



Seventh Sunday of Easter

Preparation for **Worship**

"In the New Testament, when God becomes incarnate and chooses to live among us, Jesus embodies God's character. Jesus models character for his followers and teaches explicitly about character on multiple occasions, perhaps most famously in the Sermon on the Mount, when Jesus calls his followers to live according to the future kingdom in the present world."

- from *Faith Beyond Youth Group*

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 *The Faithful Shepherd* Handel

* Call to Worship

Leader: As the Creator and Savior are one,
People: May we all be one.
 Leader: So that the world may see Christ,
People: May we all be one.
 Leader: So that the nations will know the love of God for them,
People: May we all be one.
 Leader: As the body of Christ for the sake of the world,
All: May we all be one.
Let us worship God!

* Hymn 630 *Fairest Lord Jesus* CRUSADERS' HYMN

* Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we humbly confess our sins as we trust in your grace. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and ever sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. We pray in the name of Christ, who is our role model for life. Amen.

* Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.
People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

* Gloria Patri 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.

Children in K5 - first grade are invited to leave for Children's Church.

Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson, *Psalms 130* p. 500

New Testament Lesson, *Philippians 1:27-2:5* p. 953

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon *"Role Model"*

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 *Trust in the Lord* Tabell/arr. Bock

* Doxology (Hymnal, 606)

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 2024 Class of Confirmands

<i>Madeline Evans Barker</i>	<i>Christopher Hayes Frank</i>	<i>Benjamin Hastings Morrow</i>
<i>James Patrick Barnhardt</i>	<i>Ramsey Elizabeth Glidewell</i>	<i>Leigh McCullough Norris</i>
<i>Elizabeth Grady Brasington</i>	<i>Preston Tyler Godfrey, Jr.</i>	<i>Wade Tomlinson Odom</i>
<i>Ransom Preston Bryan</i>	<i>John Drake Hill</i>	<i>Anna Pressley Patry</i>
<i>Joseph Robinson Busby</i>	<i>Anna Harrison Howard</i>	<i>Eleanor Sterling Porterfield</i>
<i>James Christopher Cecil</i>	<i>Amelia Evelyn Hughes</i>	<i>Anna Catherine Puntch</i>
<i>Eliot Paige Cizon</i>	<i>Anna Parks Leonard</i>	<i>Finlay Mitchell Robinson</i>
<i>Natalie Ellen Dixon</i>	<i>Louise Carroll Lowe</i>	<i>James Harrison Ruth</i>
<i>Thomas Chapman Doar</i>	<i>Anne Wells Lowery</i>	<i>Margaret Camille Surka</i>
<i>Tyler Davis Fairey, Jr.</i>	<i>Kathryn Elizabeth Marguet</i>	<i>Henry Christopher Usher</i>
<i>Mary McKenna Fairey</i>	<i>Chapman Banks Montgomery</i>	

Constitutional Questions

Baptism *Kathryn Elizabeth Marguet*

The Blessing Anthem *O Lord, You Know My Heart* Ford

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 761 *Called as Partners in Christ's Service* BEECHER

* Charge and Benediction

* Benediction Response, Hymn 750 *"Goodness Is Stronger than Evil"* GOODNESS IS STRONGER
 Please join the choir in singing.

* Postlude *Toccata in F* Buxtehude

*All who are able may stand

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Mary Kathleen Duncan, *preaching*

Ben Dorr, *liturgist*

Jeff Reynolds, *sponsor*

Susan Grier, *scripture reader*

Todd Monsell, *organist and pianist*

Summer Choir

Jacob Barker, *head usher*

Anne Howson, George McLarty, Emily Cole,

Stan Pendergrass, Betsy Raines, *greeters*

Elizabeth Workman, Mary Wayne Workman, *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.

With Thanksgiving We Celebrate

BIRTH

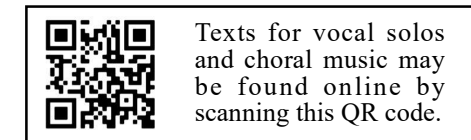
The birth of a son, *Frank Harrison Kramer*, to Reed & Harriett-Graham Kramer on Wednesday, April 24, 2024.

BIRTH

The birth of a daughter, *Godwin Ann Berline*, to Clayton & Kadie Berline on Wednesday, May 1, 2024.

NO CHILDREN'S CHURCH - MAY 26

Children's church will not gather on May 26 due to the Memorial Day holiday. Children are encouraged to join their families in worship!



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

SPRING BBQ LUNCHEON

On Sunday, May 19, everyone is invited to enjoy good food and fellowship at the spring all-church luncheon. Henry's BBQ and sides will be served in the Fellowship Hall immediately following 10a worship. \$13/adult; \$9/child; \$45/family max. Reserve your place online.

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.

