



Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Preparation for Worship

Open unto me, light for my darkness.
Open unto me, courage for my fear.
Open unto me, hope for my despair.
Open unto me, peace for my turmoil.
Open unto me, joy for my sorrow.
Open unto me, strength for my weakness.
Open unto me, wisdom for my confusion.
Open unto me, forgiveness for my sins.
Open unto me, tenderness for my toughness.
Open unto me, love for my hates.
Open unto me, Thy Self for myself.
Lord, Lord, open unto me.

Howard Thurman

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

Catherine Blount

Prelude

Pastorale "The Faithful Shepherd"

Handel

* Call to Worship

Leader: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock!

People: **Restore us, O God;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Leader: Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven, and see.

People: **Then we will never turn back from you;
give us life, and we will call on your name.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

* Hymn 32 "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

ELLACOMBE

* Prayer of Confession

**Good and gracious God,
we have let our fears get the better of our faith.
When you asked us to speak, we stayed silent.
When you asked us to forgive, we held grudges.
When you asked us to be generous, we were selfish.
When you asked us to follow, we stayed put.
Forgive us, Holy One, and shape our hearts anew.
Grant us courage that overcomes our caution,
love that overwhelms our laziness,
and faith that guides us through our fear.
We ask it all in the name of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and risen 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.**

The Sacrament of Baptism

Charlotte Louise Pile

Congregational Response

Baptized in Water

BUNESSAN



Children in K5 – first grade are invited to leave for Children’s Church.

Hearing **God’s Word**

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson, Exodus 1:8-14

p. 43

Second Scripture Lesson, Exodus 1:15-17, 22, 2:1-10

p. 43

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"At the River's Edge"

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

How Firm a Foundation

arr. Schweizer

* 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 756

"O God of Every Nation"

LLANGLOFFAN

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude

Grand Triumphal Chorus

Guilmant

*All who are able may stand

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*

Leigh Stuckey, *liturgist*

Elizabeth Timmons, *sponsor*

Deb Wiswell, *scripture reader*

Summer Choir

Rosemary Hughes, *flute*

Bill Young, *head usher*

Creighton Likes, Blake Hoffman, Bill Ballinger,

Zach Weaver, Ben Dillard, *greeters*

Mary-Frances Reynolds, Virginia Reynolds, *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.

In Memoriam

Marylyn Waters

(7/28/1931 – 8/8/2025)

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



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



Join Us in Welcoming

BAPTISM

This morning we welcome into our fellowship *Charlotte Louise Pile*, daughter of Quintin & Molly Pile.

FALL SERMON SERIES:

THE EXODUS STORY:

FAITH, FEAR, & FREEDOM

Our fall sermon series will explore the story of the Exodus: God's liberation of the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt. It's a story about what it means to be heard by God, saved by God, and called into covenant relationship with God. It's a story of fear and courage, of wandering in the wilderness, of God's transcendence and God's imminence, of what it means to live in covenant community with one another. It's the central salvation story of the Old Testament, and one that echoes throughout the New Testament as well. To help you follow along, we will provide scripture passages to read in preparation for the upcoming Sundays. For the next three weeks, the suggested readings are the following:

August 17: Exodus 1:1 – 2:10

August 24: Exodus 2:11-25

August 31: Exodus 3:1-15

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.

GAME GROUP

The Game Group will continue meeting to play Mahjong on Mondays in August. Join us at 7p in the Entrance Pavilion. This is open to all who love the game or want to learn. Stay tuned for the September schedule.

BEN’S SABBATICAL PROJECT

During his sabbatical, Ben met with 10 Heads of Staff of churches similar in size to Westminster, in order to learn more about how the leadership of each church helps cultivate a culture of generosity at their congregations. Topics included stewardship campaigns, endowments, staff size, “mission giving,” and more. If you would like to find out what Ben learned, he will be giving a report immediately following worship on Sunday, August 24, at 11:15a in Room 209. All are invited.

FOOTHILLS PRESBYTERY
HYMN FESTIVAL

Choirs from ten churches in the Foothills Presbytery, including WPC, will take part in a Hymn Festival titled “This Is My Song” at John Knox Presbyterian Church in Greenville on Sunday, August 24, 4:30p. The Fest will feature a mass choir of 100+ singers, a brass quartet, and lots of congregational singing. The event is open to all!

