



Sixth Sunday of Easter
Preparation for Worship

Wade in the water
Wade in the water, children
Wade in the water
God’s gonna trouble the water.
God’s gonna trouble the water.

--Traditional African American Spiritual

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 Andantino Dvořák

- * Call to Worship
- Leader: In the wilderness, water brings life.
People: **Seek us out, O God, and take us to the water.**
Leader: In the Word of God, the good news gives light.
People: **Seek us out, O God, and fill us with understanding.**
Leader: In Christ's body, all are fed.
People: **Seek us out, O God, and give us yourself.**
All: **Let us worship God!**

* Hymn 441 "Hear the Good News of Salvation" NETTLETON

- * Prayer of Confession
- God of all people,**
we confess that we have not celebrated the beauty of our differences.
We draw lines between “us” and “them”
and determine who is “in” and who is “out.”
We are quick to judge our neighbor,
and slow to recognize our own failures.
We have tried to confine your grace,
instead of sharing it in abundance and generosity.
We have silenced our own curiosity,
and chosen the comfort of similarity
over the diversity of true community.
Forgive us, Lord.
Help us to see our differences as reflections of your divine image.
Embolden us to leave behind old assumptions and expectations.
Give us courage to challenge our comfort,
and move beyond the divisions we make for ourselves. 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.

Hearing **God’s Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Scripture Lesson, *Isaiah 56:1-8* p. 599

New Testament Scripture Lesson, Acts 8:26-40 p. 892

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "God's Gonna Trouble the Water"

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

Offering

Offertory *I Know the Lord Laid His Hands on Me* arr. Burleigh

* 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 317 "In Christ There Is No East or West" McKEE

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude *Trumpet Tune in F* Lasky

**All who are able may stand*

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Nick Carson, *preaching*

Leigh Stuckey, *liturgist*

Jade Fountain, *scripture reader*

Kathi Hurst, *soloist*

George Howell, *head usher*

Trey Morrow, Creighton Likes, Pam Evans,

Ingrid Erwin, Kathryn Freedman, *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

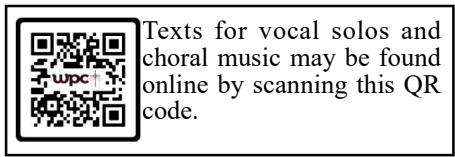
Each Sunday we offer worship bags in the Atrium for children. The worship bags are designed to include reusable items that engage children in open ended play during worship. While children attend worship with their families, they can participate in worship and play to make meaning in faith. Please return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



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

With Thanksgiving We Celebrate

BIRTH

The birth of a daughter, *Eloise McCarter Jennings*, to Corey & Kaley Jennings, on Wednesday, May 14, 2025.

LOW COUNTRY BOIL - JUNE 8

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 8, 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 Nick Carson to signup online to help.

CHILDREN’S CHURCH

Children’s Church is worship education for children in Kindergarten and 1st grade. Children leave worship with a pastor to continue worship and age-appropriate exploration and play. Parent volunteers supervise activities and play after a pastor leads the lesson. You can sign up to volunteer with Children's Church here: (<https://signup.com/go/SPYMEVv>). Children's Church will not meet on May 25, due to the holiday.

ACTS: CHARACTERS AND CONGREGATIONS

The book of Acts was written by the author of Luke, and the themes in both books echo one another. From the story of Pentecost to Paul's missionary travels, Acts narrates the characters, conflicts, and congregations of the earliest Christian community. Following the success of our Luke series, we will, this summer, preach through the book of Acts, meeting new characters and exploring Paul's journeys, overhearing conflicts around inclusion and ritual, and mapping the lessons that the first church can teach the modern church. This week's theme is baptism.

SOTERIA MEALS

We are looking for women to participate in our monthly dinner and fellowship with the residents of the Soteria Women's House. Help is needed on Monday, June 9 and Monday, July 8. Please email Brooke Culclasure at bculclasure@mac.com if you are interested in helping with dinner and sharing in fellowship.

Witness and Service has donated to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to support disaster relief for the wildfires in California and South Carolina and humanitarian efforts to assist refugees from Ukraine. If you would like to join this effort, you can do so through Westminster. Please note in your giving that your designation is for wildfire response or refugee assistance in Ukraine.

As we search for a new AV Coordinator, we encourage your spiritual gift of patience with any unintended hiccups with sound or cameras that may occur during this time.