SERMON SERIES: THEN AND NOW

During the Easter season, our sermon series will explore the question, "What does the early church have to teach us?" We will look at how the early church is described in the New Testament, and explore how those descriptions are related to being God's church in the 21st century. Our topic this Sunday is character.

Our Vision:

*Open Minds
Open Hearts*

Our Pillars:

*Hospitality
Generosity
Justice
Imagination
Joy*

Our Goals:

*Connect
Serve
Grow*

OPEN HEARTS • Gathering@WPC

8TH GRADE BIBLE STUDY

All 8th graders are invited to join us for a Relationships Bible Study on May 16 & 23, from 3:45-4:45p. You may sign up by contacting Wendy in the church office (wendy@wpc-online.org).

SUMMER CHOIR

Summer Choir is a low-commitment way to experience leading worship as a choir member. There will be Wednesday night rehearsals on June 5 and July 31 from 7-8:30p, each to preview the Sunday morning choral anthems for the following several Sundays. Beginning May 12, Summer Choir rehearses from 9-9:45a in anticipation of the 10a service. Summer Choir is open to adults and high school students. For more information, contact Marlon Hurst, Director of Music.

On the following Sundays, Summer Choir will meet at 9a in the sanctuary, prior to worship:

- May 12, 19
- June 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30.

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER CIRCLE MEETINGS

- Tuesday, May 14
- Circle 3, at the home of Joanne Sweeny (407 Wembley Rd) at 2p. Circle Chair: Dee Malone (dee05m@gmail.com).
- Tuesday, May 21
- Circle 7, at the home of Gaye Sprague (10 Grey St) at 6p. Circle Chair: Josie Williams (jgwilliams1803@gmail.com).

LOW COUNTRY BOIL - JUNE 2

Kick off the summer with shrimp and sausage at WPC's Low Country Boil. Share in the fun at Magnetic South Brewery in Judson Mill (701 Easley Bridge Rd. #4155, Greenville, 29611) on Sunday, June 2, 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 WPC's website. Volunteers are needed to help make this event a success. Contact Leigh Stuckey or signup online to help.

THORNWELL SUPPLY DRIVE:

Westminster is a proud supporter of Thornwell. Join our supply drive to support Thornwell's Foster Care Program, which works to provide children in need with safe homes to support trauma recovery and healing while their families cope with crisis. For a list of needed items, visit <https://qrco.de/betsMV> or scan the QR code. You can drop off items at WPC throughout the month of May.



VOLUNTEERING AT PROJECT HOST

Please consider volunteering for Project Host in the upcoming months. The need for volunteers increases during the summer months. Shifts occur twice monthly on Tuesdays from 9a-1p. Prepare and serve a meal at the Project Host soup kitchen while enjoying fellowship with other members of Westminster Presbyterian. Please check the sign up genius for needs in the upcoming months. For questions please contact Susan Clark at susanhunterclark@gmail.com or at 864-982-4130.

SIGNUP LINK:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4caea72babf5c43-project#/>

MAY/JUNE WORSHIP AT WESTMINSTER

On Sunday, May 5, we moved to our summer schedule, with one worship service at 10a. Not only does this afford us the opportunity to worship together as one congregation during the summer, but it also gives us time for connection and fellowship following worship. Below is our schedule for the rest of May and the first Sunday in June. Taking time to build relationships and make new friends is so important for our life together. We hope you will be able to take part in as many of these gatherings as possible!

- May 12 Confirmation Sunday with reception following the service
- May 19 WPC's Birthday & BBQ Lunch- join us as Westminster celebrates 77 years with a BBQ lunch following worship
- May 26 One Worship Service with donuts following the service
- June 2 One Worship Service with donuts following the service and the annual Low Country Boil (5-7p) at Magnetic South Brewery

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS
May 12-19, 2024

Sunday, May 12
Seventh Sunday of Easter
8:30a Witness & Service Committee Meeting
9:00 Summer Choir Rehearsal
9:40 Sunday Session Meeting
10:00 Worship Service - Confirmation Sunday
11:00 Reception in Atrium
5:15p Youth Choir Rehearsal

Monday, May 13
8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, May 14
12:00p Al-Anon Meeting
2:00 Circle 3

Wednesday, May 15
12:30p Luncheon Group Meeting
7:00 Choir Party

Thursday, May 16
10:00a Thursday Bible Study
12:00p Endowment Committee Meeting
5:00p Health & Safety Committee Meeting
3:45 8th Grade Bible Study
8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, May 17
10:00a Weekday School End of Year Program
5:00p Youth Choir Atlanta Trip (through 5/19)

Sunday, May 19
Pentecost
9:00a Creation Stewardship Meeting
Library Committee Meeting
Summer Choir Rehearsal
9:40 Sunday Session Meeting
10:00 Worship Service w/communion
11:00 BBQ Lunch
12:00p Stated Session Meeting

the **HARBINGER**
open minds open hearts

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From the Pews, Mike Peters

I must admit that I am a very impatient person. I do not like to wait. Sitting through multiple traffic lights on Faris at Augusta can be painful. I don't like standing in line at the grocery store. Thank goodness for an available self-check spot. And please, let's not even bring up what goes on at the DMV. But waiting is a part of life and often the waiting and the anticipation of future events enhances the experiences both before and after when they occur. As the adage goes, "good things come to those who wait." For example, I imagine the confirmands have been waiting anxiously for this day when they officially become members of the church. And I can only imagine how our mothers waited excitedly and perhaps at times impatiently for our birth.

