

# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, February 15, 2026 | On Demand on YouTube | 9a & 11:15a



## Transfiguration of the Lord

### Preparation for Worship

Almighty God, we pray for your blessing on the church in this place. Here may the faithful find salvation, and the careless be awakened. Here may the doubting find faith, and the anxious be encouraged. Here may the tempted find help, and the sorrowful comfort. Here may the weary find rest, and the strong be renewed. Here may the despairing find hope, and the lost be found, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Gathering and Preparing for God's Word

#### Welcome and Announcements

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

People: And also with you.

#### Minute for Gratitude

Zach Weaver

#### Prelude

Prelude and Fugue in C Major

Bach

#### Call to Worship

Leader: O Lord, who may abide in your tent?

People: Who may dwell on your holy hill?

Leader: Jesus said: I am the light of the world.

People: Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.

All: Let us worship God!

\* Hymn 667

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

LAUDES DOMINI

#### Prayer of Confession

Good and gracious God, we have been a timid people.

We are skilled at calculating what is due to us, but are forgetful about the debt that we owe to others.

We fail to see our blind spots, we ignore opportunities for kindness, and we are lazy about loving those who live outside our circles.

Forgive us, Holy One.

Grant us eyes to see our neighbors as Christ sees them.

Make us generous when it comes to giving grace, and courageous when it comes to answering your call.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

#### \* Assurance of Pardon

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

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

\* Gloria Patri, Hymn 581

GLORIA PATRI

**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.**

# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Sacrament of Baptism 9a William Myer Klett

Congregational Response *Baptized in Water* BUNESSAN



11:15a Children in K5 - first grade are invited to leave for Children's Church.

### Hearing God's Word

#### Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson, Matthew 17:1-8

p. 798

Second Scripture Lesson, Matthew 5:13-16

p. 786

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Standing Out"

### Responding to God's Word

#### \* Affirmation of Faith

*The Apostles' Creed*

**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 descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; 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.**

#### Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

#### 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.**

#### Offering

Offertory 9a Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning arr. Scott

Offertory 11:15a Light of the World Marrolli

\* Doxology Hymn 606 OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

#### \* Prayer of Dedication

Recognition of New Members 11:15a

\* Hymn 377 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" HOUSTRON

\* Charge and Benediction

\* Postlude Trumpet Tune Young

\*All who are able may stand

# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*

Lauren Slingerland, *liturgist*

Trey Morrow (9a), Anne Howson (11:15a), *sponsors*

Deb Wiswell (9a), David Golladay (11:15a), *scripture readers*

Diana Dailey (9a), *soloist*

The Sanctuary Choir (11:15a)

Brynne Van Allsburg (11:15a), *violin*

Rosemary Hughes, *flute*

George Howell (9a), Brad Hawkins (11:15a), *head ushers*

Mike Peters, Denise Broderick, Ben Bloodworth,

Mary Mac Fairey, Bill Ballinger (9a), *greeters*

Will Edwards, Zach Weaver, Mary Gentry,

Carrie Marguet, Walker Miller (11:15a), *greeters*

Manning Dailey (9a), David Heegard (11:15a), *acolytes*

### WORSHIP NOTES

#### NURSERY

Childcare is available for infants through 4K. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment for children. The Nursery is located on the mezzanine level. The entrance is at Westminster Drive, at the columbarium or near the Westminster Weekday School offices. The Family Lounge, located down the stairs from the front office and straight down the hallway on the right, is available for any child caregiver and includes worship livestream, comfortable seating, and a changing table.

#### WORSHIP BAGS

Each Sunday we offer worship bags in the Atrium for children. The worship bags are designed to include reusable items that engage children in open ended play during worship. While children attend worship with their families, they can participate in worship and play to make meaning in faith. Please return the zipper bag and its contents each Sunday.

#### WELCOME TO WPC!

Please fill out a name tag and find more information about WPC at the Welcome Table in the Atrium. First time visitors are also invited to take home a WPC mug.

#### We Remember in Prayer

Melissa LaTourette and her family on the death of Melissa's father, Albert F. Richardson, Jr., on Thursday, February 5, 2026.



Texts for vocal solos and choral music may be found online by scanning this QR code.

