

Westminster By-The-Sea Presbyterian Church
The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Sumner
May 8, 2022

Gathering

Permission for today's liturgy is from
Growing Faith Resources; Honor God's Diversity

Today's service, including the hymns, encourage us to think about God and others in new ways.

PRELUDE "Love One Another" arr. Trapp

ANNOUNCEMENTS Dr. Sumner

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)

One: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it;

ALL: **The world and those who live in it.**

One: God has established it on the seas and the rivers.

ALL: **Let us worship our Creator God!**

HYMN 12 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" *St. Denio*

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish but naught changeth thee.

Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all praise we would render, O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God our Deliverer: we confess that, at times, we are reluctant to speak and live your truth. We grow comfortable with the way things are, passively condoning injustice. Some see themselves as "insiders" rather than "outsiders." Forgive us, O God, when we act like timid disciples. Empty us of

fear and shame and fill us with love that is humble and kind. In the name of Jesus we ask these things.
Amen.

Adapted from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Yr.6, Vol.1

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SUNG RESPONSE

St Denio

Great God, our Creator, we're drawn to your light,
the light made by Jesus, a Father's delight!

We come as your children, in need of your grace,
we long for your presence, and holy embrace!

(Words by Jeffrey Sumner)

The Word

MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE FIRST LESSON – Genesis 1:26-27; 2:7; 21-23

ANTHEM

“Love Comes from God”

Allen Pote

THE SECOND LESSON – John 4: 7-15

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“Affirm One Another”

Dr. Sumner

HYMN 24

“God, You Spin the Whirling Planets”

Pleading Savior

God, you spin the whirling planets, fill the seas and spread the plain, mold the mountains, fashion blossoms, call forth sunshine, wind, and rain. We, created in your image, would a true reflection be of your justice, grace, and mercy and the truth that makes us free.

You have called us to be faithful in our life and ministry. We respond in grateful worship joined in one community. When we blur your gracious image, focus us and make us whole. Healed and strengthened as your people, we move onward toward your goal.

God, your word is still creating, calling us to life made new. Now reveal to us fresh vistas where there's work to dare and do. Keep us free of all distortion, polish us with loving care. Thus, new creatures in your image, we'll proclaim Christ everywhere.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

God built the heavens, the earth, and everything in them.

God calls us to be builders as well.

God calls us to build our lives: to restore broken places
and continue to grow.

God calls us to build our faith: to study the Word and

ponder its interpretation.

God calls us to build our community: to build bridges of understanding and systems of justice.
God calls us to build history by fulfilling the promises of Scripture: to preach the good news of
God's love and liberation for all people.

Adapted from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Yr.6, Vol.1

Thanksgiving

PASTORAL PRAYER

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. Amen.

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

This congregation continues to need offerings to support the staff and missions we have. Please consider your offering at this time. Checks may be mailed or put in the offering plates if in person. Credit card and PayPal contributions: www.wbts.org.

OFFERTORY "They'll Know We are Christians by Our Love" Bock

DOXOLOGY 606

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below; praise Him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen."

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Sending

HYMN 24 "God, Who Stretched, the Spangled Heavens" *Holy Manna*

God, who stretched the spangled heavens infinite in time and place, flung the suns in burning radiance through the silent fields of space, we your children in your likeness, share inventive powers with you. Great Creator, still creating, show us what we yet may do.

Proudly rise our modern cities, stately buildings row on row. Yet their windows, blank, unfeeling, stare on canyoned streets below, where the lonely drift unnoticed in the city's ebb and flow, lost to purpose and to meaning, scarcely caring where they go.

We have ventured worlds undreamed of since the childhood of our race; known the ecstasy of winging through untraveled realms of space; probed the secrets of the atom, yielding unimagined power, facing us with life's destruction or our most triumphant hour.

As each far horizon beckons, may it challenge us anew, children of creative purpose, serving others, honoring you. May our dreams prove rich with promise, each endeavor well begun. Great Creator, give us guidance, till our goals and yours are one.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Andante Maestoso”

Wesley

Announcements

FLOWERS HAVE BEEN GIVEN BY:

By Doug & Leanne Coleman, in celebration of Caylee Coleman’s 21st birthday.

By Sandra Stephenson, in all thanksgiving.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP: If you would like to know more about membership and affiliate membership at Westminster, please call the church office and Rev. Sumner will call you.

LITURGIST:

Anne Nussle



REGISTER FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

June 6 – 10

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Children K-5th grade welcome!

Registration open now!

Go to WBTS.org

Click on CHILDREN/YOUTH

Click on VBS logo (like the one above!)

For more information, call the church office at 386-767-8342

