



Sixth Sunday of Easter
Preparation for Worship

“Names can be powerful things. A name is what we call ourselves and what others call us. A name can reflect what we stand for and who we are as people. A name is how we distinguish ourselves from the masses and leave our mark in a world where we’re simply another faceless, nameless number. A name *means* something.”

Annie Evans

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.
Leader: Christ is risen!
People: He is risen indeed!

Prelude *Here I Am, Lord* arr. Monsell

* Call to Worship Psalm 66

Leader: Make a joyful noise to God all the earth.
People: We sing to the glory of God, offering our praise.
Leader: Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!"
People: Come and hear, and we will tell what God has done for us.
Leader: Bless our God, O people.
People: Blessed be God because our prayers are not rejected and steadfast love is ever with us.
All: Let us worship God!

* Hymn 401 "Here in This Place" GATHER US IN

* Prayer of Confession
God of all creation, you created the world out of nothing, yet we fail to see its wonders. You created human beings in your image, yet we fail to honor that image in one another. You created us to be caretakers of the earth, yet we abuse the earth and take it for granted. Forgive us. God, you know us by name. You call us to be in relationship with one another, yet we find ways to hurt and exclude. You call us to tend to the needs of our neighbors, yet we fail to truly see their troubles. You call us to welcome the stranger, yet we put up boundaries to keep them out. Have mercy on us. For all the ways we have sinned against you, your creation, and our fellow human beings, we are sorry. Remind us of who you created us to be. Remind us that you call us to your work in the world and give us the chance to try again. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. 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, *Isaiah 43:1-12* p. 585
Second Scripture Lesson, *Acts 17:22-34* p. 902
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
Sermon 9a "While He Was Waiting"
Sermon 11:15a "Called By Name"

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 *I Will Sing of Thy Great Mercies* Mendelssohn
Offertory 11:15a *Be Still and Know* Nelson

* 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

Welcoming of the 2026 Class of Confirmands 11:15a

Hudson Grant Alford	Caroline Coleman Dixon	Mary Elizabeth Paradise
Eliza Hall Barker	William Bennett Eller	Claire Michelle Puntch
Lillian Steele Beasley	Mary Beth Fleming	Helen Honour Ratterree
William Spencer Berry	Cooper Jones Freeman	Aaron Hale Ream
George Chandler Blount	Henley Kate Gilreath	Robert LaMarr Reynolds
Woodson Chapman Bohman	John Mills Hardaway	Brayden Stephen Royal
Cecily Rebecca Busby	Amelia Sage Hawks	Camille Lee Warren
Julia Bess Busby	Murray Rogers Lucas	Marguerite Grace Webb
Avery Louise Cecil	Mary Cameron Glover McCall	Robert Murphy Webb
Adelaide Hunt Cizon	Wells Alexander McFadden	Elizabeth Grace Williams
Elizabeth Grier Clark	John Timothy Merrell, Jr.	Kassab James Williams
Spencer James Cox	Elizabeth Todd Mullins	Thomas Rudolph Young, V
Samuel Connor Dennis	Caroline Cathcart Nocks	

Constitutional Questions

The Sacrament of Baptism

William Spencer Berry	Woodson Chapman Bohman
Samuel Connor Dennis	John Mills Hardaway

The Blessing
Confirmation Anthem 11:15a *Borning Cry* Kallman
The Welcome
Elder: These young people, by publicly professing their faith, have expressed their intention to continue in the covenant God made with them in their baptism. Let us welcome them as they join with us in the worship and mission of the Church.

People: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you to share with us in the ministry of Christ, in whom we are all one.

* Hymn 297 "In Christ Called to Baptize" ST. DENIO

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude *Laudation* Martin

*All who are able may stand

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr (9a), Mary Kathleen Duncan (11:15a), *preaching*
Nick Carson (9a), Ben Dorr (11:15a), *liturgists*
David Golladay (9a), Betsy Hollar (11:15a), *scripture readers*
Tiffany Williams, *sponsor*
Marlon Hurst (9a), *soloist*
Summer Choir (11:15a)
Rosemary Hughes, *flute*
Judy Mckenney, *guitar*
Corey Sanders, *bass guitar*
George Howell (9a), Ben Edwards (11:15a), *head ushers*
Judy O’Neal, Mason Donlan, Trey Morrow,
Denise Broderick, Nancy Giguere (9a), *greeters*
Ragan Kirven, Trey DuBose, Mandy Pruitt, Tim Reed, Whit Walker (11:15a), *greeters*
Bowen Mullins, Emory Mowlajko, *acolytes*

WORSHIP NOTES

CHORAL AND VOCAL TEXTS

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

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.

