

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, November 25, 2018
9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

Thirty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

God be in my head, and in my understanding;
God be in my eyes, and in my looking;
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God be at my end, and at my departing.
Sarum Primer, c. 1514.

GATHERING THE COMMUNITY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP Stephen Woods

PREPARING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" arr. Page

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: When we seek justice for the other,
when we love kindness more than ever,

People: we live as God asks us to live.

Leader: When we walk humbly through life,
when we offer mercy to those who hurt us,

People: we are the blessing God hopes we will be.

Leader: When we are willing to look foolish by following Jesus,
when we choose weakness rather than power,

People: we reflect the One who is in our midst.

\* HYMN OF PRAISE No. 2 ITALIAN HYMN

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we confess that we have accepted the world's wisdom as our guide. We have been impressed by the power of weapons and the importance of high positions. We measure the worth by the number of possessions we command. We have been unkind in our speech and uncaring in our deeds. We have doubted the power of the cross to save us. Turn us around, holy God, that we might be blessed. 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.

Children in K5 and first grade children leave for Children's Church.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Micah 6:6-8 (O.T., p. 866)

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Hebrews 13:1-16 (N.T., p. 227)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Mary Kathleen Duncan

"Sacrifice."

\* HYMN No. 369 O QUANTA QUALIA

"Blessing and Honor"

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.

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER DuBois

"Christ We Do All Adore Thee"

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER Hymnal page 35, Traditional

OFFERING

Offertory (9:00) "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" Smith

Anthem (11:15) "My Eternal King" Marshall

\* 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. 363 DARWALL'S 148th

"Rejoice, the Lord Is King!"

\* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

\* CHORAL RESPONSE (11:15) "God Be With You" Tomer

\* POSTLUDE Rigaudon Campra

\*All who are able may stand

If you are visiting this morning, we extend a special welcome to you. Westminster Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is a community of faith open to all.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HEAD USHERS: 9:00 a.m. Bo Mullins
11:15 a.m. Sam White, Jr.
SPONSOR: 11:15 a.m. Freddie Williams
GREETERS: 9:00 a.m. Joanne Sweeny, Jon McKnight
Grier Mullins
11:15 a.m. Gaye Sprague, Beri Draganic
Christa Likes
LITURGIST: Ben Dorr
LAY READER: Jennifer McDavid
ACOLYTES: 9:00 a.m. Ellie Coker, Lilly Coker
11:15 a.m. McCrae Mattice, Sadie Mattice

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
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.

GRAB A NAMETAG THIS SUNDAY!

We will continue to wear nametags each Sunday. Please find them near entrances and gathering areas and share your name with others. You'll be glad you did!

MARRIAGE

On Saturday, November 17, 2018, Katy Golladay and Gray Goley were united in marriage at Westminster.

SYMPATHY

We extend sincere sympathy to Mark Matlock on the death of his stepmother, Sally M. Matlock, on Sunday, November 18, 2018, in Nashville.

LET US PRAY FOR:

Mark Matlock and family

ONE ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

There will be one Adult Sunday School class this Sunday, November 25, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 209.

THORNWELL OFFERING

Thornwell, a residential home and foster program located in Clinton, SC, provides a place for children who need a stable home life, a solid education, and spiritual nurturing. As members of Westminster, we have an opportunity to share in meeting this need. Envelopes are provided in the Ritual of Friendship booklets. Please make checks payable to Westminster and designate for Thornwell.

2018 ADVENT DEVOTIONALS

The 2018 Daily Advent Devotionals will be delivered by email beginning Sunday, December 2. If you prefer to receive a paper copy, contact the church office at 232-2424. We invite you to take a moment out of your day to read and meditate on this daily devotion that will lead us through the Advent season.

BIRTH

A son, John Brody Shepherd, was born to Paul & Allston Shepherd on Tuesday, November 6, 2018, in Greenville.

CONNECTIONS

The next Connections get-together will be Sunday, December 2 at 12:45 p.m. Join us for a Christmas Brunch at round tables in the Lobby of the Poinsett Hotel next to the Christmas tree. Our food will be from the delicious buffet in the Spoonbread Restaurant of the hotel. Parking is available in the garage at the rear of the hotel, with valet service available if needed. Please respond to Edna Ruth Miller (288-8645 or rgvduo@bellsouth.net) by Friday, November 30. Call if you have any questions.

