



# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Do Justice · Love Kindness · Walk Humbly

## The Service of Worship

May 3, 2020 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

### ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

#### ORGAN PRELUDE

*Christ lag in Todesbanden*

(Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands; from the *Orgelbüchlein*)

J.S. Bach

#### GREETING

Chris Tuttle

#### MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Andante (from Fantasia 4, BWV 40:5)

*Kathy Hancock, flute*

G.P. Telemann

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (*Adapted from Psalm 23*)

Alex Stayer-Brewington

We have walked through the darkest valley.

**The Lord is our shepherd, we shall not want.**

We have been led to the green pastures of Easter - the still waters of resurrection.

**The Lord is our shepherd, we shall fear no evil.**

The Table is prepared. Our cup overflows. Everything is ready.

**Surely, goodness and mercy shall accompany us all the days of our lives!**

THE HYMN NO. 802 THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS

St. Columba

#### THE ACT OF CONFESSION

Why do we confess our sin?

**Because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.**

But why do we do this together?

**Because we are a community, a covenant people.**

Then let us confess our sin.

**Gracious God, we confess that we have sinned against you and against our neighbors. You have called us to the hard work of life together, but we've chosen instead the easy path of life lived selfishly. You have promised that you will show up in the faces of neighbors in need, but rather than pursuing blessed connection**

we comfort and insulate ourselves with our possessions and wealth. Rather than distributing our excess to any in need, we live lives of "never enough" and scrutinize the poor, pretending that we are able to discern the deserving.

Forgive us, Merciful Maker. Grant us a common life lived together in goodwill. Give us glad and generous hearts and a united spirit of abundance. Lead us into gracious communion with you and with one another, that we might be transformed into the church you created us to be. Amen.

#### A TIME OF PERSONAL SILENT CONFESSION

#### KYRIE ELEISON

arr. David N. Johnson

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

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#### THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

#### THE GLORIA PATRI NO. 581

### PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

#### SHARING OUR MISSION

Opportunities to Serve

#### THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Marietta Wynands

This Sunday is known as Good Shepherd Sunday. Watch Marietta tell the story, "The Good Shepherd and the Lord's Supper" at <https://youtu.be/7hmkKj3YSGc>.

#### A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

#### A READING FROM THE PSALMS

Psalm 23

*Please read these verses aloud together.*

**The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.**

**He makes me lie down in green pastures;**

**he leads me beside still waters;**

**he restores my soul.**

**He leads me in right paths**

**for his name's sake.**

**Even though I walk through the darkest valley,**

**I fear no evil;**

**for you are with me;**

**your rod and your staff – they comfort me.**

**You prepare a table before me**

**in the presence of my enemies;**

**you anoint my head with oil;**

my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord  
my whole life long.

A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT  
The Word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Acts 2: 42-47

THE SERMON “Keeping Our Focus”

Chris Tuttle

MOMENTS OF SILENCE

THE HYMN NO. 321 THE CHURCH’S ONE FOUNDATION

Aurelia

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles’ Creed (Ecumenical)* Cherrie Barton Henry  
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in  
Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and  
was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he  
ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will  
come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy  
catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the  
resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

IN OUR PRAYERS

*Individuals on our prayer list will be prayed for by first name only to protect privacy.  
If you or someone you know needs our prayers, please send an email to  
[prayersandcares@wpcdurham.org](mailto:prayersandcares@wpcdurham.org), and it will be received by our staff and  
Congregational Care Committee.*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

THE OFFERING

*You may give your offering through our website at [www.wpcdurham.org/give](http://www.wpcdurham.org/give), or  
through your myWPC account. For questions regarding online giving, please email  
Sharon Morgan ([sharon@wpcdurham.org](mailto:sharon@wpcdurham.org)).*

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*See special instructions on Page 5*

The Invitation

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Prayers of the People and 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.**

The Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

The Prayer After Communion

## GO IN GOD’S NAME

THE CHARGE AND THE BENEDICTION

MUSICAL BLESSING

THE HYMN NO. 752 DONA NOBIS PACEM

Dona Nobis Pacem

~ ~ ~

## QUOTE FROM CHRIS’ SERMON

“What Orwell feared were those who would ban books. What Huxley feared is that there would be no reason to ban a book, for there would be no one who wanted to read one.

