to remove a tumor on his kidney. In prayer and supplication, we lift our voices to the Lord, in hope that surgeons will be able to remove the tumor and save the kidney. May John have a complete speedy recovery .

Sebastian (16), step-grandson of WPC friend, Terri Eros, needs our prayer for effective treatment. May the Holy Spirit infuse Sebastian with a sense of being truly loved and accepted, and hope in a future with purpose, value and joy. Where human love and affection are not enough, Christ promises that, when we cry out to him, his love is sufficient.

Our beloved **Mable Granke** fell on Tuesday night and broke her leg. She is at Beebe Hospital for surgery; her son, Brad, is with her. Pastor was able to visit with them both. We were just blessed by Mable's presence at church last

Sunday, something she has been missing for a long time. At age 98, this is devastating for her, physically and emotionally. May she feel our love enveloping her and be comforted by the Holy Spirit. May the combined power of our fervent prayers help her to endure the undeniable discomfort and emerge to recovery.

Surgery and Post-Surgery:

Dee Austin

Frank Skopupsky (visitor 9/17)

Illness:

Jerry Brock (Nancy Brock's brother-in-law)

Beth Gilbert (Betty Jean Schwarz's friend)

Trish Hill (Project Manager, Springboard Pallet Village)

Carl Wagner (Bob & Jane Nicholson's son-in-law)

Grief/Mourning:

Marian Louise (Dee) Webster Moore

Violet Moon (Sid Simon's beloved dog)

A snapshot of the backgrounds of our new members for the October 8 ordination and installation

Botluk, Lisa:

Lisa was raised in the historic West Nottingham Presbyterian Church in Coloma, Md. For many years, she actively participated in church life as a member of the Christian Community Presbyterian Church in Bowie, Maryland.

After retiring from a career with the federal government, Lisa moved to Lewes. She has found the Westminster Presbyterian Church to be a welcoming community and she would like to continue her Christian growth here, getting involved with local mission ministry and reconnecting with the hand chime choir.

Miller, Jim

Jim has two adult children and two grandchildren. He retired at the end of 2022 from Limestone, Delaware and was a Deacon and Usher at the Presbyterian Church.

He and his wife spend time on trips around the country and with as much time as possible with their grandchildren in Georgia.

He was fortunate to have found Westminster Presbyterian Church and decided to make it his church home. Jim was greeted with open arms by many of our members.

Welcome Jim!