

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, July 29, 2018
10:00 a.m.

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost
Easter in the Ordinary

THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

“Crucifixion wasn’t just an unfortunate mistake in the Roman legal system ... Crucifixion was the inevitable, predictable result of saying the things Jesus said, and doing the things Jesus did, and being the savior Jesus was. This is what the world always does to people who threaten the world. Face facts. But...on Easter God inserted a new fact. God took the cruel cross and made it the means of triumph. God (the same Creator who made light from darkness, a world form void, a baby in a virgin’s womb), God took the worst we do—all our death-doings—and led them out toward life. And the earth shook.”

William H. Willimon, “Easter as an Earthquake”

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP, COMMON CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH
CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

People: All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.

Leader: In him is life, and life is the light of all people.

People: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it.

Leader: Let us worship the living God.

* HYMN OF PRAISE No. 620 LAUDA ANIMA
“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sins and the sins of this world. We know Christ is among us as our peace, yet we are a people divided against ourselves. We cling to the values of a broken world, preferring easy answers to your life-giving Word. We abuse the good gifts of imagination and freedom, and have turned them into bonds of oppression, both failing to be and to proclaim your Good News. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal, No. 581)

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 LIFE OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO PRAYER BALM IN GILEAD

“There Is a Balm in Gilead”

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

MORNING PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Hymnal page 35, Traditional

K5 and first grade children leave for Children’s Church following the prayer.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON — Psalm 34:1-8 (Page 508) Ben Edwards

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON — John 4:46-54 (Page 96)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON Leigh Stuckey

“Lost on the Farm”

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

* 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; 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.

SERVICE OF GIVING

Offertory “I Want Jesus to Walk with Me” arr. Larson

* Doxology (Hymnal, No. 606)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication

* HYMN No. 817 DUNLAP’S CREEK

“We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”

* BENEDICTION

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE MFURAHINI, HALELUYA

“Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia!”

Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.

Death’s fearful sting he has come to destroy.

Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!

* POSTLUDE

*All who are able may stand

HEAD USHER: Danna Rohlader

SPONSOR: Elizabeth Palmer

GREETERS: Parks McLeod, Michael Hoffman, Grier Mullins

LITURGIST: Mary Kathleen Duncan

ACOLYTES: Natalie Dixon, Sarah Katherine White

Visitors and members are invited to the Sanctuary Atrium following the worship service for a time of fellowship and refreshments.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PARKING

We have permission to use the parking lots at the Uniform Shop and Augusta Commons Mall.

TRAFFIC POLICE OFFICER

A Greenville city police officer will be on duty from 9:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. to help people cross the street from the other side of Augusta Road.

STREAMING

All worship services at Westminster are broadcast via live video streaming. Navigate to the home page of the church website at www.wpc-online.org and click the link “Worship via Live Streaming.”

CHURCH NOTES

Musicians leading in worship this Sunday are:

Nancy Smith, organist

Summer Choir

NURSERY

Childcare is available for infants through four-year kindergarten. Our childcare program provides safe, secure nurseries for our babies and toddlers during worship services. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment to all children.

During the worship service, children in rising K5–1st grade follow one of our ministers out for Children’s Church in Room 206. The leaders for Children’s Church this Sunday, July 29 are Ryan & Sarah Beasley.

NURSERY

PARENT SCHEDULE

FOR JULY 29

Crib John & Roselle Bonnoitt
Crawler Gene & Elizabeth Campbell
Toddler Jacob & Jade Fountain
K2 Paul & Caroline Clark
K4 Zach & Genevieve Weaver

THANK YOU!!!!

For a wonderful dinner, for a most generous gift, for all of the hugs, emails and notes, Jean and I thank you from the bottom of our hearts. There is no way we can adequately express the love and affection we feel for this congregation and each one of you. Thank you for all you have meant to us and our family.

Lud & Jean

BIRTH

A son, Marshall David Reid, was born to Allen & Katie Reid on Sunday, June 24, 2018, in Greenville.

MARRIAGE

On Saturday, July 21, 2018, Catherine Stoddard and Gary Pollock were united in marriage at Westminster.

GAIHN IS GEARING UP FOR AUGUST

Four times a year, WPC provides a safe space for up to three families who are experiencing homelessness. Operating under the umbrella of United Ministries, GAIHN (Greenville Area Interfaith Hospitality Network) is a family-friendly ministry with volunteers of all ages that seek to serve and empower those on the transformative journey to self-sufficiency. The next hosting week is August 19-26, and we are looking for volunteers to act as hosts or provide dinner to our guests. You can sign-up this Sunday, July 29, in the Sanctuary Atrium or online at https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/gaihn/. If you have any additional questions or want to learn more, please contact Julia Bellew (juliabellew@gmail.com), Beth Edwards (bethholladay73@gmail.com), or Holly Vanderwal (hollyv04@hotmail.com).

LET US PRAY FOR:

The Family of Margaret Murphy
Jean Nations and family
Ted Gentry and family

THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet **Monday, August 13**, at **7:00 p.m.** in the **Charter Room**. *John Smith* will lead the discussion of *The God of Small Things* by Arundhati Roy. Read the book and join us for an interesting evening. All are invited.

WESTMINSTER BOOK CLUB

Westminster's Book Club meets on the first Tuesday of each month, in the church library, at **7:00 p.m.** On **August 7**, we will discuss the novel, *The Nightingale*, by Kristin Hannah, a bestselling book about two sisters during World War II. In September, our book will be *Lincoln in the Bardo*, by George Saunders, a Booker prize winning novel about Abraham Lincoln and the death of his son, with a cast of characters, living and dead in an original, unique novel. For October, the group will read *Speak No Evil*, by Uzodinma Iweala, a novel about what it means to be different in a conformist society. New members are always welcome.