Orwell feared those who would deprive us of information. Huxley feared those who would give us so much we would be reduced to passivity and egoism.

Orwell feared the truth would be concealed from us. Huxley feared the truth would be drowned in a sea of irrelevance.

Orwell feared we would become a captive culture. Huxley feared we would become a trivial culture, preoccupied with some equivalent of the feelies, the orgy porgy, and the centrifugal bumblepuppy. As Huxley remarked in “Brave New World Revisited,” [those]... ever on the alert to oppose tyranny “failed to take into account man’s almost infinite appetite for distractions.” [1]

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[1] *Amusing Ourselves to Death: Public Discourse in the Age of Show Business*, by Neil Postman, 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition. New York: Penguin Books, 2005/1985. Xix-xx. With much gratitude to former Westminster member John Dancy.

## 802 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

(Psalm 23)

1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness  
2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow my ran-somed  
3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in  
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear

fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if  
soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant  
love he sought me, and on his shoul-der  
Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my

I am his and he is mine for-ev-er.  
pas-tures grow, with food ce-les-tial feed-eth.  
gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.  
com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.

- 5 Thou spread'st a table in my sight;  
thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and O what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so through all the length of days  
thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house forever.

TEXT: Henry Williams Baker, 1868  
MUSIC: Irish melody; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

ST. COLUMBA  
8.7.8.7

## The Church's One Foundation 321

1 The chur-ch's one foun-da-tion is Je-sus Christ her Lord.  
2 E-lect from ev-ery na-tion, yet one o'er all the earth,  
3 Though with a scorn-ful won-der this world sees her op-pressed,  
4 Mid toil and trib-u-la-tion, and tu-mult of her war,  
5 Yet she on earth has un-ion with God, the Three in One,

She is his new cre-a-tion by wa-ter and the word.  
her char-ter of sal-va-tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth.  
by schis-ms rent a-sun-der, by her-e-sies dis-tressed,  
she waits the con-sum-ma-tion of peace for-ev-er-more:  
and mys-tic sweet com-mu-nion with those whose rest is won:

From heaven he came and sought her to be his ho-ly bride.  
One ho-ly name she bless-es, par-takes one ho-ly food,  
yet saints their watch are keep-ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"  
till with the vi-sion glo-rious her long-ing eyes are blest,  
O hap-py ones and ho-ly! Lord, give us grace that we,

With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.  
and to one hope she press-es, with ev-ery grace en-dued.  
And soon the night of weep-ing shall be the morn of song.  
and the great church vic-to-rious shall be the church at rest.  
like them, the meek and low-ly, may live e-ter-nal-ly.

TEXT: Samuel John Stone, 1866, alt.  
MUSIC: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

AURELIA  
7.6.7.6.D

# *Dona nobis pacem* 752

*Sim shalom*

*Rabbu habna salamann tamman*

Capo 3: (D) (A) (D) (A)  
 F C F C

Latin Do - na no - bis pa - cem, pa - cem.  
 Hebrew Sim sha-lom, sim sha-lom, sim sha - lom.  
 Arabic Rab - bu hab - na sa - la - mann tam - man.

\*1

Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

\*2

Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

\*3

(G) (D) (A) (D)  
 B<sup>b</sup> F C F

Do - na no - bis pa - cem.  
 Sim sha - lom a - lei - nu.  
 Rab - bu hab - na sa - la - mann.

Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

\*May be sung as a canon.

