

**“Teaching of the Week”**  
**Preview for Service of Word and Sacrament, May 17, 2026**  
**Liturgical Color: White**  
**Westminster Presbyterian Church, Tiburon, California**

Visit the church website: [www.wpctiburon.org](http://www.wpctiburon.org), 415-383-5272  
240 Tiburon Boulevard, Tiburon, California 94920

### **Opening Blessing**

We praise you, O God, with our whole heart! Great are Your works, full of honor and majesty We are all growing in Christ, at different steps along the way, grateful for what we have and longing for what's to come. Let us hold dear the special moments along the way, giving praise and honor to the Lord!

### **Community Prayer**

Our Lord our God, the One about whom it was written, “A day is like a thousand years,” You know our hearts when we say, “the days are long but the years go by quickly.” Forgive us for the opportunities we missed sharing Your love with others and recognizing it for ourselves. Guide us and bless us as we embrace new opportunities and begin new journeys. May we always be on Your side. Amen.

### **Sermon Focus and Title**

### **“Praying Over the Class of 2026”**

It is of great importance to us as a church family to celebrate our high school graduates. Our desire is to meet the twofold goals we've always had for this special celebration:

- Make it personal in the worship service
- Give them an uplifting gift they will actually use

During the 10am worship service we will be inviting each of our graduating youth up individually along with some close friends and family. We have purchased blankets for each of our graduates. We are literally going to cover them with prayers of thanksgiving and blessing!

While each graduate is at the front with their blanket around their shoulders, we will pause for a moment of prayer in gratitude, and then a prayer of blessing over their lives.

Many scholars today now recognize that the original 12 disciples were mostly (if not entirely) teenagers. Yes, our Lord and Savior believed that the birth of this new faith movement would be best born out of the lives of young people!

WPC has a long and storied history of elevating its young people. We believe in allowing them to use the gifts and talents God has given them. Among the class of 2026 we have teachers, lectors, servants, and several Ruling Elders! There are many people at our church who share memories with our graduates. We look forward to celebrating this momentous occasion with you.

## Scriptures

### Proverbs 2:1-13

1 My child, if you accept my words and treasure up my commandments within you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; if you indeed cry out for insight, and raise your voice for understanding; if you seek it like silver, and search for it as for hidden treasures— then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. For the Lord gives wisdom; from God’s mouth come knowledge and understanding; God stores up sound wisdom for the upright; God is a shield to those who walk blamelessly, guarding the paths of justice and preserving the way of God’s faithful ones. Then you will understand righteousness and justice and equity, every good path; for wisdom will come into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul; prudence will watch over you; and understanding will guard you. It will save you from the way of evil, from those who speak perversely, who forsake the paths of uprightness to walk in the ways of darkness,

### 1 Timothy 4:12-16

12 Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. 13 Until I arrive, give attention to the public reading of scripture, to exhorting, to teaching. 14 Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you through prophecy with the laying on of hands by the council of elders. 15 Put these things into practice, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress. 16 Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; continue in these things, for in doing this you will save both yourself and your hearers.

## Quotes, Questions & Prompts for Continued Reflection, Meditation and Prayer

“Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity...”

-1 Timothy 4:12

A Catholic Jesuit prayer for graduates...

Good and gracious God,  
This is the day, Lord! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!  
Today is the culmination of years of work, years filled with challenges and triumphs,  
losses and laughter, friendships and growth.  
We thank you, Lord, for getting us safely to this day.  
We thank you for the gift of family, friends and teachers who have supported these children of  
yours  
and celebrate with them now.  
Dear God, bless these graduates, every one, and fill them with the Spirit of your love.  
We pray that as they go forth to set the world on fire,  
may they remember you are in all things and all people.  
May they continue to challenge themselves intellectually

and share the fruit of their knowledge.

May their commitment to justice lead them to make a positive difference in our world.

May they build community wherever they go

and remain forever the important part of our community that they are today.

And may they, through their ongoing growth in wisdom and grace,

bring others to you as they share their talents in the wider world.

We ask you, who are both Father and Mother,

to protect and guide these Men and Women for Others throughout their lives.

We ask this in the name of your son Jesus, who unites us with one another and with you forever.

Amen.