And waiting is exactly what Psalm 130, one of the so-called songs of ascent, asks us to do – wait, wait for the Lord. (The songs of ascent, Psalms 120-134 were thought to have been sung by Jewish pilgrims as they traveled up to Jerusalem for the great feasts.) Why must we wait? Because our only hope, considering the depth of our sins, is the presence and intervention of a loving and merciful God. A God, who while knowing our sins, forgives them. We cannot escape our sin on our own. We need God's power, love and mercy to redeem us from our sinfulness. Therefore, because of the certainty that God will hear our prayers and our hope and trust in his love, mercy and redemption, we wait expectantly and confidently, as the Psalm says, "as the watchman does the morning," for him.

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 June 2 Harbinger - deadline for this info is **May 26**.

Name: _____

School graduating from: _____

630

Fairest Lord Jesus

1 Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Rul - er of all
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair - er still the
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair - er still the
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Rul - er of the

na - ture, O thou of God to earth come
 wood - lands, robed in the bloom - ing garb of
 moon - light, and all the twink - ling, star - ry
 na - tions, Son of God and Son of

down, thee will I cher - ish, thee will I
 spring. Je - sus is fair - er; Je - sus is
 host. Je - sus shines bright - er; Je - sus shines
 Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o -

hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.
 pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
 pur - er, than all the an - gels heaven can boast.
 ra - tion, now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Franz Liszt used this melody for a "Crusaders' March" in an oratorio, but this hymn had nothing to do with the Crusades. No record of the German text exists before the middle of the 17th century or of the Silesian folk melody before the first half of the 19th century.

Called as Partners in Christ's Service 761



1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
 4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life



we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 let us fol - low, nev - er fal-tering, rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth.
 help us bear each oth - er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
 that sur-round each per - son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
 Men and wom-en, rich - er, poor - er, all God's peo - ple, young and old,
 Words of com - fort, words of vi - sion, words of chal - lenge, said with care,
 Make us part-ners in our liv - ing, our com - pas - sion to in - crease,



e - qual part-ners in our car - ing to ful - fill God's cho - sen end.
 blend - ing hu - man skills to - geth - er gra - cious gifts from God un - fold.
 bring new power and strength for ac - tion, make us col - leagues, free and fair.
 mes - sen - gers of faith, thus giv - ing hope and con - fi - dence and peace.



This hymn is a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion. This 20th-century text is set to a 19th-century tune named for the noted pastor and preacher Henry Ward Beecher.

Goodness Is Stronger than Evil 750



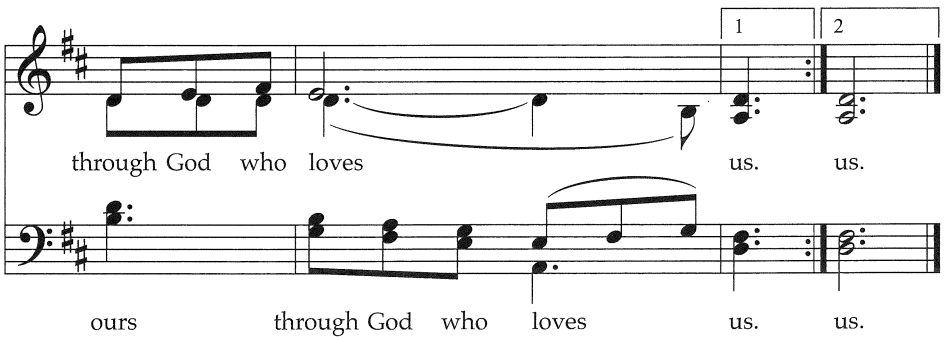
Good-ness is stron-ger than e - vil; love is stron-ger than hate;



light is stron-ger than dark - ness; life is stron-ger than death.



Vic - tory is ours; vic - tory is ours
Oh, vic - tory is ours; vic - tory is



through God who loves us. us.
ours through God who loves us. us. us.

Recognizing that this text arose from the years of apartheid in South Africa adds depth and resonance to its already confident language. Yet these words can also be read as a summary of Christ's death and resurrection, the true basis of our hope that good will triumph over evil.