### SPRING SERMON SERIES

#### THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT: BUT I SAY TO YOU

This spring, we will explore the Sermon on the Mount, found in chapters 5-7 of Matthew. These three chapters contain some of Jesus' best-known teachings, such as the Beatitudes, and some of his most difficult teachings, such as his instruction about anger and loving one's enemies. To help you follow along, our scripture passages for the next three weeks are the following:

Feb 15: Matthew 5:13-16

Feb 22: Matthew 5:21-26

Mar 1: Matthew 6:7-13, 25-34

### With Thanksgiving We Celebrate

#### MARRIAGE

On Saturday, February 7, Claire Johnson and Josh Mixson were united in marriage at Westminster.

### Join Us in Welcoming

#### BAPTISM

This morning we welcome into our fellowship William Myer Klett, son of Jonathan & Lauren Klett.

### ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Session has called the annual meeting of the congregation for Sunday, February 22, immediately following the 11:15a worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to elect the next class of elders and one trustee, to hear the report of the Finance Committee, and to vote on the 2026 terms of call for the pastoral staff. The elder nominees are the following: Christopher Carsten, Brooke Culclasure, Mason Donlan (class of 2028), Trey DuBose, Jason Farmer, Nancy Giguere, Ragan Kirven, Jennifer McDavid, Judy O'Neal (class of 2027), Josh Riley, Jennifer Shurley, Clay Smoak, Whit Walker, and Josie Williams. The nominee for trustee is Carl Muller.

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### ACOLYTE TRAINING

An acolyte training session for children in 3rd–5th grade will be held in the Sanctuary immediately following the 11:15a worship service and Congregational Meeting on Sunday, February 22. The meeting will last about 15 minutes. Children should be accompanied by a parent or guardian. For additional information, please contact Hunter Smith (hsmith@wpc-online.org).

### CHANCEL CHOIR

The Chancel Choir will next sing in worship on Sunday, February 22, at the 9a worship service. Rehearsals will be held on Tuesdays, February 10 and 17 from 7-7:45p in the Choir Room. The Chancel Choir is a part-time choir that provides opportunities for those who would like to give choir a try or who enjoy singing in choir but cannot make a full-time commitment. All are welcomed, regardless of skill level. For more information, contact Marlon Hurst, Director of Music.

### CHANCEL BELLS

Chancel Bells is a part-time handbell choir that rings periodically in worship at the 9a Sunday service. The next opportunity to ring will be Sunday, March 15, with rehearsals on Tuesdays, March 3 and 10, from 6-6:45p. Participants must commit to being present for both rehearsals. Prior handbell ringing experience is helpful but not required, but music-reading proficiency is a prerequisite. To take part, please contact Marlon Hurst, Director of Music, by Monday, February 23.

### MEN OF WESTMINSTER SERVICE DAY MARCH 7 | REBUILD UPSTATE

Join us for our spring Service Day with Rebuild upstate on Saturday, March 7. We'll be working on a construction project for a nearby homeowner to help maintain affordable housing in the Greenville area, and ensure homeowners can stay in their home safely and affordably. More information on location and projects to come. Sign up on the website. Contact Nick Carson for more details.

### LUNCHEON GROUP

The Luncheon Group will meet Wednesday, February 18, at 12:30p in Room 212. Leader: Mary Ann Cox (maryanncox@gmail.com).

### HIKING GROUP

The Hiking Group will hike at Twin Falls in the Pisgah National Forest on Thursday, February 19. Hike Leader: Anne Holleman (holl2759@att.net).

### THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet in the Charter Room on Monday, February 16, at 7p. Ann Hicks will lead the discussion of a Kathleen Norris memoir, *Rebecca Sue*. All are welcome. Join us for an interesting evening.

### CONNECTIONS GROUP

Connections, a luncheon group for singles and couples, will meet on Sunday, February 22, at Travinia's (105 E Beacon Dr) at 1p. Please RSVP to Ruth Johnston (ruthjohnst51@gmail.com) by Friday, February 20. Newcomers are always welcome!

### PICKELBALL AT WPC-?

We're excited to explore the possibility of a pickleball league at WPC. This would be a fun, inclusive get-together for all skill levels. If you'd like to participate, please share your name, contact number, and your skill level: beginner, intermediate, or advance. Text: Tonya Cochran (864-607-1876) or Toni Paylor (864-270-1662). Come for the fun and the fellowship.

