



Palm Sunday

Preparation for Worship

We praise you, O God, for your redemption of the world through Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph and was proclaimed Messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Let these branches be signs of his victory, and grant that we who carry them may follow him in the way of the cross, that, dying and rising with him, we may enter into your kingdom; through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. 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.

Prelude All Glory, Laud, and Honor Shackley

* Call to Worship Zechariah 9:9
Leader: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
People: Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Leader: Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he.
People: Humble, and riding on a donkey, on a colt,
the foal of a donkey.
All: Let us worship God!

* Hymn 196 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

* Prayer of Confession
Good and gracious God,
we have put our own interests before everything else.
We love our neighbor, but only when it’s convenient.
We welcome the stranger, but only when there is no cost.
We have let our fears overcome our faith,
betraying you, denying you, and fleeing from your presence.
Forgive us, Holy One.
Teach us how to empty ourselves,
as Christ did on his way to the cross.
Grant us the courage to walk with him
to Gethsemane and Golgotha,
trusting that your love will carry us to Easter.
We ask it all in Christ’s holy name. 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.
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, Philippians 2:5-11 p. 954
Second Scripture Lesson, Matthew 21:1-11 p. 802

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "The Crowds"

Responding to God’s Word

* Affirmation of Faith The Nicene Creed

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

The Great Thanksgiving

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.

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.

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

The bread will be held and taken together. The cup will be taken individually.

Music During Communion, Hymn 569 "Holy, Holy, Holy" SANCTUS (Oliver)

Prayer after Communion

Offering

Offertory 9a Psalm 24 Mitchell
11:15a Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates Mathias

* 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

* Hymn 200 "A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd" CHRISTIAN LOVE

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude Hosanna, Loud Hosanna Kerr

*All who are able may stand

Leading Worship this Morning

Ben Dorr, preaching

Leigh Stuckey, liturgist

Melissa Threatt (9a), Susan Robbins (11:15a), scripture readers

Youth Choir (9a)

Lynn Robinson (9a), piano

Rosemary Hughes, Kathi Hurst, Todd Monsell, Hunter Smith (9a), percussion

Rosemary Hughes, flute

Sanctuary Choir (11:15a)

Bill Young (9a), Brad Hawkins (11:15a), head ushers

Blake Hoffman, Mary Gentry, Ben Bloodworth,

Nancy Johnson, Tim Reed (9a), greeters

Tiffany Williams, Ben Dillard, Tony Threatt,

Amanda Warren, Stephen Ridgeway (11:15a), greeters

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.

CONNECT WITH WESTMINSTER

Looking for ways to be involved? Please complete a Connection Card from the Ritual of Friendship pad and place it in the offering plate to express interest or sign up for an opportunity.

CHORAL AND VOCAL TEXTS

Choral and vocal texts for worship services may be found via the Harbinger Hub QR code.

We Remember in Prayer

Wes Bryant and his family on the death of Wes's father, Charles Bryant, on Tuesday, March 17, 2026.

Kim Kent and her family on the death of Kim's father, Jerry Varnadoe, on Thursday, March 19, 2026.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE FUND

A special offering for the Congregational Care Fund is received on Communion Sundays. 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.

Our Vision:

Open minds open hearts.

Our Pillars:

Hospitality

Generosity

Justice

Imagination

Joy

Our Goals:

Connect

Serve

Grow

WESTMINSTER BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will meet Tuesday, April 7, at 6:30p in the church library. *Theo of Golden: A Novel* by Allen Levi will be reviewed by Beth Edwards. All are invited and welcomed to discuss the book.

CHANCEL BELLS

Chancel Bells is a part-time handbell choir that rings periodically in worship. The next opportunity to ring will be Sunday, April 26, with rehearsals on Tuesdays, April 7 and 21, from 6-6:45p. Participants must commit to be present for both rehearsals. Prior handbell ringing experience is helpful but not required, but music-reading proficiency is a prerequisite. To take part, please sign up via the Harbinger Hub QR code, by Monday, March 30. For more information, contact Marlon Hurst, Director of Music.

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 by using the new Harbinger Hub QR code.

CREATION STEWARDSHIP GROUP AND THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Creation Stewardship Group and the Theology Reading Group will meet jointly in the Charter Room on Monday, April 20 at 7p.m. Bill Holt will lead the discussion of *We Will Be Jaguars: A Memoir of My People*, by Nemonte Nenquimo and Mitch Anderson. "From a fearless, internationally acclaimed activist comes an impassioned memoir about an Indigenous childhood, a clash of cultures, and the fight to protect the Amazon rainforest." (from Publisher's description) Read the book and join us for an interesting and informative evening. All are welcome.

