



# WEBSTER GROVES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

45 West Lockwood Ave. ♦ Webster Groves, MO 63119

314-962-9210 ♦ wgpc.org

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost ♦ August 29, 2021 ♦ 9:30 a.m.

Our Mission:

We seek to live Christ's love, welcome all people,  
and joyfully serve God.



*As the music begins, let us use this time for quiet reflection and prayer, so that we, individually and as a great crowd of witnesses, may prepare ourselves to reaffirm our faith as the people of God.*

✦ *When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.*

## Gathering for God's Word

PRELUDE: Prelude on "For the Beauty of the Earth" Wayne Wold  
Shawn Portell, organ

### WELCOME AND COMMUNITY LIFE

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP Anne Mabie

L: With our words and in our actions,

**P: let us praise the living God.**

L: With our lips and in our lives,

**P: let us glorify the Lord.**

L: Let us worship God.

✦ OPENING HYMN: #14 "For the Beauty of the Earth" DIX  
(see music in back of bulletin)

✦ CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Ed Zumwinkel

L: Let us confess our sins  
to our loving God who calls us close  
through our beloved Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.

✦ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**P: Loving, righteous God,  
our hearts are defiled with the wickedness you hate.  
You have called us to yourself,  
but we have gone away. Continued >>**

**Forgetting your living Word,  
 we cling to dead traditions.  
 Deceiving ourselves,  
 we abandon your commandments.  
 Hypocrites, we honor you with our lips  
 while our hearts are far from you.  
 Cleanse our hearts from evil intentions;  
 cleanse our tongues from evil words  
 so that our worship may be pure and undefiled  
 and we may live with you in love for others. Amen.**

♠ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Our generous God has given us the perfect gift of forgiveness, Jesus Christ our Lord, who has liberated us from dead tradition and made us new by the living Word, filling our hearts with God’s love. *(Please be seated.)*

RESPONSE: #576

“Lord Have Mercy”

SINGAPURA

*(Sing at the hand motion of the cantor)*

Lord, have mer - cy.  
 Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text  
 MUSIC: Swee Hong Lim, 1990  
 Music © 1990 Swee Hong Lim (admin. General Board of Global Ministries t/a CBGMusik)

SINGAPURA

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

L: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.  
 The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**P: And also with you.**

**Proclaiming God’s Word**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Claire Mabie

L: Let us pray . . .

Father of lights, there is no variation or shadow due to change in you.  
 Let your Spirit illumine our hearts through your holy Word,  
 turning us from the emptiness of our human traditions  
 to the fullness of life in the Beloved One, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

<sup>17</sup>Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. <sup>18</sup>In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

<sup>19</sup>You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup>for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. <sup>21</sup>Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

<sup>22</sup>But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. <sup>23</sup>For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; <sup>24</sup>for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. <sup>25</sup>But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

<sup>26</sup>If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup>Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, <sup>2</sup>they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; <sup>4</sup>and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) <sup>5</sup>So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" <sup>6</sup>He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

"This people honors me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me;  
<sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

<sup>8</sup>You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

<sup>14</sup>Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup>there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." *Continued>>>*

<sup>21</sup>For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

SERMON

Rev. Ed Zumwinkel

HYMN: #717

“For the Life That You Have Given”  
(see music in back of bulletin)

PLEADING SAVIOR

## Responding to God’s Word

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SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION

PRESENTATION

Rev. Hannah Zyla

L: Miles Cole, Ava Demko, and Elizabeth Paterson are presented by the session for the reaffirmation of the baptismal covenant. They now desire to profess their faith publicly and to accept greater responsibility in the life of the church and God’s mission in the world.

We rejoice that you now desire to declare your faith and to share with us in our common ministry.

In baptism you were joined to Christ and made members of his body.

In the community of the people of God you have learned of God’s purpose for you and for all creation.

You have been nurtured at the table of our Lord and called to witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

You are citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Rev. Ed Zumwinkel

L: Miles, Ava, and Elizabeth, I now ask you to reaffirm the promises your parents made for you at your baptism. Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

**C: I do.**

L: Who is your Lord and Savior?

**C: Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.**

L: Will you be Christ’s faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?

**C: I will, with God’s help.**

L: Will you devote yourself to the church's teaching and fellowship,  
to the breaking of bread, and the prayers?