## MAY 3 WEEKLY UPDATE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Opportunities to learn, serve, worship, and stay connected*

**TODAY: Communion at Home** We're going to do something many of us never imagined we'd do: Take communion together...virtually! That means each of us will celebrate communion in our homes as part of our worship today. This isn't the way we prefer to be in communion with one another, but now more than ever we as Christians long to meet Christ at the place where he has told us we will always find him. It's time to gather with Jesus and the communion of the saints at God's table; gathered to be fed, filled, and nurtured by the Spirit's vision of the world. With bread and cups in our hands and all of us doing this together, this sacrament will be a real celebration of Holy Communion. Our PC(USA) denominational leaders and your Session have both approved this form of communion during the current crisis. Here's what you'll need to participate:

- **A cup and a plate** Your every-day cups and plates will work just fine, or you can get fancy and break out the china. Listen to the Spirit and do what you think most honors this time and space.
- **Some sort of bread** A freshly baked loaf, a biscuit, a piece of gluten-free bread, or a cracker - it's up to you.
- **Some sort of drink** Grape juice or wine are the obvious choices, but any other kind of juice, coffee, tea, or even water (baptism!) will work. Again, listen to the Spirit's call.

Place all these items in a central place before worship begins. This could be a table, a small stool, or a coffee table in front of your viewing monitor. When the time comes to share the elements, the pastors will instruct you.

Because this is a new experience for us all, be sure to take some time after worship to reflect upon your communion experience. As you eat lunch, ponder these questions to yourself or with those around you:

- What did you notice?
- How did this experience expand your understanding of the ways Jesus meets us in communion?
- What concerns did you have doing communion this way? In the end, were they justified?
- Reformed Christians like to say that a sacrament is an "outward and visible symbol of an inner and spiritual grace." How did this celebration of communion meet that definition of sacrament?
- Are there other things in your life that might be sacramental by this definition of sacrament?

If you'd like to reflect further on this new way of experiencing communion, you're invited to join the pastors in a Zoom time of reflection at 5:00pm today. To participate, send an email by 3:00pm to [westminster@wpcdurham.org](mailto:westminster@wpcdurham.org); a Zoom meeting connection will be sent to you by 4:30pm. **Contact:** Cherrie Barton Henry ([cherrie@wpcdurham.org](mailto:cherrie@wpcdurham.org))

**Westminster on YouTube** Our YouTube channel is now home to our Sunday morning worship services, Christian education videos produced by our staff, and other great video content. Here's what you need to know for Sunday mornings:

- We'll post a direct link to the service on the home page of our website and on Westminster's Facebook page by 10:45am. Click the link for direct access to the day's worship service. The service will begin at 11:00am.
- Or, go to <https://bit.ly/WPCyoutube> to reach Westminster's YouTube channel, and select the video you want to watch.
- Hover your mouse over the lower part of the video to bring up the video controls. Click the "CC" icon there to turn on closed captioning, if it's helpful to you.
- You don't need to have a Google or Gmail account to access Westminster's YouTube channel and watch our videos, but it's free to create one.
- If you have an account, you can comment in the live-chat with your WPC friends as the video is streaming. You can also subscribe to our channel and receive notifications when new videos are loaded there. **NEW challenge: Help us reach 200 subscribers by May 10!**

**Join a NEW or Ongoing Online Bible Study** Connect with your Westminster community, and join together to learn and study God's Word:

- **NEW Midweek Online Study Group!** Interested in joining a NEW small group that meets during the evening? Want to connect to others online while exploring some aspect of faith and life? This time is an opportunity to take steps toward new patterns of Christian discipleship. What new thing might God be inviting us to begin? This new study begins this week. If you are interested, please complete the quick survey at <https://bit.ly/MidweekSurvey>. **Contact:** Marietta Wynands ([marietta@wpcdurham.org](mailto:marietta@wpcdurham.org))
- **"Office Hours," A Pop-Up Bible Study** Cherrie Henry is engaging with this pop-up Bible study designed to meet the needs of pastors and congregations during our season of social distancing. Brennan Breed, from Columbia Theological Seminary, and Chris Holmes, from First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, are teaming up with guest professors to offer an in-depth, spontaneous, and unrehearsed five-week study of Paul's letter to the Philippians. Contact Cherrie Barton Henry ([cherrie@wpcdurham.org](mailto:cherrie@wpcdurham.org)) if you'd like to participate with her.