### MEN OF WESTMINSTER RETREAT AT MONTREAT

Join us for our annual Men of Westminster Retreat at Montreat on April 24-26. Our theme is "Journeys of Faith" led by our keynote speaker, Rev. Lucas Jones. Lucas currently serves alongside his wife, Gardner, as Executive Directors of Camp Illahee, a Christian Girl's summer camp in the mountains of Western North Carolina. Lucas grew up in Raleigh, graduated from NC State University, and later from Columbia Theological Seminary in Atlanta. He is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and has served as an Associate Pastor for three years in Columbia, SC at Downtown Church. In and beyond ministry, he has spent much of his life teaching and leading folks in the outdoors. Lucas loves biking, hiking, and traveling with his wife and their children, Brooks, Jasper, and Ruthie. Sign up on the website! Contact Nick Carson with any questions.

### GIVING TO WPC

Did you know that you can fulfill your pledge or give an unpledged gift to Westminster online? Your gift helps our church keep faith with community partners and maintain excellence in our programming. To learn more about online giving, or to make a gift, follow the prompts from the QR code below.



## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

[wpcgreenville](http://wpcgreenville) | [wpc-online.org](http://wpc-online.org) | 2310 Augusta St.

### THE HARBINGER

Westminster Presbyterian Church  
2310 Augusta Street  
Greenville, South Carolina 29605  
(864) 232-2424  
[www.wpc-online.org](http://www.wpc-online.org)

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### CALENDAR OF EVENTS February 15-22, 2026

#### Sunday, February 15

*Sixth Sunday after Epiphany*  
*Women of Westminster Retreat*

9:00a Worship Service  
New Member Class  
10:00 Sunday School  
10:55 Sunday Session Meeting  
11:15 Worship Service  
12:15p New Member Reception  
12:30 Stated Session Meeting  
3:00 Campaign Feasibility Focus Group: WPCYG Parents  
4:30 First Steps in Music  
5:00 Youth Choir Rehearsals  
6:00 Youth Dinner  
6:30 Middlers Youth Group  
Senior High Youth Group

#### Monday, February 16

*Weekday School Closed*

10:00a Staff Meeting  
7:00p Game Group  
Theology Reading Group  
8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

#### Tuesday, February 17

10:00a Foothills Presbytery Meeting  
12:00p Al-Anon

#### Wednesday, February 18

*Ash Wednesday*

8:00a Imposition of Ashes in columbarium  
9:30 Weekday Chapel  
12:00p Imposition of Ashes in columbarium  
12:30 Luncheon Group Meeting  
2:30 It's Elementary  
3:30 Cherub Choir  
4:30 Junior & Senior Choristers  
6:00 Ash Wednesday Service  
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursday, February 19

8:30a Hiking Group  
10:00a Bible Study  
8:00p Narcotics Anonymous

#### Sunday, February 22

*First Sunday in Lent*

9:00a Worship Service w/communion  
Education Committee Meeting  
10:00 Sunday School  
Confirmation Class #3  
Sunday School Open House for WPC Kids  
10:55 Sunday Session Meeting  
11:15 Worship Service w/communion  
12:15p Congregational Meeting  
12:30 Acolyte Training  
Mediterranean Pilgrimage  
Informational Meeting  
1:00 Connections Group  
2:00 Incoming Elder Training (3 of 3)  
4:30 First Steps in Music  
5:00 Youth Choir Rehearsals  
6:00 Youth Dinner  
6:30 Middlers Youth Group  
Senior High Youth Group

the

# HARBINGER

open minds open hearts

VOLUME LXXVIII | February 15, 2026 | No. 46

### From the Pews, Jordan Smith

This is Your Day. The show led by televangelist Benny Hinn was a favorite of my grandmother and left an indelible impression on me as a child (along with more than a few soap operas too). And like many pre-school aged children, I spent quite a bit of time with my grandmother while my parents worked and was often at the mercy of her "programs."

What made This is Your Day particularly mesmerizing to my young mind was the regular segment when Benny Hinn would "heal" members of the audience by touch, or even just with his words, and they would collapse into the waiting arms of his attendants. At first, I was dazed by the sheer mysticism of his apparent ability to discern their ailment and cast it out of their body with only his willpower and the name of Jesus Christ on his side. In time, my own faith and understanding of God grew and I became baffled by the masses of people in the crowd that actually believed Benny Hinn was "healing the sick" so dramatically and instantaneously.