**C: I will, with God's help.**

#### THE APOSTLES' CREED

**P: 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 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.**

L: Gracious God, by water and the Spirit  
you claimed us as your own,  
cleansing us from sin, and giving us new life.  
You made us members of your body, the church,  
calling us to be your servants in the world.  
Renew, the covenant  
you made in their baptism.  
Continue the good work you have begun in them.  
Send them forth by the power of your Spirit  
to love and serve you with joy,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Rev. Hannah Zyla

LAYING ON OF HANDS

Rev. Ed Zumwinkel

*(All present are asked to extend hands; the family is brought up to lay hands on)*

L: O Lord, uphold Miles, Ava, and Elizabeth by your Holy Spirit.

Daily increase in them your gifts of grace:  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,  
the spirit of joy in your presence,  
both now and forever.

**P: Amen.**

L: Remember your baptism, and be thankful,  
and know that the Holy Spirit is at work within you.

**P: Thanks be to God!**

WELCOME

Rev. Hannah Zyla

L: Miles, Ava, and Elizabeth, by professing your faith publicly,  
you have expressed your intention  
to grow in the covenant God made with you in your baptism.  
May the Spirit continue to strengthen and sustain you  
in the worship and mission of the church.

**P: Alleluia! Amen!**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: Let us bring our prayers of intercession to God, saying,  
Arise, God of Love. Come to our aid.

Beloved One, you have called us to your embrace and our hearts overflow with your goodness.  
Your power endures forever.

You reign with justice and love righteousness.

Let the fragrance of your love and the grace on your lips  
anoint us now as we pray for the church, the creation, and all those in need.

Arise, God of Love.

**P: Come to our aid.**

L: Unshackle your church from bondage to human tradition  
that we may worship you freely and serve others with a pure heart.

Arise, God of Love.

**P: Come to our aid.**

L: Redeem and renew your creation to bud, blossom, and bring forth fruit  
as we care for the land and love one another.

Arise, God of Love.

**P: Come to our aid.**

L: Extend your reign of compassionate justice in our nations and neighborhoods  
as we unite with people of goodwill to do right for those in need.

Arise, God of Love.

**P: Come to our aid.**

L: Let us embrace the distressed, the diseased, the devalued, the denied.

Cause us to care for the abandoned, the bereaved, the weak, and the weary.

Arise, God of Love.

**P: Come to our aid.**

L: Make us be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger.

Let us persevere in your perfect law of liberty and bless us to do your Word.

Arise, God of Love.

**P: Come to our aid.**

L: Clothe those we remember now  
with your fragrant grace and renewing love.

(JOYS AND CONCERNS)

Arise, God of Love.

**P: Come to our aid.**

L: Blessed forever are those who have  
answered your invitation:

“Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.”

They now rest in your embrace.

Bless us now to follow in their footsteps of faith.

Arise, God of Love.

**P: Come to our aid.**

L: Anointed with your oil of gladness,  
let our prayers rise as fragrant incense before you through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**P: Amen.**

#### OFFERING INVITATION

Anne Mabie

L: Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift,  
is from above, coming down from the Father of lights.  
Filled by God’s generosity, let us offer our gifts  
with gladness through Jesus Christ our Lord.

OFFERTORY:

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”  
Shawn Portell, piano

arr. Joel Raney

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Claire Mabie

L: Let us pray . . .

Living God, thank you for your gifts of life—  
fragrant flowers, fruitful vines, singing creatures,  
and our own lives, renewed in Christ.

Let your grace infuse the gifts we offer  
with life-giving power for those in need.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and  
of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

L: Friends, let us now be bold to pray as our Savior Christ has taught us:

**P: 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.**

## Sending

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CLOSING HYMN: #32

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”  
(see *music in back of bulletin*)

ELLACOMBE

CHARGE

L: Listen to the life-giving words of the Beloved One, Jesus Christ our Lord!  
Look into God’s perfect law of liberty and persevere in God’s blessing!  
Live in God’s love, caring for those in need from a heart filled and blessed  
by the power of the Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ our Lord.

INVITATION TO THE LIFE OF FAITH

POSTLUDE:

Postlude on "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"  
Shawn Portell, organ

Robert Powell

*As you rest in the postlude, our final offering to God, you are invited to use this time to reflect on how you have met God here today and how you will bring God's love into the world that awaits.*

## BLESSING

L: God has blessed you forever  
with every perfect gift from above,  
freeing you to rise and live in the embrace of God's love.