Join the WPC Young Adults on Sunday, June 22, from 3-5p at the home of Anna & David Hanor (4 Parkins Lake Rd) for a pool party. Children are welcome. Bring a dip to share. Questions? Text Anna at (803) 413-0365.

Get ready for a week of fun, faith, and adventure as we explore the "Waves of Wonder" in God's creation through exciting lessons, creative crafts, games, and more! VBS is the perfect place for kids to grow closer to God and make lasting memories.

- Spaces are limited, and priority will be given to WPC members, so be sure to register early. We can't wait to see your child there as we embark on an unforgettable adventure!

Did you know that Westminster Presbyterian Church has an online directory that is accessible to all church members? You can look up addresses, listed phone numbers, and listed emails of other church members. You can see a list of church members who participate in the same groups/activities as you. You can make changes to your address, phone numbers, and emails. Have you recently seen the family or individual photo we have on file for you? You can view it in the online directory and update it with a more up-to-date photo from your own personal collection! Are you ready to become an online user of the WPC directory? Contact the church office (864-232-2424) to set up your user account and then get started exploring all the ways you can benefit from being connected!

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Connect
Serve
Grow

Our two service schedule will resume following Labor Day.

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 1 Harbinger - **deadline for this info is May 25.**

Name: _____

School graduating from: _____

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From the Pews, Will & Beth Edwards

Our first scripture lesson this morning is from Isaiah chapter 56:1-8.

We are going to be a little picky and highlight a small part of this scripture. Indulge us. It is the second part of verse 7, “for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.” To us God is saying all are welcome, so open the doors; invite and share with everyone, everywhere.

God wishes places of worship and prayer to be inclusive: where are all welcome. We may be biased, when we first read those words of verse 7, we thought of our vision of “Open minds, open hearts.” We believe Westminster is a house of prayer for all people. We would like to believe we are a welcoming congregation, pleased to see newcomers and stalwarts alike.

God calls us to be his disciples and treat each other as brothers and sisters in faith and with Christ. To us, Open minds and open hearts leads us to a deeper fellowship. Through this fellowship we allow ourselves to be more available to open our doors both literally and in the way God intends.

The truth is, where two or more are gathered in Christ, that is a Church. Let us all continue to gather together in a place of God.

Prayer:

Lord, open our hearts and minds to embrace the richness of all people, regardless of their background, beliefs, or experiences. Help us to see the beauty and worth of each individual, and to treat them with the same love and respect you have shown us. May we be a source of comfort and support, creating a space where everyone feels safe and valued. Amen

Hear the Good News of Salvation 441

Wotanin waste nahon po



1 Hear the good news of sal - va - tion: Je - sus died to show God's love.
2 All the sins I have com - mit - ted, to my Sav - ior now I bring.

1 Wo - tan - in wa - ste na - hon po, Je - sus he wa - i - hdu - sna:
2 Wo - a - hta - ni kin e - ca - mon, hdu - ha Je - sus si - ha en,



Such great kind - ness! Such great mer - cy! Come to us from heaven a - bove.
I bow down with tears of an - guish; Christ for - gives and so I sing:

to - wa - o - si - da kin tan - ka, he de - han i - yo - ma - hi.
kun i - wa - hpa - mda wa - ce - ya, Je - sus on - ši - ma - da ce.



Je - sus Christ, how much I love you! Je - sus Christ, you save from sin!

Je - sus Christ wa - ste - wa - da - ka, Je - sus Christ ni - ma - yan: han, wa -



How I love you! Look up - on me. Love me still and cleanse with - in.

ste - wa - da - ke a - ma - ton - we is e - ya wa - ste - ma - da.



This text, originally appearing in four stanzas, was written by the first Native American Dakota to be ordained to the Presbyterian ministry and was published in the Dakota hymnal he edited. Both the Dakota and English versions have been associated with this shape note tune.

317 In Christ There Is No East or West

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no
 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their high com -
 3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what - e'er your
 4 In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet

south or north, but one great fel - low -
 mu - nion find; his ser - vice is the
 race may be. All chil - dren of the
 south and north. All Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
 gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
 liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.
 one in him through - out the whole wide earth.

This setting expands and enhances the thematic inclusiveness of an early 20th-century text by adapting the melody of a traditional spiritual to carry these words. This 1940 pairing marked the first use of African American musical material in a mainline North American hymnal.