

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, September 23, 2018
9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Almighty God, we pray for your blessing on the church in this place. Here may the faithful find salvation, and the careless be awakened. Here may the doubting find faith, and the anxious be encouraged. Here may the tempted find help, and the sorrowful comfort. Here may the weary find rest, and the strong be renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP, COMMON CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH
MINUTE FOR MISSION Women of Westminster
PRELUDE

** CHORAL INTROIT "Be Thou My Vision" EVANS
CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 80:1-3)
Leader: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!
People: You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.
Leader: Stir up your might and come to save us!
People: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.
Leader: Let us worship God!

* HYMN OF PRAISE No. 434 BAYLOR
"Restore in Us, O God"

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Holy God, you see us as we are, and know our inmost thoughts. We confess that we are a forgetful people: we do not remember your blessings, we fail to recall your promises, we forget to show forth your love. Have mercy on us, and renew our minds and hearts. Help us to see new ways to extend your grace. Let us recognize your handiwork in every person, so that we would treat all people as your children. Grant us the wisdom and courage of Christ this day. Amen.

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

* 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

CONGREGATIONAL CALL TO PRAYER McNeill
"The Steadfast Love of the Lord Never Ceases"
The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
God's mercies never come to an end.
They are new every morning, new every morning;
Great is your faithfulness, O Lord, great is your faithfulness.

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 — Genesis 45:1-3, 25-28 (Page 42)
Todd Hardaway

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON — Luke 10:25-37 (Page 71)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON Ben Dorr
"A Rescue Story"

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.

** WELCOMING OF NEW MEMBERS
SERVICE OF GIVING
Solo (9:00 only) "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" arr. Hayes
** Anthem "Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace" Trotta
* 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. 749 WE ARE CALLED
"Come! Live in the Light"

* CHARGE & BLESSING
** CHORAL RESPONSE "Restore in Us, O God" Hopson
* POSTLUDE "To God Be the Glory" arr. Schrader

*All who are able may stand ** 11:15 a.m. service only
HEAD USHERS: 9:00 a.m. Van McClenaghan
11:15 a.m. Jim Gettys
SPONSOR: 11:15 a.m. Philip Land
GREETERS: 9:00 a.m. Roxanne Cromartie, Paul Grier
Joanne Sweeny
11:15 a.m. Phillip Cox, Lee Freeman
Kristin Burrell
LITURGIST: Amos Workman
ACOLYTES: 9:00 a.m. Lucy Cole, Ramsey Glidewell
11:15 a.m. Natalie Dixon, Mason Donlan

Following the service, visitors and members are invited to the Sanctuary Atrium for a time of fellowship and to welcome our new members.

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 9:45 a.m. – 12:45 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
9:00 a.m.
Derek Pitman, tenor
11:15 a.m.
Sanctuary 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.

BAPTISM CLASS

If you are interested in having your child or children baptized at Westminster, you are invited to attend a brief class on baptism taught by Ben Dorr. The next class will be Sunday, October 7, from 4:30-5:00 p.m. in the Charter Room. Please email Michelle in the church office at michelle@wpc-online.org if you are planning to attend.

HURRICANE FLORENCE RELIEF

The devastation along the North and South Carolina coasts from Hurricane Florence is immeasurable. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is deploying teams to affected communities to assist in coordinating relief efforts. Long after the news cycle moves on from the storm PDA will remain, providing spiritual and emotional care and material assistance to those affected. Through your prayerful designations to PDA we believe that the church will be able to draw hope from chaos, and proclaim the Good News to those most deeply affected. Witness and Service has designated \$2500 toward the response. As you hold Wilmington, New Bern, and the coast in your prayers, we encourage you to give by making your check payable to WPC and designating payment for "PDA Hurricane Relief."

GRAB A NAMETAG THIS SUNDAY!