In Memoriam

Anne Howson
(7/12/1951 - 5/4/2026)

"I am the resurrection and the life."
- John 11:25

MOTHER’S DAY OFFERING

Celebrating Mother’s Day with a gift to Presbyterian Communities of SC is a long standing tradition for SC Presbyterian churches. PCSC consists of six retirement facilities located throughout the state. The offering benefits residents who need financial assistance during their last years. Envelopes for this annual offering are located in the Ritual of Friendship folders. Make checks payable to WPC and designate them for PCSC. For information about PCSC, go to www.prescommunities.org.

WPC BIRTHDAY BBQ LUNCHEON

Join us after worship at 11a on Sunday, May 17, as we celebrate 79 years of WPC, and as we celebrate Lud Weaver as Pastor Emeritus. Mike & Jeff’s BBQ will be catering, and the cost is \$13 per adult, \$9 per child, with a household maximum of \$45. Reserve your place by using the Harbinger Hub QR code.

SUMMER CHOIR IS FOR EVERYONE!

After Music Sunday, the Sanctuary Choir transforms into the Summer Choir. Summer Choir is for everyone who would like to give choir a try, cannot commit to a weekly rehearsal during the regular choir season, and simply enjoys singing. All levels of experience and all voice types are welcome. Youth are invited to join, as well! Two optional Wednesday rehearsals are offered from 7-8p on June 3 and August 5 to rehearse pieces for the Sundays in the month that follow. If you are unable to join for a Wednesday rehearsal, you are still invited to participate on any Sunday that the Summer Choir sings. Look for the schedule in the Harbinger or on the Web site. Contact Marlon Hurst with additional questions or for more information.

LUNCHEON GROUP

The Luncheon Group will meet Wednesday, May 20, at 12:30p in Room 212. Leader: Mary Ann Cox (lmaryanncox@gmail.com).

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER CIRCLE MEETINGS

- Tuesday, May 12
- Circle 3, at the home of Ruth Collins (103 Haddon Ln, Greer) at 2p. Circle Chair: Dee Malone (dee05m@gmail.com).
- Circle 7, at the home of Terri LeGrand (16 N. Brookwood Dr, 29605) at 6p. Circle Chair: Josie Williams (jgwms318@gmail.com).

Wednesday, May 13

- Circle 6, at the home of Liz Einstein (223 Camille Ave) at 9a. Circle Co-Chairs: Liz Einstein (liz.ard.einstein@gmail.com) and Sherry Tate (sherrytate63@gmail.com).

THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet in the Charter Room on Monday, May 18, at 7p. Lucy Stewart will lead the discussion of *The Tears of Things* by Richard Rohr. All are welcome. Join us for an interesting evening.

LOW COUNTRY BOIL - JUNE 7

Kick off the summer with shrimp, and sausage at WPC's Low Country Boil. Share in the fun at Double Stamp Brewery in Holland Park (819 Laurens Rd) on Sunday, June 7, from 5-7p. Families are welcome; childcare will not be provided. This event is free to the WPC community, but space is limited. RSVP on Harbinger Hub. Volunteers are needed to help make this event a success. Contact Leigh Stuckey or Nick Carson to sign up online to help.

HIKING GROUP

The Hiking Group will meet Wednesday, May 13, at 12:30p to ride the first phase of the Ecusta Trail in Hendersonville. Leader: Anne Holleman (holl2759@att.net).

WELCOME OUR SUMMER NURSERY CO-DIRECTORS!

This summer, Emma Bolton and Anna Whitmer will be our Summer Nursery Co-Directors. Emma is a WPC member who currently teaches 1st grade in Greenville County. She and her husband, Kyle, have one son, David, who was born in March. Anna is a Furman University senior double major in Business Administration and Politics and International Affairs, graduating in December. Anna has been part of the WPC Kids team since 2024 in the Nursery and It's Elementary. Emma and Anna bring a wealth of knowledge and skills to lead the Nursery this summer and continue to provide a safe and welcoming environment for our young disciples!

Rescheduled
HERITAGE LECTURE
 Dr. Yolanda Pierce
 Sunday, August 9
 Education Lecture at 9a
 Preaching Hour 10a

Our Vision:
Open minds open hearts.