MEN OF WESTMINSTER DRIVE GAME

Join the Men of Westminster for a night at the Greenville Drive on August 27. We've reserved a private suite to enjoy the game. The cost is \$15 per person. Signup on the WPC website under Event Registration.

UNITED MINISTRIES

United Ministries is in need of canned food to restock their food pantry. They are requesting: canned fruit, peas, green beans, pasta, beef stew, canned chicken, rice, tuna, jelly, Ramen Noodles, Saltines, and oatmeal. If you would like to donate, please drop off cans in the United Ministries Donations Cabinet located in the Friendship Court.

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 on Sunday, September 7. 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).

SUMMER CHOIR

Summer Choir returns to service in August. Sunday rehearsals will be held weekly at 9a in the choir room. This is a low-key, low-commitment way to participate in the choir. Adults and youth are invited to join in! For additional information, contact Marlon Hurst.



SANCTUARY CHOIR

The Sanctuary Choir is the primary, weekly adult vocal choir at WPC, singing weekly at the 11:15a service from September through May. The SC also leads the congregation in the annual Festival of Lessons and Carols and on Music Ministry Sunday in May. This fall, the SC will be preparing a choral/orchestral work to be presented in early November. Beginning Wednesday, August 20, weekly Sanctuary Choir rehearsals commence in the Choir Room from 7-8:30p. Participation is open to all adults and interested high school students. Auditions are not required. Please contact Marlon Hurst for additional information.

Our Vision:
Open minds open hearts.

Our Pillars:
*Hospitality
Generosity
Justice
Imagination
Joy*

Our Goals:
*Connect
Serve
Grow*

  [wpcgreenville](#) | [wpc-online.org](#) | 2310 Augusta St.

THE HARBINGER
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 17-24, 2025

Sunday, August 17

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00a	Summer Choir Rehearsal
9:40	Weekly Session Meeting
10:00	Worship Service
11:00	Fellowship with donuts
11:15	Stated Session Meeting
11:30	Connections Group
4:00p	WPCYG Parent Meeting
5:30	WPCYG Class Dinners

Monday, August 18

7:00p	Monday Game Night
8:00	Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, August 19

12:00p	Al-Anon Meeting
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Wednesday, August 20

7:00p	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
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Thursday, August 21

10:00a	Bible Study
8:00p	Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday, August 23

WPCYG to Look Up Lodge

Sunday, August 24

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

WPCYG at Look Up Lodge

9:00a	Summer Choir Rehearsal
9:40	Weekly Session Meeting
10:00	Worship Service
11:00	Fellowship with donuts
11:15	Faith Formation Volunteer Training
	Sabbatical Review with Ben Dorr
4:30p	Hymn Festival at John Knox
	Presbyterian Church

**Fall Schedule returns
on Sunday, September 14.
We will resume worship services
at 9a and 11:15a
with Sunday School at 10a.**

the
HARBINGER
open minds open hearts

VOLUME LXXVIII | August 17, 2025 | No. 19

From the Pews, Will & Beth Edwards

Protection. This is the word that comes to mind when we think of today’s scripture reading, Exodus 2: 1 – 10, the birth of Moses. The three women in these verses take on protective roles looking after baby Moses.

First, Moses’s mother protected him by hiding him for three months until she was no longer able to hide him. She then placed him in a papyrus basket among the reeds on the bank of the Nile. Moses’ sister further protected him by watching over to see what would happen. Lastly, Pharaoh’s daughter protected Moses by drawing him out of the water and felt for him as she noticed he was a Hebrew baby.

As Moses’ sister continued to watch over Moses, she asked the daughter of Pharaoh if she should get a Hebrew woman to nurse the child. She got Moses’ mother to nurse her own son. After Moses grew, he was taken back to Pharoah’s daughter to be raised. These three women were an integral part of Moses’ development in growing into a great man who went on to do remarkable things.

None of the three women were thinking of themselves, but doing what was in the best interest for Moses. They selflessly did as they felt led. God asks us to do the same for our fellow friends and even our strangers. We are to help selflessly as we can. We should not ignore the needs of those around us. We are all called to be of service, uncomfortable as it may be. He asks us to be protectors and servants. How we respond is up to us.