EASTER LILIES/MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS

Those desiring to remember loved ones during the Easter season may do so in three ways. Money may be given to purchase a lily for the sanctuary (\$15.00), or a contribution may be made to either the Endowment Fund or the Heritage Lecture Fund. Information and payment may also be submitted by using the new Harbinger Hub QR code. **Deadline is Sunday, March 29.**

Donor _____

In Memory of _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

In Honor of _____

Endowment \$ _____ / Heritage Lecture \$ _____ / # of Lilies x \$15.00 \$ _____

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. Sign up through the Harbinger Hub QR code. Contact Nick Carson with any questions. The deadline to sign up is Tuesday, March 31!

ELEMENTS OF COMMUNION

Our goal is to provide elements for communion that all are able to consume. It is an act of hospitality mirrored in God's hospitality inviting us to the table. 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, sour dough (rice flour, water), rice starch, cornstarch, sugars (rice syrup, caramelized sugar), modified cellulose, psyllium seed husk (vegetable fibre), sunflower oil, pea protein, yeast, millet flour, citrus fibre, rice flour, quinoa flour, salt, guar gum, corn flour. May Contain: Mustard, Sesame.

PICKLEBALL 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.

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

THE HARBINGER

Westminster Presbyterian Church
2310 Augusta Street
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Church Staff

Ben Dorr
Pastor & Head of Staff
bdorr@wpc-online.org

Leigh Stuckey
Executive Associate Pastor
lstuckey@wpc-online.org

Mary Kathleen Duncan
Associate Pastor
mkduncan@wpc-online.org

Lauren Slingerland
Associate Pastor
lslingerland@wpc-online.org

Nick Carson
Associate Pastor
ncarson@wpc-online.org

Terri Price
Parish Associate
tprice@wpc-online.org

Marlon Hurst
Director of Music
mhurst@wpc-online.org

Todd Monsell
Organist
tmonsell@wpc-online.org

Cara Puntch
Weekday School Director
cpuntch@wpc-online.org

Laura Williams Sanders
Business Administrator
laura@wpc-online.org

Lynn Bennett
Financial Manager
lbennett@wpc-online.org

Michelle Little
Office Manager
michelle@wpc-online.org

Wendy Bagley
Secretary
wendy@wpc-online.org

Aly Friend
Director of Nurseries
alyfriend@wpc-online.org

Steve Phillips
Building Supervisor
sphillips@wpc-online.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 29-April 5, 2026

Sunday, March 29

Palm Sunday

9:00a	Worship Service w/communion
10:00	Sunday School
	Confirmation Class #4
10:55	Sunday Session Meeting
11:15	Worship Service w/communion
4:30p	First Steps in Music
5:00	Youth Choir Rehearsals
6:00	Youth Dinner
6:30	Middlers Youth Group
	Senior High Youth Group

Monday, March 30

10:00a	Staff Meeting
4:30p	Game Group
8:00	Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, March 31

12:00p	Al-Anon
7:00	Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, April 1

2:30p	It's Elementary
3:30	Cherub Choir
4:30	Junior & Senior Choristers
7:00	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 2

10:00a	Bible Study
6:00p	Maundy Thursday Service
	w/communion
8:00	Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, April 3

Weekday School Closed

12:00p	Good Friday Service
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Sunday, April 5

Easter

9:00a	Worship Service
10:00	Reception
11:15	Worship Service

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
NO WPCYG/YOUTH CHOIRS

HARBINGER HUB:
ALL THE LINKS FROM TODAY'S
HARBINGER IN ONE PLACE.

Scan the QR code to explore and engage with this week's bulletin. You'll find links to events, registrations, ministries, and opportunities to grow and connect within Westminster.



the
HARBINGER
open minds open hearts

VOLUME LXXVIII | March 29, 2026 | No. 52

From the Pews, Liz Howell

In Matthew 21:1-11 we read about Jesus entering Jerusalem as crowds gathered around Him, laying down their cloaks and palm branches on the road and shouting, “Hosanna!” I often imagine what it must have been like to stand among them—feeling the excitement, the hope, and the expectation that the long-awaited King had finally arrived. Yet Jesus didn’t come the way many people expected. Instead of riding in with power and royalty, He came humbly on a donkey.

This reminds me that God often works in ways that look different from what we anticipate. I ask myself how I welcome Jesus into my own life. Do I only praise Him when things are going well, or am I willing to trust Him even when His plans look different from my own?

My prayer is that I would praise Him not just in moments of celebration, but in the everyday moments of life and have a willingness to follow wherever He leads.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We're excited to share that this year's Vacation Bible School, Compassion Camp: What Every Living Thing Needs, will be held June 8-12, 2026. It's going to be a meaningful week of fun and learning as we explore what all living things need and how we can have compassion for the living earth.

We're looking for adult and youth volunteers to help with teaching, crafts, games, snacks, and group leadership. Whether you can serve all week or just a few days, your time and gifts will make a lasting impact on our children. Simply fill out the volunteer interest form located in the Harbinger Hub QR code, and someone from the Children's Ministry will be in touch.