2019 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

As of Tuesday, November 20, we have received \$1,611,283 in pledges toward our 2019 budget goal of \$2,573,739. For your convenience, pledge cards are in the pews, or you may mail in your pledge or send it by email to the Church Financial Secretary, Sherri Owens, at sherri@wpc-online.org.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Get your day started right with the "It's Never Too Early to Talk About Jesus" study and discussion group, meeting again **Tuesday, November 27, at 6:00 a.m.** in the **Women's Lounge**. This semester we are studying Rachel Held Evans's New York Times bestseller, A Year of Biblical Womanhood (available in the WPC library). Questions? Contact *Kathleen Reynolds* (kathleenmreynolds@yahoo.com, 346-3155) or Associate Pastor Leigh Stuckey.

WESTMINSTER/  
CAROLINA HIGH EVENT

The first Westminster/Carolina High event will be **Tuesday, December 4, from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.** A SignUp Genius has been sent to all who have expressed interest in helping out. Please complete that as soon as possible so we can fill in any empty spots. If you did not receive an email and are interested in helping, contact Jennifer Dillard (jdillard@wpc-online.org) to get plugged in!

ADULT GROUPS

- **Luncheon Group:** Will meet **Wednesday, November 28, at 12:00 p.m.** in **Room 211**. **Leaders:** *Bob & Mary Ann Cox* (lmaryanncox@gmail.com).
- **Couples Bible Study (50+):** Will meet **Wednesday, November 28, at 7:00 p.m.** in the **Charter Room**. **Leaders:** *Dick & Mary Sargent* (mfsdesigns95@yahoo.com).
- **Hiking Group:** Will meet **Saturday, December 1, at 8:30 a.m.** in the parking lot for hike at Table Rock State Park. **Hike Leader:** *Anne Holleman* (holl2759@att.net).

LIGHTLY SEASONED

Lightly Seasoned, a fellowship group for those in their fifties (very loosely defined), will meet at the church **Wednesday, December 5, at 6:00 p.m.** Watch your e-mail for more information, or if you don't hear from us, contact *Susan Grier* (susan@grierfamily.org). We hope to see you!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

**Circle #7:** Will meet **Wednesday, November 28, at 6:30 p.m.** at the church to polish silver and then to eat dinner at McAlister's Deli (Augusta St.). **Circle Leader:** *Talitha Allen* (bewt29617@bellsouth.net).

IHN DECEMBER 9 – 16

It's the final IHN (formerly known as GAIHN) week of 2018! The holidays are a wonderful time to celebrate and show our gratitude by helping WPC provide a safe and warm space for up to three families who are experiencing homelessness. We are looking for volunteers to act as hosts or provide dinner to our guests during the week of **December 9-16**. You can sign up at <https://bit.ly/2JXLtBr> or in person this Sunday in the Sanctuary Atrium. If you have any additional questions or want to learn more, please contact *Holly Vanderwal* at [hollyv04@hotmail.com](mailto:hollyv04@hotmail.com).

IHN (GAIHN) needs your help and donations. Imagine that you are a child in temporary housing and your suitcase is a garbage bag. Imagine your lunch pail is a used grocery bag. Imagine not having a backpack to carry school books. Please consider donating small suitcases, gym bags, backpacks or lunch pails so these sweet children we host may feel just a little bit better each day. We thank you!

WESTMINSTER BOOK CLUB

Because of a scheduling conflict, Westminster's Book Club will wait until **Tuesday, February 5**, to discuss the book Swing Time by Zadie Smith. We meet from 7:00 – 8:00 pm, in the church library. New people are always welcome!

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER  
ANNUAL ADVENT LUNCHEON

**Tuesday, December 4 in the Fellowship Hall**

We are excited to have Pastor Ben Dorr and the Weekday School K5 class join as part of this year's program. A social will begin at **11:30 a.m.**, followed by lunch and the program beginning at **noon**. The cost is \$9. Childcare will be provided. Menu: Chicken salad on a bed of baby spinach, pasta salad, croissant, and red velvet cake. RSVP on the website or call the church office.