This will help make the process of learning names and faces easier for our new Pastor Ben Dorr and his wife Heather. You will find nametags in the following places:

- Sanctuary Atrium
Friendship Court
Entrance Pavilion
Adult Sunday School classes.

MENS GROUP FALL MISSION TRIP October 10-14

Clean up and maintenance of Camp Thornwell is our ongoing project for the third year. The camp is owned by the Thornwell Home in Clinton and is a youth camp and respite place for the Thornwell community. The camp is one hour away (435 Sugar Likker Rd, Sunset, SC). There are facilities to stay overnight with good food and fellowship. Volunteers are encouraged to stay several days, but also may come for the day. Workers with all levels of skills and ability are needed. For more information contact Paul O'Neal (paulmoneal@aol.com).

LET US PRAY FOR:

The Family of Betsy Wilson
The Family of Stan Von Hofe
The Family of John Taylor

- Youth ages 5K–12 grade and WPC men are invited to participate in Christian fellowship and recreational basketball for the upcoming season, which will begin the week of November 10. WPC members interested in being a coach or assistant coach may contact Bryant Puntch (bryant_puntch@ucbi.com or 915-5686). Online player registration opened on Tuesday, September 4 and will end Sunday, October 7. Registration and schedules may be accessed on the church's website at www.wpc-online.org (https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/youth-basketball/).

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ADULT GROUPS

- Movie Group:** Our first meeting will be this **Sunday, September 23**. If you are interested in joining us, please contact *Susan Robbins* (jamrobbins@aol.com). The details of the movie will be e-mailed and you may RSVP at that time.
- Luncheon Group:** Will meet **Wednesday, September 26**, at **12:00 p.m.** in **Room 211**. **Group Leader:** *Mary Ann Cox* (lmaryanncox@gmail.com).
- Needle Arts Group:** Will meet **Wednesday, September 26**, at **6:30 p.m.** in the **Entrance Pavilion**. **Group Leader:** *Terry Gentry* (tmgentry@charter.net).
- **Couples Bible Study (ages 50+):** Will meet **Wednesday, September 26**, at **7:00 p.m.** in the **Charter Room**. **Leaders:** *Dick & Mary Sargent* (mfsdesigns95@yahoo.com).

AUDIO TECH FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

We try to record and make copies available of our Adult Sunday School classes. If you are willing to help us record our Sunday School classes each week (after being trained!) please contact *Matt Fox* (mkfox@charter.net).

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER CHILI COOK-OFF
Sunday, October 7 5:00-7:00

Adults \$7.00 Children (3-11) \$3.50 Children (2 and under) Free

Join us for the Women of Westminister's Chili Cook-Off! All proceeds benefit the Women of Westminister Scholarship Fund.

Got a mean chili recipe? Grab a team and enter below. Entry fee is \$25 per team. Teams will be responsible for providing their famous chili and their own table decorations and theme. Awards will be given in many different categories. We will provide the table, taste cups and spoons!

Don't cook but love to eat? Join us for a Chili Church Dinner and become one of our many judges. Taste cards will be for sale for \$5 each (or 5 for \$20) and get you 5 tastes per card. Come judge your fellow WPC members as they compete for this coveted award! Voting will close at 6:30 and winners announced at 7 p.m. To keep the check-in lines moving on October 7, we ask that you sign up online and pay online by going to <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/>. **Menu:** baked potato and salad bar with all condiments, rolls and dessert.

Questions? Comments? Contact Katherine Mattice at kmmarketingservices@gmail.com.

WOW CHILI COOK-OFF TEAM REGISTRATION

Team Name: _____
Contact Name: _____
Contact email/phone: _____
\$25.00 Registration Fee: _____

MEN'S GROUP BOOK STUDY

The Men's Group will continue their book study on **Monday, September 24**, at **6:00 p.m.** in **Room 209-C**. We will study the book, *Mere Christianity*, by C.S. Lewis. All WPC men are invited to participate. For more information, contact *Rick Carpenter* (608-1881).