Registration for children is now open, and the number of children we can welcome will be based on the number of adult volunteers we have in place. Join us in making this year's VBS a joyful and compassion-filled experience for everyone!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026
REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Registration is now open for this year's Vacation Bible School! Join us June 8-12, 2026, from 9am-12pm for Compassion Camp: What Every Living Thing Needs, a week centered on Psalm 104. Throughout the week, children will explore what all living things need to live - shelter, food, water, air, and community - and learn how God calls us to show compassion to one another and care for the living earth. Vacation Bible School is open to children who will be grades K5-5th during the 2026-27 school year. Each day will include Bible stories, crafts, music, and hands-on activities that help kids grow in faith while learning to care for God's creation. Register today on the church's website to reserve your child's spot. We look forward to a wonderful week together!

Adult Sunday School

***Jesus' Final Days and His First:
Holy Week and the Days after the Resurrection
Led by Leigh Stuckey
Room 209 and Streaming***

In preparation for the Easter Season, this lecture-style class will embark on a study of various events leading up to Jesus' crucifixion and following his resurrection. Texts include the death of Lazarus, the triumphal entries, Jesus' anointing and Judas's betrayal, the preaching women at the tomb, "doubting" Thomas, and the day at the seashore.

***Discussion Sunday School Class:
Led by Laura Williams Sanders - 3/29
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. Past topics include online influencers, the rise of AI, the disappearance of Nancy Guthrie and the Buddhist walk for peace.

***Varieties of Religious Worship:
An In-Person, Immersive Class exploring and reflecting on various worshipping communities in Greenville.
Led by John MacCarthy***

This course will examine, and experience first-hand, a variety of different worship traditions. Following an introduction to the course on March 15, participants will attend Jewish, Greek Orthodox, Catholic, Muslim, and Baptist services. We will meet for lunch following each service to share our thoughts on each experience. The first class will provide an overview of the denominations to be visited that will include a discussion of both their history and their beliefs. The last class will be a group discussion on what we have learned from our experience. Contact John MacCarthy for the schedule of visits.

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NEW BEGINNINGS: THE FLOWERING CROSS

We believe the flowering cross can act as a reminder of the power of our faith and our collective witness. The cross at full bloom proclaims Christianity's most profound truth: that God creates hope where there was none, life from death, an empty tomb from a Roman cross. In flowering the cross we are reminded that there is no Easter celebration without first confronting Good Friday, no empty tomb without the shadow of the cross. And, most importantly, we are reminded that death, exile, and darkness never have the final word.

The flowering cross appears in Christian art as early as the 6th century and is believed to have come from a legend that Christ's cross burst into bloom after Jesus' death.

**There will be no Children's Church
or Sunday School so that families may worship together
in the sanctuary as we celebrate this special day.
At 10a, all are invited to enjoy a donut reception in the
Atrium, along with an opportunity to take your
own family photo at the flowering cross.**

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All Glory, Laud, and Honor 196

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re-deem-er, King,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho-san-nas ring!

1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
 2 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;
 3 To thee, be - fore thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
 4 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and bless - ed One.
 our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.
 to thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King!

These stanzas for Palm Sunday have been selected and translated from a much longer Latin poem written by a bishop who was the leading theologian in Charlemagne's court. They are sung to a 17th-century German chorale, as adapted for these words in the mid-19th century.

praise, our tri - um-phant song of joy: "Ho - san-na,
 ción y pro-rrum-pen con voz triun - fal: "¡Ho - sa - na!

ho - san-na to Christ! Ho - san - na, ho - san - na to Christ!"
 ¡Ho - sa - na al rey!" "¡Ho - sa - na! ¡Ho - sa - na al rey!"

A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd 200

1 A cheer - ing, chant - ing, diz - zy crowd had
 2 They laid their gar - ments in the road and
 3 When day dimmed down to deep - ening dark the
 4 Lest we be fooled be - cause our hearts have
 5 In - stead of palms, a wind - ing sheet will

stripped the green trees bare, and hail - ing Christ as
 spread his path with palms and vows of last - ing
 crowd be - gan to fade till on - ly tram - pled
 surged with pass - ing praise, re - mind us, God, as
 have to be un - rolled, a car - pet much more

king a - loud, waved branch - es in the air.
 love be - stowed with roy - al hymns and psalms.
 leaves and bark were left from the pa - rade.
 this week starts where Christ has fixed his gaze.
 fit to greet the king a cross will hold.

This Palm Sunday hymn recreates the contrasting sounds of Holy Week, moving from the noisy public acclaim of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem to the solitary silence of his body being prepared for burial. It gently reminds us that self-giving is the mark of Christ's true sovereignty.