## Worship Notes

### Those Who Serve Today

Ushers: Sudie Schickedanz, Sam Stoll, Betsy Wacker, Kin Watkins  
Liturgists: Anne and Claire Mabie  
Camera Operators: Tom McNeely, Spencer Roudebush, Dennis Wacker

### Online Worship

In order to reach beyond the walls of WGPC and into the homes of those who are unable to worship with us in person, each of our worship services is live-streamed and video recorded for viewing on our website, [wgpc.org](http://wgpc.org), Facebook and YouTube pages. Children's participation in the Scripture Conversation indicates implied parental consent to be recorded.

### Resources

Some prayers and liturgical texts for worship are provided by:

- Westminster John Knox Press from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1 © 2012
- Westminster John Knox Press from the PCUSA Book of Common Worship © 2018

### Ministry Staff

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Ken Kastner



# For the Beauty of the Earth

14

1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the glo-ry of the skies,  
 2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de-light,  
 4 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,  
 5 For thy-self, best gift di-vine to the world so free-ly given;

for the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies:  
 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:  
 for the mys-tic har-mo-ny link-ing sense to sound and sight:  
 friends on earth, and friends a-bove, for all gen-tle thoughts and mild:  
 for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

*Refrain*

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

TEXT: Folliot Sandford Pierpoint, 1864, alt.  
 MUSIC: Conrad Kocher, 1838; abr. William Henry Monk, 1861; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

DIX  
 7.7.7.7.7.7

# 717 For the Life That You Have Given

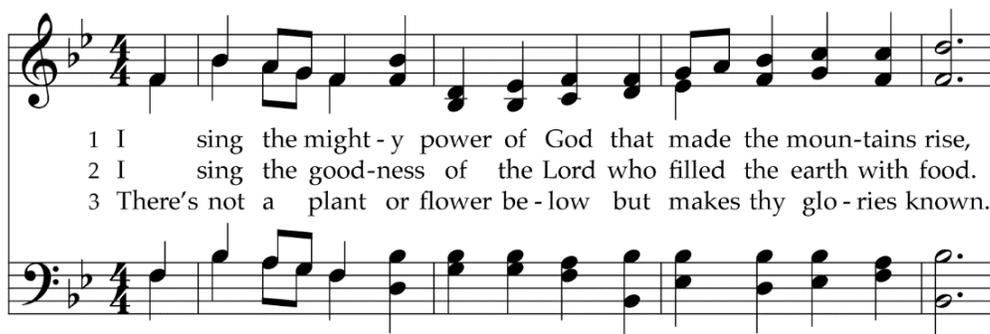
For the life that you have giv - en, for the love in  
Christ made known, with these fruits of time and la - bor, with these  
gifts that are your own: here we of - fer, Lord, our prais - es;  
heart and mind and strength we bring; give us grace to  
love and serve you, liv - ing what we pray and sing.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of six systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are placed between the vocal and piano lines. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

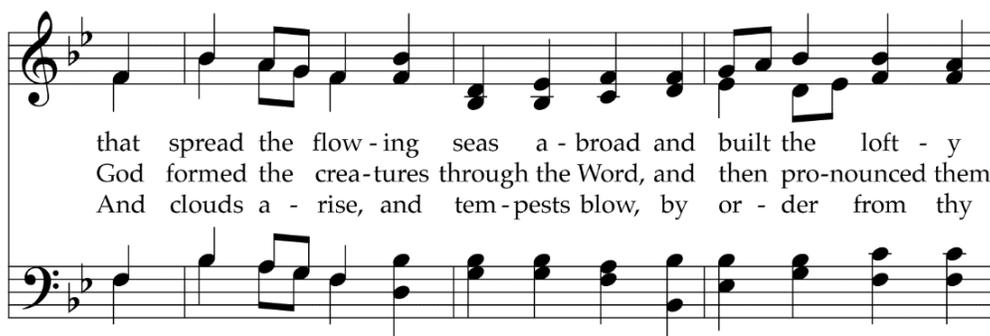
TEXT: Carl P. Daw Jr., 1987  
MUSIC: Leavitt's *Christian Lyre*, 1830/31  
Text © 1990 Hope Publishing Company