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 **Tuesday, October 2**, our book will be *Speak No Evil*, by Uzodinma Iweala, a novel about what it means to be different in a conformist society. New members are always welcome. Our book selection for our November meeting will be the memoir, *Born A Crime*, by South African author and comedian Trevor Noah. We will not meet during the month of December, but will discuss the book *Swing Time* by Zadie Smith at our meeting in January.

WESTMINSTER TROTS!

This year Westminster has a team for the annual downtown **Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving morning**. If you will be racing (running or walking) don't forget to add "Westminster Presbyterian" as your team. We'll also have shirts! Contact Leigh Stuckey (lstuckey@wpc-online.org) if you have questions.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATES

We will be printing a new church address directory soon. Please review your family information. If there are any changes, including business telephone numbers and e-mail addresses, please fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate or bring it to the church office. You may also e-mail any changes you have to michelle@wpc-online.org or make changes online at "my wpc." If you have a child that has moved to or from school, please update their information. Also, if you would like to submit your e-mail address, but you do not wish to have it published in the directory, please indicate your wish on the form.

Name _____
 Address _____
 E-mail address _____
 Home # _____ Work # _____ Cell # _____
 Spouse's Name _____
 Spouse's e-mail address _____
 Spouse's Work # _____ Spouse's Cell # _____
 Please publish my cell # in the directory: Yes _____ No _____
 Please publish my e-mail address in the directory: Yes _____ No _____

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
September 23-29, 2018

- SUNDAY**
 7:30 a.m. Membership Committee Meeting
 8:30 a.m. New Member Class Witness & Service Committee Meeting
 9:00 a.m. Worship Service Education Committee Meeting
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
 11:15 a.m. Worship Service
 12:00 p.m. New Member Reception
 12:15 p.m. Stated Session Meeting
 4:30 p.m. PW Board Meeting
 5:00 p.m. Middler Group Meeting
 5:15 p.m. Senior High Choir Rehearsal
 6:00 p.m. Youth Group Dinner
 6:30 p.m. Middler Choir Rehearsal Senior High Group Meeting Alcoholics Anonymous
- 8:00 p.m.
- MONDAY**
 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study
 6:15 p.m. NAMI
 8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous
- TUESDAY**
 6:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study
 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
 12:00 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting
- WEDNESDAY**
 9:30 a.m. Weekday School Chapel
 9:45 a.m. Weekday School Chapel
 12:00 p.m. Luncheon Group Meeting "It's Elementary!" & Tweens
 3:00 p.m. Junior & Senior Choristers
 4:30 p.m. Needle Arts Group
 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
 7:00 p.m. Couples Bible Study (50+)
- THURSDAY**
 10:00 a.m. Thursday Bible Study
 8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous



SURPRISES

Do you like to be surprised? For most of us, the answer likely depends on what kind of surprise it is.

Unpleasant surprises such as the sudden loss of a loved one, illness, or even a broken down car in the middle of rush hour traffic can cause discomfort and uncertainty in our lives. On the other hand, we all love good surprises...a surprise birthday party, seeing an old friend, or as a child - the arrival of a new puppy on Christmas morning brings great joy.

Throughout the Bible we see that our God is a God of surprises. Whether we are facing difficult and unexpected circumstances or experiencing unexpected delight and happiness, God is continuously good to us and finds ways to bless us. Even though we are undeserving, he still loves us and works to fill our lives with hope and goodness. His love and grace, even in the most undeserving of times, is the greatest surprise we can experience. God loves us so much that he even sent his only son to die for us. That is a surprise that I think we can all agree is simply amazing.

It is only when we open our hearts and minds to God and put our total trust and faith in him that we are able to fully experience all of the surprises he has in store for us. He surprises us in ways that we could never even dream of. Whatever circumstances we may face he is always there waiting to bless and surprise us.

What amazing surprises does God have in store for us? I know that I cannot wait to find out.

Jacob Barker