

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, June 2, 2019

10:00 a.m.

Seventh Sunday of Easter

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Lord, open unto me light for my darkness, courage for my fear, hope for my despair, peace for my turmoil, joy for my sorrow, strength for my weakness, wisdom for my confusion, forgiveness for my sins, love for my hates, thy Self for my self. Amen.

Howard Thurman (1900-1981)

GATHERING THE COMMUNITY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

PREPARING FOR GOD’S WORD

PRELUDE “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” arr. Love

* CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 97*

Leader: The Lord is king! Let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!

People: The heavens proclaim God’s righteousness; and all the peoples behold God’s glory.

Leader: Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.

All: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to God’s holy name!

* HYMN OF PRAISE No. 509 HOLY MANNA

“All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and holy God, we know that we have acted out of fear instead of faith. We lock our lives in stubborn and selfish patterns. We have pursued idols of wealth, status, security, and control. We have failed to be generous with your blessings, and we have been careful and calculating with our love. Forgive us, O Lord, and send your Holy Spirit to create our lives anew. Give us minds that see the radical nature of your love, hearts that are open to the scandal of your grace, and lives that are shaped by the freedom found in Jesus Christ, through whom we pray. Amen.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal, No. 581)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

K5 & 1st Graders are invited to Children’s Church.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HEARING GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL LESSON John 17:20-26 N.T., p. 880

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Acts 16:16-34 N.T., p. 900

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Ben Dorr

“Open”

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Nicene Creed *Hymnal, p. 34*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation

Prayers of Thanksgiving, Intercession, and The Lord’s Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer after Communion

OFFERING

Offertory “Come, Ye Disconsolate” Johnson

* Doxology (Hymnal, No. 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

* HYMN No. 772 “Live Into Hope” TRURO

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE “All Hail the Power” arr. Smith

**All who are able may stand*

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HEAD USHER:

Carl Nuttall

SPONSOR:

David Massey

GREETERS:

Brandon Coker, Kristin Burrell

Michael Hoffman

LITURGIST:

Mary Kathleen Duncan

LAY READER:

Anna Hanor

PARKING

We have permission to use the parking lots at the Uniform Shop and Augusta Commons Mall.

TRAFFIC POLICE OFFICER

A Greenville city police officer will be on duty from 9:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. to help people cross the street from the other side of Augusta Road.

STREAMING

All worship services at Westminster are broadcast via live video streaming. Navigate to the home page of the church website at www.wpc-online.org and click the link “Worship via Live Streaming.”

CHURCH NOTES

Musicians leading in worship this Sunday are:

*Nancy Smith, organist
Summer Choir*

NURSERY

Childcare is available for infants through four-year kindergarten. Our childcare program provides safe, secure nurseries for our babies and toddlers during worship services. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment to all children.

During worship, children in rising K5–1st grade follow one of our ministers out for Children’s Church in Room 206.

GRAB A NAMETAG

THIS SUNDAY!

We will continue to wear nametags each Sunday. Please find them near entrances and gathering areas and share your name with others. You’ll be glad you did!

CONGREGATIONAL

CARE FUND

A special offering for the Congregational Care Fund is received on Communion Sundays. Specific envelopes for your contributions may be found in the Ritual of Friendship booklets. This fund is used to assist members of the congregation in a time of financial need. Please make checks payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church and mark for Congregational Care.

HEALTH MINISTRY

We are offering free blood pressure screenings this **Sunday, June 2**. The screenings will take place in the **Friendship Court** following the **10:00 a.m.** service. If you have any questions or if you are a healthcare professional and would like to help, please contact *Tim Miller (627-0725)*.

GET YOUR WPC SWAG!

Updated WPC car magnets are now available in the church office. Pick yours up today (and try not to cut too many people off!). We also have a limited supply of WPC branded insulated grocery totes in the office for a suggested \$5-\$10 donation.

LET US PRAY FOR:

Carl Nuttall and family

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, JUNE 2, 11:00 A.M.