God is our protector in all days and all ways. Let us glorify him by protecting, serving and looking out for others, so all of us are able to do remarkable things.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
FOR KICK-OFF SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 7

9a Breakfast
10a Sunday School
11:15a Worship

Join us as we kick off the program year, for our annual Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, September 7, sponsored by the Men of Westminster! Come enjoy delicious pancakes and learn about the many ways to get involved in the ministry of WPC at our Ministry Fair. Breakfast begins at 9a, followed by Sunday School at 10a and Worship at 11:15a. Sign up on the church website at <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/church-wide-breakfast>. Cost is \$10/person, with \$40 max per family. Children 2 and younger are free. Proceeds from the breakfast will go to support the Women of Westminster Scholarship Fund. If you would like to volunteer to help with this breakfast, please contact the church office.

On September 14,
we will resume worship services
at 9a and 11:15a
with Sunday School at 10a.

WESTCONNECT SIGN UPS ARE OPEN!

WestConnect is a small group ministry of WPC - groups gather for 6-week sessions of bible study, fellowship and prayer. If you are looking to deepen your understanding of scripture, meet new people at WPC, or feel a smaller sense of community, sign up for a WestConnect group. Groups will begin to meet in early October for the fall. If you have questions, reach out to Nick Carson. Sign up on the website.

CHORISTER CHOIR REGISTRATION

Registration is now open for Junior (grades 1-2) and Senior (grades 3-5) Chorister Choir. Choristers meet weekly on Wednesdays from 4:30-5:15p. Under the direction of Hunter Smith and Diana Dailey, Chorister Choir singers learn the fundamentals of beautiful singing, hymns of the faith, and about Reformed worship practice. Rehearsals begin September 3. Visit the WPC Web site to register!

RISE AGAINST HUNGER

On August 31, we will be hosting a Rise Against Hunger event following 10a worship at 11:15. We will work together to pack over 25,000 meals. This will bring WPC's lifetime meal packing to over 100,000 meals! Sign up by emailing Nick Carson.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE:

In response to the floods in Texas and North Carolina this summer, Witness and Service has made a contribution to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance US Flood Response fund. Join our response by making a donation to Westminster designated for PDA, or donate to PDA fund DR000191 directly!

YOUTH CHOIR REGISTRATION

Registration is now open for Youth Choir (Middle school, grades 6-8 and High School, grades 9-12). This year, both Middle and High school choirs will rehearse weekly on Sundays from 5-6p. In addition to singing in worship monthly, additional activities are planned, including ice skating and Christmas caroling in December. Rehearsals begin September 7. Visit the WPC Web site to register!

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32 I Sing the Mighty Power of God





1 I sing the might - y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,
 2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.
 3 There's not a plant or flower be - low but makes thy glo - ries known.


that spread the flow - ing seas a - broad and built the loft - y
 God formed the crea-tures through the Word, and then pro-nounced them
 And clouds a - rise, and tem-pests blow, by or - der from thy

skies. I sing the wis-dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day.
 good. Lord, how thy won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er I turn my eye,
 throne, while all that bor-rows life from thee is ev - er in thy care,

The moon shines full at God's com-mand, and all the stars o - bey.
 if I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!
 and ev - ery-where that we can be, thou, God, art pres-ent there.



With minimal revision this text brings together six of the eight four-line stanzas in an 18th-century hymn written for children and originally headed "Praise for Creation and Providence." The anonymous German tune provides a fitting sense of breadth and wonder.

O God of Every Nation 756

1 O God of ev - ery na - tion, of ev - ery race and land,
 2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
 3 Lord, strength-en those who la - bor that all may find re - lease
 4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,

re - deem the whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand.
 from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc - tion through the night,
 from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
 when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,

Where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
 from pride of race and sta - tion and blind - ness to your way,
 when hope and cour - age fal - ter, your still small voice be heard;
 till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and jus - tice reign

in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
 de - liv - er ev - ery na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.
 with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.
 and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

If we truly believe that God cares for all people, we cannot limit our prayers and songs for peace to the welfare of our own nation, no matter how much we may love it. This challenging text is set to a stirring Welsh tune, named for a hamlet with a prominent Baptist chapel.