

Preview for Service of Word and Sacrament, July 19, 2026
Ordinary Time
Liturgical Color: Green
Westminster Presbyterian Church, Tiburon, California

Visit the church website: www.wpctiburon.org, 415-383-5272
240 Tiburon Boulevard, Tiburon, California 94920

This weekly study guide seeks to help members, friends, and visitors prepare for the upcoming Sunday service and teaching.



Call to Worship (8:30)

One: Wisdom awaits us.

Many: Let us prepare our hearts and minds.

One: God is always here, at the heart of every moment.

Many: Let us still ourselves that we might reconnect.

One: "The Way" wants to be revealed.

Many: Let us accept the invitation that flows from the One.

Opening Blessing (10:00)

Wisdom awaits us in this place and in this moment. Let us prepare our hearts and minds. Let us still our restless bodies and spirits that we might reconnect. "The Way" wants to be revealed. Let us accept the invitation that flows from the One. Amen.

Community Prayer

Source of Wisdom, we may have been taught only to seek you for favors, leaving us to wonder why the world is the way it is. You instead reveal to us a way to be in the world. We seek you and your guidance. We desire to learn how to love better, how to care more deeply, and how to understand that our compassion may grow. Show us the way. Amen.

Sermon Focus & Title Wisdom for Ordinary Times: The Library is Open

Robert McClellan

Our culture (and sometimes church) treats God as a vending machine - put in a request and payment and get a treat. Maybe a better metaphor is God as a library, a storehouse of

wisdom and insight. Instead of going to God to get stuff, perhaps we should be going to God to get wisdom so that we can more faithfully navigate the world.

Scripture(s)

James 1:2-5

2 My brothers and sisters, whenever you face various trials, consider it all joy, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance. 4 And let endurance complete its work, so that you may be complete and whole, lacking in nothing.

5 If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you.

Proverbs 2:1-6

2 My child, if you accept my words
and treasure up my commandments within you,
2 making your ear attentive to wisdom
and inclining your heart to understanding,
3 if you indeed cry out for insight
and raise your voice for understanding,
4 if you seek it like silver
and search for it as for hidden treasures—
5 then you will understand the fear of the Lord
and find the knowledge of God.
6 For the Lord gives wisdom;
from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;

Hymns

Let All Things Now Living 37

How Firm a Foundation 463

Quotes, Questions & Prompts for Reflection, Discussion, and Prayer

"God is not a vending machine, where you put in your coin and if you've behaved properly you get the treat."

-Nadia Bolz-Weber

1. If God doesn't control things, what *does* God do?
2. What practices do you have for accessing God, God's wisdom?
3. Who are the models you recognize for tapping in to the leading of the Spirit?
4. How does hardship produce endurance?
5. What is the wisest truth you know.