The Session has called a congregational meeting this **Sunday, June 2**, immediately following our **10:00 a.m.** worship service. The purpose of the meeting is the following:

- a) To approve bylaws for Westminster Presbyterian Church;
- b) To approve the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Reverend Barbara Stoop and Westminster Presbyterian Church, effective July 1, 2019, and to recommend to Foothills Presbytery that Barbara receive the designation of “Honorably Retired” by the presbytery.
- c) To approve changes to the terms of call for the Reverend Leigh Stuckey and the Reverend Mary Kathleen Duncan.

WESTMINSTER BOOK CLUB

The Westminster Book Club meets the first Tuesday of most months, at **7:00 p.m.** in the **Library** and welcomes any who would like to join us. Our next meeting will be **June 4** and we will discuss the book, Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens. This is a murder mystery set on the North Carolina coast in 1969, involving a rumored "Marsh Girl."

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER SCHOLARSHIP

Each year the Women of Westminster offer scholarships to provide financial aid among our college and graduate student membership. Any Westminster member who will be furthering their education in the fall is eligible to apply. Applications are available from the church office or online at www.wpc-online.org. Applicants may contact *LeAnne White* (leannejw@charter.net) with any questions. **The deadline is Friday, June 28, 2019.** Church members are reminded that memorials and donations may be designated to this scholarship fund to aid in its continuation.

JUMPAHEAD

With the start of our summer worship schedule of one worship service at **10:00 a.m.**, the children at Westminster will **"jump ahead"** a grade *beginning Sunday, June 9*. Among other things, this means that those currently in 4K Sunday School will begin attending the first part of the worship service with their parents, then will leave with one of the ministers for Children's Church. This also means that those finishing 1st grade will no longer attend Children's Church and will begin staying through the entire service. Look for backpacks for the rising 4K group available in the Sanctuary Atrium beginning Sunday, June 9, and children's worship packets for the older children to aid their worship experience.

CUBA MISSION TRIP

Adults from WPC will travel to Cuba from **October 9-16, 2019** to visit our partner church in Unión de Reyes and the Evangelical Seminary in Matanzas. The trip will also include time in Havana. Interested? Contact Leigh Stuckey (lstuckey@wpc-online.org) or *Charlie LeGrand* (clegrand@legrandlaw.com).

We take this opportunity to extend congratulations to the young people of Westminster Presbyterian Church who are completing high school, college, or graduate school. We offer them our best wishes as they move into new phases of their lives.

2019 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Greenville High School
Grace Beasley
Elizabeth Grier
Charles Howard
Reid Howard
Cooper Smith

J.L. Mann High School
Addison Godwin
Will Gray

Southside High School
Jimmy Culclasure

2019 COLLEGE GRADUATES

Clemson University
Elkie Shramek

Georgia Institute of Technology
Parker Dowe

University of South Carolina
John McLendon

Wofford College
Hunt Jones

2019 GRADUATE SCHOOL

Clemson University
Emily Allen

University of South Carolina
Grace Williams

THE HARBINGER
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

2310 Augusta Road
Greenville, South Carolina 29605
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www.wpc-online.org

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CHURCH STAFF

Church 232-2424	School 232-5766
Pastor	Ben Dorr
	bdorr@wpc-online.org
Associate Pastor	Barbara Stoop
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Associate Pastor	Leigh Stuckey
	lstuckey@wpc-online.org
Associate Pastor	Mary Kathleen Duncan
	mkduncan@wpc-online.org
Parish Associate for Older Adults	Amos Workman
	aworkman@wpc-online.org
Music Director	Mark Kemp
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Children's Choir Coordinator	Kathryn Knauer
	kknauer@wpc-online.org
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	jdillard@wpc-online.org
Organist	Nancy Smith
	nls1949@aol.com
Weekday School Director	Cara Puntch
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Financial Secretary	Sherri Owens
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	wendy@wpc-online.org
Director of Nurseries	Janell Pitman
	jpitman@wpc-online.org
Director of Hospitality	Lisa Ridge
	lisa@wpc-online.org
Building Supervisor	Steve Phillips
	stevep30@bellsouth.net

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 2 - 8, 2019

SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. Middler Mission Meeting
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
11:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting
11:15 a.m. After Worship Fellowship
5:00 p.m. Low Country Boil
8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous

MONDAY

6:15 p.m. NAMI
8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

TUESDAY

11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
12:00 p.m. Administrative Committee Meeting
AI-Anon
7:00 p.m. Westminster Book Club

THURSDAY

8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

UNITED MINISTRIES

FOOD PANTRY

The food pantry is in need of peanut butter, dry milk, and other non-perishable food items. Donations may be left in the labeled cabinets in the Friendship Court.