**These Westminster groups welcome you to participate in their Zoom gatherings:**

- **Monday Morning Bible Study (Mondays, 9:30-11:30am) - "Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope During Uncertain Times."** We know Jesus tells us, "Do not be afraid," but with everything going on in the world, how is it possible not to be anxious? In this five-week study beginning May 4, author Adam Hamilton explores the worries and fears most of us experience and shares practical steps for overcoming them with the help of Scripture and a bit of faith. The series consists of a DVD and discussion via Zoom. Contact Helen Harrison ([heh@adornments.biz](mailto:heh@adornments.biz)) to be added to the Monday Morning Bible Study listserv.

- **Bible Round Table (Sundays, 9:45am):** The Bible Roundtable began its study of the book of James on April 26. We hope you will sign in and join what is always a friendly, lively interactive discussion. Contact Sam Bryan ([sam@durhambryans.com](mailto:sam@durhambryans.com)) to receive instructions for joining the group.
- **Sojourners (Sundays at 9:45am):** This group continues to work its way through the book, *We Make the Road by Walking*, by Brian McLaren. Contact Kay Wellemeyer ([kay.wellemeyer@gmail.com](mailto:kay.wellemeyer@gmail.com)) for details.
- **The Present Word:** Join this group in exploring the theme of justice through the eyes of the prophets. *The Present Word* is presently available online, so even if you don't have a copy of the book, you can still access the materials. Contact Pete McWilliams ([macmr7@gmail.com](mailto:macmr7@gmail.com)) to join.

**Update Your Contact Information** The Tree callers are going strong, contacting WPC folks each week for conversation and comfort. Along the way, we've learned we need updated contact information for many of you. Also, if you are giving to the church through your [myWPC account](#), the address we have in myWPC must match the address of your credit card billing statement for your donation to go through. Please take a moment to review and update your information in myWPC. We'd especially love it if you'd update your photo! Go to [www.wpcdurham.org/mywpc/how-tos](http://www.wpcdurham.org/mywpc/how-tos) for instructions to update your profile, give online, and more. **Contact:** Barb Schmidt ([bschmidt@wpcdurham.org](mailto:bschmidt@wpcdurham.org)).

**How You Can Help WPC's Community Partners** Our Local Missions Committee has been checking in with all 21 of Westminster's community partners to see how they're doing and what their needs are. The Committee voted to provide financial support to Meals on Wheels (\$4,000), Iglesia Emanuel's Food Bank (\$1,000), and the Love and Nourish initiative (\$2,000). **There are still many other ways you can help.** Here are a couple of new needs that came to our attention recently:

- Volunteers are needed to help with food distribution through [Durham Feast](#), and [PORCH of Durham](#) is collecting donations of food and grocery store gift cards.
- [Iglesia Presbiteriana Emanuel](#) is in need of volunteers (age 14 and up) to direct traffic during their weekly food-giveaway on Wednesdays from 2:00-3:30 p.m. Volunteers will not come within 10 feet of any person or touch anything; traffic is directed by hand signals.

**Learn more, sign up, and view the full listing of community needs the Local Missions Committee is tracking at <https://bit.ly/WPClocalmissions>.** If you have questions about how you can help, email Kim Tupper or the agency liaison listed.

**Help Needed: Foster Care During COVID-19** The COVID-19 pandemic is expected to impact an overwhelmed foster care system. May is National Foster Care Month, which highlights the needs of children and youth who need to be in foster care until they can either safely reunite with their parents or establish other lifelong family relationships. Durham County Social Services is reaching out to churches in the area seeking new foster parents and support for foster families. Please consider how you can help keep children in their communities by becoming a foster parent in Durham County. For more information, call Deborah Cousins of DCSS (919-560-8411, [dcousin@dconc.gov](mailto:dcousin@dconc.gov)).