And yet, at its heart, I believe Matthew 5:13-16 is also about healing as a verb, using the power of two very real phenomena as examples:

Salt – an abundant mineral that allows food to be preserved for safe consumption far longer than it can on its own; and

Light – an ethereal medium of illumination that makes sight possible, provides warmth, and casts out darkness.

We are the salt and we are the light. A beautifully simple and clear metaphor for the mysterious, divine presence of the Holy Spirit which God imparted to all humanity when the law had been fulfilled through Christ. You and I possess an ability to preserve the world around us and to give light to everyone we encounter; or, put another way, to heal. We don't need to employ theatrical, daytime TV magic, but we do need to use our voices.

It almost sounds as sensational as a '90s televangelist – and I admit I am navigating a problematic reference point here in Benny Hinn – but our words do have power and our presence matters. Our ability to show kindness is powerful. Our ability to love others is powerful. Our ability to change God's world comes in the moments we reach out, the moments we speak up, and the moments we share hope.

Even the smallest moments of our lives are powerful because our deepest humanity possesses and is changed by the infinite power of Christ in us... and it is compelling. And better still, unlike earthly things like salt and light, kindness and hope are not finite resources.

So, stay salty and be bright.

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL: A MEDITERRANEAN PILGRIMAGE, APRIL 2027

Scripture comes alive in the places where it originated. The oils and wines of the Old Testament taste more robust on the arid soil of Athens. The "love" passages in Corinthians take on more meaning when you stand in front of a shrine to Aphrodite. In April 2027, Westminster will visit key Ancient Near Eastern sites associated with the Letters of Paul in the New Testament. We will also travel by cruise to the Greek Islands, including Ephesus and Patmos in Turkey. Because of the complexity of travel, we ask that those who may be interested join us for an informational meeting at 12:30p on Sunday, February 22, in Room 213. A Zoom link will be provided for those who cannot attend in person. For more information, or to receive Zoom instructions, please contact Leigh Stuckey.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
**June 8-12, 2026**  
for Rising Kindergarteners through  
Rising 5th Graders  
more information & Sign-ups  
coming soon!

### INTERESTED IN JOINING WESTMINSTER?

Visitors interested in learning more about Westminster and joining the church are invited to attend our New Member Class from 9-10:30a this Sunday, February 15. Those who attend the class are invited to become members and be introduced during the 11:15a worship service that same day or on a future new member Sunday. Childcare is available. Please contact Nick Carson (ncarson@wpc-online.org) at 232-2424 to learn more and RSVP.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Have you ever wondered what Sunday School is like for our youngest disciples? Come to our Sunday School Open House on February 22 to learn about Sunday School for children K5-5th grade. Bill Ballinger and Lauren Slingerland will give an overview of Sunday School and a tour of the WPC Kids spaces used on Sunday mornings. It's a great time to ask questions, explore getting involved, or scope it out to see if your child would like to try it! Contact Bill Ballinger with any questions at drwhb3@hotmail.com.

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## Adult Sunday School

### **The Upside Down Kingdom: Parables from Luke's Travel Narrative Led by Ron Shive Room 211**

Luke is unique to the other Gospel writers and has a ten-chapter long journey of Jesus from Galilee to Jerusalem and the events of Holy Week. Along the way, Luke records many parables of Jesus that are not found in the other Gospels. This study invites us to make a parallel journey to Jerusalem during this season of Lent and to consider Luke's unique parables. These parables invite us to see and hear the coming of the Upside Down Kingdom of Jesus here and now. The novelist, Arundhati Roy, says, "Another world is not only possible, she is on her way. On a quiet day, I can hear her breathing." Join us during Lent as we listen to hear the Upside Down Kingdom breaking into our world. "Stranger Things" are happening.

### **Release to the Prisoner: Exploring Theology and Justice for the Incarcerated Room 209 and Streaming**

Feb 15: Landscape of American Prison System (Jerry Blassingame)  
Feb 22: Story of Soteria (Jerry Blassingame)  
Mar 1: The Prisoner in Scripture (Nick Carson)  
Mar 8: What We Mean When We Say "Justice" (Nick Carson)

### **Discussion Sunday School Class: Led by Matt Rubin - 2/15 Room 211**

Join us each week for a discussion-based Sunday School class to dive into a weekly topic and scripture passage. All are welcome to join us on a journey of faith and fellowship - come every week or come when you can. Topics change every week, and the class is facilitated by rotating members.