PLEADING SAVIOR  
8.7.8.7.D  
(alternate harmonization, 23)

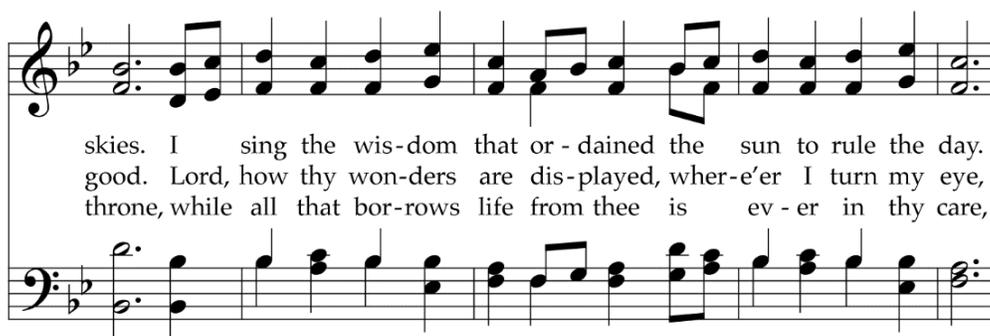
# 32 I Sing the Mighty Power of God



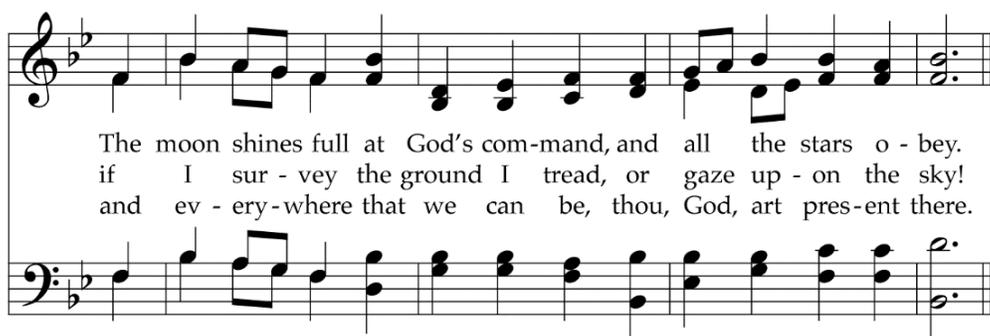
1 I sing the might-y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,  
2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.  
3 There's not a plant or flower be-low but makes thy glo-ries known.



that spread the flow-ing seas a-broad and built the loft-y  
God formed the crea-tures through the Word, and then pro-nounced them  
And clouds a-rise, and tem-pests blow, by or-der from thy



skies. I sing the wis-dom that or-dained the sun to rule the day.  
good. Lord, how thy won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er I turn my eye,  
throne, while all that bor-rows life from thee is ev-er in thy care,



The moon shines full at God's com-mand, and all the stars o-bey.  
if I sur-vey the ground I tread, or gaze up-on the sky!  
and ev-ery-where that we can be, thou, God, art pres-ent there.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1715, alt.

MUSIC: *Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Württembergischen Katholischen Hofkapelle*, 1784; alt. 1868

ELLACOMBE  
CMD

## August 29, 2021 Announcements

### Haiti Earthquake Response



After a massive earthquake and a tropical storm, Haiti continues to face serious challenges. At least 2,000 died in the earthquake, more than 6,900 have been injured, 83,300 homes have been destroyed, and 2.2 million Haitians have been exposed to violent aftershocks. For more

information about how PC(USA)'s mission agency is responding, and how you can donate, visit this link: <https://wgpc.org/ministries/mission-outreach/>

### Responding to the Crisis in Afghanistan

Many WGPC members have asked how they can help Afghan families who may be on their way to St. Louis. We are in contact with the International Institute (IISTL) to see how we can best respond and will communicate details to the congregation as soon as we know.



We anticipate collecting items for IISTL and will most likely publicize a sign-up genius so that members know which items have been donated and what is still needed. In the meantime, IISTL has published a great list of resources for those who would like to learn more or make a financial donation. You can find that information here: <https://www.iistl.org/siv/>

### WGPC Gentle Yoga Thursday, September 2, 10:00-10:45 a.m.

Join Marlene McCarthy, a Yoga Alliance certified instructor and grandmother to Charlie, Nora, and Teddy Ringkamp, on Thursday, September 2, for a gentle yoga session. Marlene says, "I offer yoga classes to quiet your mind, strengthen your body, and renew your spirit." All are welcome.