## WPC Youth Happenings

- **Wednesdays at 3:30pm:** Zoom Bible Study for Middle Schoolers
- **Thursdays at 2:00pm:** Zoom Bible Study for High Schoolers
- **Weekly Class Hangouts:** Hangouts by grade level

Email Alex ([alex@wpcdurham.org](mailto:alex@wpcdurham.org)) to receive Zoom links and passwords and the schedule of class hangouts. Thanks!

**Westminster School Shares Love & Support for the Community** It has been a month since Westminster School students graced our doors. In the spirit of togetherness, WSYC would like to share some love with WPC families and the community:

- If you have a small business that is offering services or shipping items, WSYC wants to support you. Email Kathy Stickley ([kathy@wpcdurham.org](mailto:kathy@wpcdurham.org)) with your business name, description of your services, and website address, and WSYC will share the information with school families and on its social media. View the list of businesses at <https://bit.ly/WSYCCares>, and please consider supporting them.
- WSYC is organizing a schoolwide gratitude project to thank the essential personnel bravely putting themselves in harm's way to keep us all safe. Consider making a card for essential workers in your daily life – postal workers, sanitation collectors, cashiers, delivery drivers, etc. Or, create a sign that says “thank you” and send a photo of your child(ren) or family holding the sign. We have several Westminster members and WSYC parents and friends on the front lines, so let's show our appreciation! Please send photos to Katie Donoway ([kdonoway@gmail.com](mailto:kdonoway@gmail.com)).
- If you are an Amazon customer, please consider using [AmazonSmile](#) and designating Westminster Presbyterian Church as your nonprofit benefactor. When you do, WSYC will receive a donation from the cost of your purchase.

Thank you for joining together to support our preschool, families, community, and all essential personnel.

**Community Support: Growing Through Grief** Growing Through Grief, a group of area religious and civic organizations organized to offer support and education to those who mourn, is moving its weekly Tuesday meetings to Zoom. All are welcome to participate. Email [admin@growingthrugrief.org](mailto:admin@growingthrugrief.org) for complete instructions and links to the Zoom gatherings.

**THANK YOU!** Thanks to everyone who gave to our Easter Offering. Your generosity brought in \$11,829.51 (double last year's amount!), which will be evenly shared between Durham Nativity School and PC(USA)'s One Great Hour of Sharing fund.

**Your Giving is Essential** Please continue to give your offering and make your pledge payments even though we can't gather in person. Our Business Manager, Sharon Morgan, has created easy, downloadable instructions on giving through your [myWPC account](#). Visit <https://bit.ly/WPCgiveonline> to access the instructions, or email Sharon ([sharon@wpcdurham.org](mailto:sharon@wpcdurham.org)) with any questions.

**Thank you for supporting Westminster's mission and ministries!**

## Westminster's First Quarter Financial Report

By Dave Pottenger, Chair, Ways & Means Commission

With the ongoing uncertainties of the current crisis, the Ways & Means Commission felt it important to update the church on our current financial condition.

Through the end of the first quarter, WPC's operating results are quite favorable. We are normally blessed with an early year surge of giving, and that trend has continued this year. For this we are deeply grateful! At the same time Westminster's staff has kept a close eye on spending needs and have been successful in bringing them in just under the first quarter's budgeted amount, putting us in a strong financial position at the conclusion of the first quarter.

The challenges of the current health and economic environment will likely be with us for an indeterminable time, so we will continue to monitor church revenues and expenses closely. Your generosity makes a huge difference, and we are extraordinarily grateful for your continued support.

Westminster qualified for funds from the Paycheck Protection Program, and we completed our application on the first day of the process. We are pleased to report that we received our allocated funds on April 22. This program will help tremendously with maintaining staff and pay levels for both the church and the preschool.

Our new Fellowship Hall continues to emerge from the site. Seeing such rapid progress has proven to be inspiring. We are on pace to have it completed and open in the fall of 2020. Costs have continued to align with original estimates. Our cash balances, created through your capital campaign gifts, have been the source of our building payments to date. The good news is your continuing generosity has allowed us to maintain a cash balance one to two months longer than anticipated. We will, however, begin to tap into our borrowing capacity in May. This is all part of the original vision of the project. We will continue to update you on this in the months ahead.