Like last year, there is an option to support the women and children of Serenity Place this holiday season. To purchase a gift, please visit [www.wpc-online.org](http://www.wpc-online.org) to sign up. All gifts should be brought (unwrapped) to the Advent Luncheon or dropped off in the church office prior to the event.

THE HARBINGER  
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
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Pastor Emeritus	Zane Moore
Director of Music	Mark Kemp
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Mark Your Calendar!

WestFest VI  
Sunday, December 2  
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

This event will be in the Green Lot  
featuring music from  
The Erica Berg Collective and food  
from Thoroughfare,  
The Chuck Truck,  
and Kickin' Pig BBQ.

CHURCHWIDE CHRISTMAS DINNER

Sunday, December 16 6:30 p.m.

Join us at our annual Christmas dinner, on **Sunday, December 16, at 6:30 p.m.** in the **Fellowship Hall**. Menu: turkey, dressing, gravy, green beans, sweet potato casserole, salad, and dessert. To keep the check-in lines moving on December 16, we ask that you sign up online and pay online by going to <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/>. **Sign ups end on Monday, December 10.**

At **7:30 p.m.** the Sanctuary Choir, joined by the orchestra, will present "Small, Dancing Light" by Taylor Davis in the Sanctuary. This 45 minute choral work for Advent features contemporary poetry by Terry York set to original music, as well as traditional carols. Together we will anticipate the love, joy, peace, and hope of the incarnation.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 25 - December 1, 2018

SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. Worship Service  
10:00 a.m. One Combined Adult  
Sunday School  
11:15 a.m. Worship Service  
5:00 p.m. Middler Group Meeting  
5:15 p.m. Senior High Choir Rehearsal  
6:00 p.m. Youth Dinner  
6:30 p.m. Middler Choir Rehearsal  
6:30 p.m. Senior High Group Meeting  
8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous

MONDAY

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  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY

9:30 a.m. Weekday Chapel  
9:45 a.m. Weekday Chapel  
12:00 p.m. Luncheon Group Meeting  
3:00 p.m. "It's Elementary!" & Tweens  
3:30 p.m. Cherub Choir  
4:30 p.m. Junior & Senior Choristers  
6:30 p.m. PW Circle #7  
polishing silver/dinner  
7:00 p.m. Couples Bible Study (50+)  
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY

10:00 a.m. Thursday Bible Study  
8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

SATURDAY

8:30 a.m. Hiking Group



PLACES THAT BELONG TO YOU

So now that Thanksgiving ended (what...a few hours ago?), the Christmas shopping season can officially begin. But what do you give a person who has everything? Hmm...that is a toughie. I've got it – a tie! No, that's so overdone. How about a spa gift certificate? Fun, but seems unoriginal. Maybe a matching scarf/mittens combo? Oh, never mind.

I'm embarrassed to admit it, but there is someone very special to me whom I often leave off my list. He doesn't need anything and has given me more than I could measure. It's funny, but in this instance, I know exactly what I should give. I just don't always want to give it. It costs a lot. Really. No, I mean it. It doesn't get more expensive than this – even though the cost isn't in dollars.

God asks for me (and you) to act justly, love mercy, and to walk humbly with him. He spells it out right there in the Old Testament. I'm certain it's in your Bible too. Look up Micah chapter six, verse eight. Read it for yourself. I'll wait. Now, you see what I mean? It sure is a doozy. So, what to do about all of this?

For starters, don't panic. God would never ask more of us than we are capable of doing, with his help. It doesn't mean it'll be easy. But overall – we got this! Secondly, God knows that we are fallible and that we mess up sometimes. That's kind of the whole point of God's sending his only begotten Son for us. Remember, Christmas is the celebration of Christ's birth. But we have to open ourselves up and embrace him. We wouldn't need him if we were perfect.

God wants us to give beyond money and even our time. He wants our thoughts, our intentions, our dreams, and our secrets. He wants every nook and cranny of our very being. Our souls should have no rooms that God cannot enter. And when he's entered so fully into our lives, it is so much easier to give him what he truly desires for Christmas and all year through: us.

Heavenly Father,  
Focus our eyes and our hearts  
To greet faces in song.  
May the bright ease the dark  
In the places that belong to you.