Our Pillars:
*Hospitality
 Generosity
 Justice
 Imagination
 Joy*

Our Goals:
*Connect
 Serve
 Grow*

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THE HARBINGER

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 10-17, 2026

Sunday, May 10

Sixth Sunday of Easter

- 9:00a Worship Service
- 10:00 Reception
Witness & Service Committee Meeting
- 10:15 Summer Choir Rehearsal
- 10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
- 11:15 Worship Service
- 12:15p Reception

Monday, May 11

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

Tuesday, May 12

- 12:00p Al-Anon
- 2:00 Circle 3
- 6:00 Circle 7

Wednesday, May 13

- 9:00a Circle 6
- 12:30p Hiking Group

Thursday, May 14

- 10:00a Bible Study
- 12:00p Finance Committee Meeting
- 8:00p Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, May 15

Youth Choir Spring Trip

Saturday, May 16

Youth Choir Spring Trip

- 10:00a Presbytery Meeting

Sunday, May 17

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Youth Choir Spring Trip

- 9:00a Summer Choir Rehearsal
- 9:40 Weekly Session Meeting
- 10:00 Worship Service
- 11:00 BBQ Lunch
- 11:45 Stated Session Meeting

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 LXXIX | MAY 10, 2026 | No. 6

From the Pews, Tim Reed

Today we stand at a beautiful intersection of life—honoring mothers who have nurtured, guided, and loved, and celebrating young people who are stepping forward to claim their faith as their own.

The words of Isaiah speak with both clarity and tenderness: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.” Before any commitment is made, before any promise is spoken, there is this first truth: God already knows you, already calls you, and already loves you.

For mothers, this is both comfort and release. The children you have carried, taught, and prayed over have never belonged to you alone—they have always belonged to God as well. Your love reflects his; it does not replace it but bears witness to it. Today, as our confirmands take this step, you are reminded that God walks with them even more faithfully than we can fathom.

For those being confirmed, this moment is less about something new and more about recognizing what has been true all along: you are known, you are called, and you are not alone. When life feels uncertain and faith feels tested, remember this promise: “When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.”

So today is not just a celebration—it is a reminder: to trust, to release, and to step forward with courage.

The same God who calls you by name also goes with you—wherever you go—this day and every day to come.

Prayer:

Gracious God, thank you for the gift of mothers and for the faithful love they have shown. Bless those being confirmed today—strengthen their faith, steady their steps, and keep them close to You in every season. When they pass through deep waters, be with them; when they walk through fire, protect them; and when they face decisions and doubts, speak Your peace again. Send Your Spirit upon these families and upon this congregation that we may encourage one another in the life of faith. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Spring at Westminster

May 10: Confirmation Sunday

two services,
2026 Confirmands celebrated at 11:15a,
reception following each service

May 17: Worship & Birthday BBQ

one service at 10a with Lud Weaver preaching
followed by a bbq luncheon
celebrating WPC's 79th birthday
and honoring Lud, our Pastor Emeritus

May 24 & 31: Worship at 10a followed by donuts

mark your calendars,
donuts are back for the summer!

June 7: Worship at 10a

Low Country Boil from 5-7p
at Double Stamp Brewery

Our two service schedule will resume on September 13.

Vacation Bible School 2026

A limited number of spots are still available 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. To inquire about availability in your child's grade, email Children's Ministry Coordinator, Caroline Blouin, at cblouin@wpc-online.org.

ATTENTION GRADUATES

We would like to list the names of our high school and college graduates. If you have a student graduating, please fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate or call the church office at 232-2424. The names will be listed in the May 31 Harbinger - deadline for this info is **May 24**.

Name: _____

Graduating from: _____

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Here in This Place

401

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ish-ed a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.

In Christ Called to Baptize 297

1 In Christ called to bap - tize, we wit - ness to grace
 2 In Christ called to ban - quet, one ta - ble we share,
 3 In Christ called to wit - ness, by grace we will preach
 4 U - nite us, a - noint us, O Spir - it of love,

and gath - er a peo - ple from each land and race.
 a ha - ven of wel - come, a cir - cle of care.
 the life - giv - ing gos - pel; God's love we will teach.
 for you are with - in us, a - round us, a - bove.

In deep, flow - ing wa - ters, we share in Christ's death,
 Al - though we are man - y, we share in one bread.
 By grace may our liv - ing give proof to our praise
 E - quip us for ser - vice with gifts you be - stow.

then, ris - ing to new life, give thanks with each breath.
 One cup of thanks - giv - ing pro - claims Christ, our head.
 in cost - ly com - pas - sion re - flect - ing Christ's ways.
 In Christ is our call - ing. In Christ may we grow.

Written for use at the 1997 meeting of the Lutheran World Federation, this text about Christian vocation and ministry organizes the first three stanzas around verbs: baptize, banquet, witness. The final stanza is a prayer for the Spirit's gifts to empower all these callings.