### Month of Grace + Prayer:

#### An Ecumenical Retreat in Everyday Life Begins Sunday, September 12

Pray on your own 20 minutes each day and meet one-on-one with a spiritual companion one hour each week for four consecutive weeks. Starts September 12. All meetings will be virtual (Zoom or phone if you prefer). Weekly meeting times are set around your schedule. This is an individually directed retreat tailored to your own deep desires. Committed couples also have the option to participate as a couple. The spiritual companions are not members of our church nor can accompany anyone they know. All adults are welcome regardless of denomination or affiliation. More information about the retreat can be found at [www.momentsofgraceandprayer.org](http://www.momentsofgraceandprayer.org). Register by contacting Clarence Heller at [clarenceheller@gmail.com](mailto:clarenceheller@gmail.com).



### Be a DOV!

What are DOVs? They are Dedicated Office Volunteers! We are looking for members to be a part of our new office/staff support team! It takes a village, and staff would very much appreciate help with answering phones and small tasks, Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. We will accommodate any schedule. You can volunteer for as little as once a month, for as much as once a week, or for anything in between. Please call/text Pam Murphy at 314-477-9634. Thank you!



### Part-Time Teacher's Aide Needed

The Webster Groves Presbyterian Church ECC is looking for a part-time teacher's aide in the Little Learners classroom (ages 1-3). Hours are Monday and Wednesday, 9 a.m. to noon. No experience necessary but must love kids! Interested? Please reach out to Amanda at 917-312-7075 or [ecc@wgpc.org](mailto:ecc@wgpc.org).

## Masks in Worship

The CDC guidelines have been updated to reflect new data on the Delta variant of the coronavirus. Data suggests the variant is more potent and more contagious than the Alpha variant and now much more common. COVID cases are rising and the positivity rate has increased in our area. Children in our congregation 12 and under as well as some immunocompromised individuals are unable to be vaccinated. For the sake of these in our church family, we are at this time asking all vaccinated and unvaccinated worshipers to please wear a mask during worship and as you move around the church. We ask you to also remain "socially distanced." While the risk remains relatively low for vaccinated individuals, we believe making this sacrifice for others in our church is a faithful action to take to express our love for one another. Thank you for your kindness, understanding, and patience. Encourage those you know who are not vaccinated to be vaccinated so we can get back to normal! Thank you.

Pastor Ed



### **Classes start Sunday, September 12.**

Adult and children's classes will meet after morning worship (the nursery is open until noon), and youth will meet Sunday evenings. Classes will be led by guest teachers, congregation members, and Rev. Susan Andrews. For the fall schedule, visit [WGPC.org](http://WGPC.org) > Ministries > Faith Formation > Adult Ministries > Adult Education.

#### **Adult Classes, 10:45-11:45 a.m. in the Church Parlor and on Zoom**

Adult classes will kick off with a three-part series entitled Do Black Lives Matter to White Christians? presented by Dr. Ruben Rosario-Rodriguez, Theology Professor at St. Louis University. Attend one or all three sessions!

- Sept. 12: What is Racism: A Biblical Perspective
- Sept. 19: Reformed Theological Resources for Resisting Racism
- Sept. 26: Black Life Matter to God

Additional classes will be announced on topics including: Coping with Pandemic Stress, Presbyterian Mission in Latin America, Gratitude in Tough Times, Advent Explorations, and More Light: Welcoming the LGBTQ+ Community, plus presentations from Environmental Stewardship and mission activities.

#### **Children's Classes, 10:40-11:45 a.m. Drop-off and pick-up in Room 210**

Children pre-k through 5<sup>th</sup> grade will participate in a weekly rotation of classes to Praise (music and worship leadership), Explore (art, science, yoga and more), Grow (gardening and cooking) and Serve (mission projects). Each of the four-week segments focuses on the same Biblical story or theme.

#### **Youth Classes, Sunday evenings**

Celtics Middle School Fellowship will meet from 4:00-5:30 p.m. in the Youth Lounge. Agape High School Fellowship will meet from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the Youth Lounge. All youth will come together for a family meal from 5:00-5:30 p.m.