BARBARA STOOP'S RETIREMENT

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Sadly for us, the time has come for Barbara Stoop to retire. We will be celebrating the wonderful ministry of Barbara. Please mark these dates on your calendars:

- Monday, June 24 5:45 p.m. Church dinner celebrating Barbara. We are creating fun activities for all ages in honor of Barbara's ministry.

Sign up now at www.wpc-online.org for the **June 24 dinner**.

\$8 for adults and \$5 for children (ages 4-11)

- Sunday, June 30 Barbara's last Sunday at Westminster. Reception following service.

For the church dinner, the retirement committee is collecting mementos of Barbara's time at Westminster. Please send in any photos you have and share any special memories. Photos can be dropped off at the church office and will be returned. We will have a table displaying artwork created by Barbara, so if you have anything you can loan us, we would enjoy sharing it with the congregation. Special memories can be e-mailed to *Susan Robbins* at jamrobbins@aol.com.

Barbara's ministry at Westminster has touched all of our lives. We hope you can join us in celebrating her 31 years with us.



In the moments before Jesus crossed the Kidron Valley to his betrayal, Jesus offered a prayer. Knowing his impending fate, we should be especially interested in these words. After first praying for himself and his disciples, in John 17:20-26, Jesus then prays, "on behalf of those who will believe in me through [the disciples'] word."

It's difficult to comprehend, but in this moment, Jesus is praying for future Christians across the ages including those of us right now at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Now that he has our attention, what does Jesus pray for on our behalf?

Jesus prays that we may exhibit a oneness modelled after that of his own relationship with God saying, "as you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me." From this prayer, we discover that such oneness, rooted in the model demonstrated by Jesus and God, is the very best way that Christians can demonstrate the love of Jesus to others.

As Ben Dorr reminded us recently, we tend to break life down into "us" vs. "them." Couple this with continued schisms in the greater Church, and it's clear that we are a long way from the fulfilment of Jesus' prayer.

For the sake of the world, we must find a way to model the unity for which Jesus prayed. In thinking of how we can accomplish this, I am reminded of one of my favorite books to read to my children: *Old Turtle*, by Douglas Wood. In this book, initially, the beings of the world believe God possesses attributes that reflect only what they know and understand. The Island, for example, believes God to be separate and apart while the Ant believes God to be very close. The beings argue over whose interpretation of God is correct before Old Turtle steps into the middle. Old Turtle reminds them that they cannot limit their perception of God to only that which they have experienced directly. Instead, God is all of these attributes and more. This is a transformative message, and a new period of unity ensues.

Can we, too, overcome our differences by understanding that our interpretation of God is limited by our narrow-mindedness and that through the building of close, personal relationships with others, we can transcend our disunity and ultimately fulfill Jesus' prayer?

David Duncan

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMMUNION TODAY

If you are seated in the main section of pews, you will proceed up the center aisle to receive communion and return to your seat via the side aisle. We will start with the front pews and go row by row.

If you are seated in the transept pews at either side of the sanctuary, you will wait to be prompted by the usher. When prompted, please proceed down the side aisle to the back of the sanctuary, and then come forward up the center aisle to receive communion.

When you get to the front, take a piece of bread from the plate, move to one of the elders holding a cup, dip the bread in the cup, and eat. All cups contain grape juice.

If you would like to receive communion but are unable to come forward, or if you would simply prefer to remain seated, there are two pairs of rovers to provide you with communion, one on each side aisle. When the rovers approach your pew, simply raise your hand to indicate that you would like to receive communion in your seat.

The bread we are offering at today's communion is labeled by the manufacturer as gluten, nut, egg, and dairy free, and includes the following ingredients:

water, sourdough (rice flour, water), rice starch, corn starch, agave syrup, psyllium seed husks (vegetable fiber), sunflower oil, modified cellulose, soy protein, yeast, millet flour, citrus fibre, rice flour, sugar, quinoa flour, salt, corn flour, honey, guar gum, calcium citrate, niacin, iron, thiamin, riboflavin. Contains soy.

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