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ASH WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY 18

Imposition of ashes at the Columbarium:  
8a-9a, noon-1p

Worship with the imposition of ashes  
in the sanctuary:  
6p

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### Our Vision:

*Open minds open hearts.*

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### Our Pillars:

*Hospitality*  
*Generosity*  
*Justice*  
*Imagination*  
*Joy*

### Our Pillars:

*Hospitality*  
*Generosity*  
*Justice*  
*Imagination*  
*Joy*

### Our Pillars:

*Hospitality*  
*Generosity*  
*Justice*  
*Imagination*  
*Joy*

### Our Goals:

*Connect*  
*Serve*  
*Grow*

### Our Goals:

*Connect*  
*Serve*  
*Grow*

### Our Goals:

*Connect*  
*Serve*  
*Grow*

## 667 When Morning Gilds the Skies

1 When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing  
 2 Does sad - ness fill my mind? A so - lace here I  
 3 Let earth's wide cir - cle round in joy - ful notes re -  
 4 Be this, while life is mine, my can - ti - cle di -

cries: may Je - sus Christ be praised! A -  
 find: may Je - sus Christ be praised! Or  
 sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let  
 vine: may Je - sus Christ be praised! Be

like at work and prayer to Je - sus I re -  
 fades my earth - ly bliss? My com - fort still is -  
 air and sea and sky from depth to height re -  
 this the e - ter - nal song through all the a - ges

pair: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 this: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 ply: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 long: may Je - sus Christ be praised!

This is not just a morning hymn, though this excerpt from an English translation of an early 19th-century German text may not convey how thoroughly the original deals with different kinds of time throughout the day. The tune was composed as a setting for this English text.

## 377 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to fol - low  
 2 I want to see the bright-ness of God. I want to look at  
 3 I'm look-ing for the com - ing of Christ. I want to be with



Je - sus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The  
 Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ-teous-ness, shine on my path, and  
 Je - sus. When we have run with pa-tience the race, we



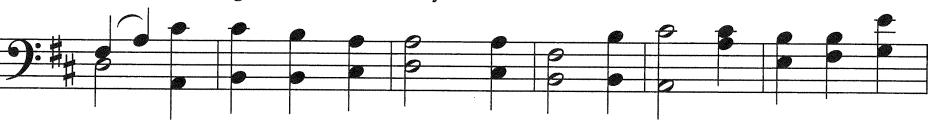
Refrain



star of my life is Je - sus.  
 show me the way to the Fa - ther. In him there is no dark-ness at  
 shall know the joy of Je - sus.



all. The night and the day are both a - like. The Lamb is the



The author/composer of this unrhymed hymn regards it as a meditation and prayer deeply rooted in many scriptures, most connected with the theme of light: Genesis 1:17; Psalm 139:12; Isaiah 60:19; Malachi 4:2; John 14:8; Ephesians 5:8; Hebrews 12:1-2; 1 John 1:5; Revelation 21:23.

light of the cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

## We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom 378

1 We wait the peace - ful king - dom, when wolf and lamb shall lie  
 2 Where is the peace - ful king - dom? When will this new day start?  
 3 When wars of des - o - la - tion and hate come to an end,  
 4 That lit - tle child shall lead us to walk the cho - sen way,

in gen - tle - ness and friend - ship with - out a fear or sigh,  
 We long for peace and com - fort to reign with - in each heart.  
 when na - tion meets with na - tion and calls the oth - er "friend,"  
 to share the peace - ful king - dom, to greet God's new-born day.

when li - on shall be graz - ing, when snake shall nev - er strike;  
 Yet not in our lives on - ly, nor sim - ply in our home:  
 still peace in all its full - ness will on - ly have be - gun:  
 The child born in a sta - ble is sent to break our chains,

a lit - tle child shall lead us both strong and weak a - like.  
 we pray that all cre - a - tion will one day find sha - lom.  
 sha - lom for all cre - a - tion be - gins with jus - tice done.  
 to bring through word and ta - ble the day when jus - tice reigns.

This text paraphrases Isaiah 11:6-9 in the first stanza, then reflects on that passage in widening frames of reference from self to all creation and identifies its "little child" with one born at Bethlehem. The tune is named for the composer's sister, his first piano teacher.