In conclusion, Westminster, like virtually every other entity right now, faces a near-term financial future with more uncertainty than usual. We have faced these types of environments before, and do so now comforted by the knowledge that the spirit continues to move this church to be generous with its collective resources. Thank you for your ongoing support, grace, and patience.

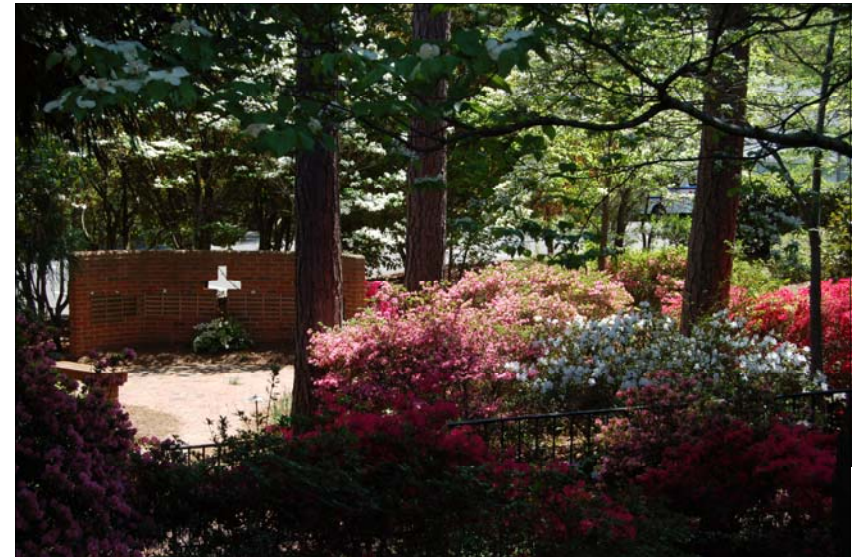


**WPC Staff Blog** Your Westminster staff misses you! Our staff wanted a way to share more of their thoughts and connection with you outside of worship and the weekly e-newsletter, so we've added a blog. Regularly you'll find reflections from staff on how they are thinking and living in the current times. Chris kicks things off with thoughts on a book he read recently. Check it out at <https://bit.ly/WPCstaffblog>.

**Staff Recommendations: Things to listen to, read, or do during quarantine** Enjoy these recommendations from Sharon Morgan:

- Sharon is a big-time animal lover, so she suggests a virtual trip to the North Carolina Zoo. Enjoy tons of online options, including live educational seminars with animals, weekly science experiments you can do at home, videos of the Zoo's animals, art projects, and downloadable coloring pages for the kids. Check it out at [www.nczoo.org/virtual-visit](http://www.nczoo.org/virtual-visit).
- Gen Xers will enjoy Sharon's next pick: [www.free80sarcade.com/](http://www.free80sarcade.com/). Play classic video games for free online, including Pong!

What brings you comfort during these days? Email your suggestions to [westminster@wpcdurham.org](mailto:westminster@wpcdurham.org), and we'll share them in our e-news and social media.



*Thanks to Dorene Palermo for the great photos!*

## WESTMINSTER Presbyterian Church

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919-489-4974 | [www.wpcdurham.org](http://www.wpcdurham.org)

Facebook: [@wpcdurham](https://www.facebook.com/wpcdurham) Facebook Group: [Families of WPC Durham](https://www.facebook.com/FamiliesofWPCDurham)

Instagram: [@wpcdurham](https://www.instagram.com/wpcdurham), [@wpcdurhamyouth](https://www.instagram.com/wpcdurhamyouth)

YouTube: [Westminster Presbyterian Church](https://www.youtube.com/WestminsterPresbyterianChurch)

Westminster School for Young Children - Facebook & Instagram: [@wscdurham](https://www.facebook.com/wscdurham)