"IT'S ELEMENTARY!" & TWEENS

Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, August 29**, for the start of our weekly after school programs for those in grades 1-5. Children arrive right after school and stay until **4:30 p.m.** Arrival and departure occurs at the circular drive on Westminster Dr. This year's them: *The Prophets* - will include a mixture of Bible learning, fun, and recreation. If you'd like to stay for **Children's Choir** (which begins the same day), plan to be picked up by **5:15 p.m.** Sign up now on the church website at <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/its-elementary-tweens-sign-up/>.

SUMMER YOUTH EVENTS

Middler Mission Days

August 1-2 (overnight)

Taco Tuesdays

August 7 Topsy Taco (Pelham Rd.)

Youth Kick-Off Retreat at Look Up Lodge

August 25-26 (overnight and open to all 6th-12th graders)

YOUNGISH ADULTS

Join us **Sunday, August 5**, at **4:00 p.m.** for an afternoon at the **Drive**. We'll watch Greenville's minor league team take on Rome. Haven't yet claimed your ticket? Contact Leigh Stuckey (lstickey@wpc-online.org). And mark your calendars for Sunday brunch at **Tipsy Taco** on **August 26**.

SAVE THE DATE

Our annual youth kick-off retreat is scheduled for **August 25-26** at **Look-Up Lodge**. This retreat is open to all **6th-12th graders**. Note that it is only one night, but don't worry, we'll be sure to pack in lots of fun, sun, fellowship, and worship! Start off your school year right by spending your first weekend with the WPC Youth Group! *More information will be coming to your mailboxes soon.

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS and ORDERS OF WORSHIP

Large print hymnals and large print copies of *The Harbinger's* worship pages are available in the narthex. The hymnals contain only the words and not the music. An usher can provide you these items.

THE HARBINGER WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2310 Augusta Street Greenville, South Carolina 29605 (864) 232-2424

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FIND WPC ONLINE

Visit us online to find up-to-date photos, videos and information about our programming:

<http://www.wpc-online.org>

[facebook.com/wpcgreenville](https://www.facebook.com/wpcgreenville)

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[youtube.com/wpcgreenville](https://www.youtube.com/wpcgreenville)

[gplus.to/wpc](https://plus.google.com/wpc)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 29 - August 4, 2018

SUNDAY

9:15 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
11:00 a.m. After Worship Fellowship
8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous

MONDAY

6:15 p.m. NAMI
8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

TUESDAY

12:00 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting

WEDNESDAY

11:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
2:30 p.m. Middler Mission Overnight Trip to Great Wolf Lodge

THURSDAY

1:00 p.m. Middler Mission group returns
8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

THE SESSION

The Class of 2019

Howard Boyd	Collin Mackie
Sarah-Ann Davis	Susan McLeod
Beri Draganic	Elizabeth Palmer
Kathryn Freedman	Joanne Sweeny
Paul Grier	Rob Warren
Walter Hinton	Stephen Woods

The Class of 2020

Ben Alexander	Michael Hoffman
Rita Barker	Steve Johnson
Roxanne Cromartie	Coleman Kirven
Becca Donohue	Christa Likes
Lee Freeman	Jon McKnight
Mike Hall	Parks McLeod

The Class of 2021

Kristin Burrell	Elizabeth McElveen
Phillip Cox	Grier Mullins
Ted Gentry	Pete Roe
Philip Land	Gaye Sprague
Brad Lucas	Catherine Stoddard
David Massey	Freddie Williams



THE EYES OF DAVID
Psalm 34

I've often marveled at how someone who routinely makes selfish and reckless decisions can still see the world through God's eyes. Even more amazing to me is that God would continue to use someone like that over and over again. God waits on us and welcomes us back when our vision is restored and we see life through the lens of Christ's resurrection.

David wrote Psalm 34 at an interesting point in his life. Having fled Saul's wrath, David arrived in the Philistine city of Gath. Once there, the king recognized him and David was afraid for his life. David then pretended to be a madman to hide his true identity and he was sent away. Though his bizarre charade worked, David barely escaped and wound up hiding in a cave.

Other desperate men eventually joined David in his hideout. As they did, David continued his Psalm writing and it is believed he composed this Psalm while holed up in that cave. As wild and foolish as his actions were, David never lost sight of God's love and protection. David may even have sung this Psalm to his misfit brothers in that cave.

Psalm 34 is an alphabetic acrostic, as each verse begins with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet. This type of writing could have been done by only the most skilled writers. Also, this Psalm can be divided into two general sections. Verses 1-10 are words of praise sung to God (a Hymn). It is here that David exalts God for repeatedly saving him and pouring His love upon him. Verses 11-22 finds David instructing mankind to fear the Lord and to follow His instructions (a sermon). David seemed to always be cognizant of God's holiness and mercy. So much so that, even after moments of foolishness, David could quickly pivot back to his role of teacher for the generations.

The Biblical David was a man of contradictions. In one moment he could see the world and be tempted by all the sinful pleasures it possessed. A moment later he could inherit a vision of God's holiness and write the most beautiful praise songs ever to be sung.

Maybe you and I are like David in our own way. We see the beauty of sin all around us. It's appealing, for certain. But the same eyes that are sometimes tempted, can also see through beauty's facade. God loved the imperfect David and used him in the most wonderful ways.

The good news? God loves you just as much.

Kevin Lancaster