

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, September 15, 2019

9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty and gracious God, since our whole salvation stands in our knowledge of your holy word, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, that our hearts may be freed from the chains of sin, so that we may hear and receive your word, recognizing your gracious will for us. Teach us by scripture to love and serve you with delight, praising and glorifying you in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

John Calvin (1509-1564)

GATHERING THE COMMUNITY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

People: **And also with you.**

PREPARING FOR GOD’S WORD

PRELUDE "Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens Adore Him" arr. Page

INTROIT 11:15 "Wait for the Lord" Berthier

* CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 27:1, 13-14*

Leader: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

People: **The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

Leader: I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

People: **Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage. Wait for the Lord!**

All: **Let us worship God!**

* HYMN OF PRAISE No. 10 LASST UNS ERFREUEN

"Sing Glory to the Name of God"

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Good and gracious God, we have become enraptured with the status quo. We disregard your calls for justice, we pass by those who mourn, and we refuse to ask difficult questions of the ways we practice our faith. We surrender to easy excuses, holding our neighbor to a tight moral test, while grading our own lives on a curve. Forgive us, Holy One. Help us not to fear your appearance in our lives, but to welcome your intrusive grace, so that we would go where you need us to go, and would be the disciples your Son has called us to be. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. 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.

At 9:00 worship, children in K5-first grade are invited to leave for Children's Church.

ANTHEM 11:15 "God's Love is Alive in Us Today" Patterson

At 11:15 worship, children in K5-first grade are invited to leave for Children's Church.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HEARING GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Exodus 15:19-21 O.T., p. 54

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 5:1-20 N.T., p. 816

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON Ben Dorr

"Asking Jesus to Leave"

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *from The Confession of 1967*

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind.

His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women

and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the

Spirit brings God’s forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith,

repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ. The new life takes

shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in

spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing

that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God’s grace.

CALL TO PRAYER 11:15 Carter

"No Harm Have I Done You"

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING

THE LORD’S PRAYER *Hymnal page 35, Traditional*

OFFERING

Offertory "I Know I've Been Changed" Shackley/Dandridge

* 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. 772 TRURO

"Live into Hope"

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

* CHORAL RESPONSE 11:15 Davis

"Go Out with Joy"

* POSTLUDE "How Firm a Foundation" arr. Page

**All who are able may stand*

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HEAD USHERS: 9:00 a.m. Jason Farmer
11:15 a.m. Brandt Givens
SPONSOR: 9:00 a.m. Ben Alexander
GREETERS: 9:00 a.m. Brian Blount, Scott Clark
Michael Hoffman
11:15 a.m. Brian Blount, Brad Lucas
Coleman Kirven
LITURGIST: Mary Kathleen Duncan
LAY READERS: 9:00 a.m. Judy O'Neal
11:15 a.m. Jara Jones
ACOLYTES: 9:00 a.m. Mills Hardaway, Alex Hoffman
11:15 a.m. Grier Clark, Kass Williams

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.

Shalick Smith, soloist

11:15 a.m.

Junior & Senior Choristers

Sanctuary Choir

Shalick Smith, soloist

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 worship, children in rising K5–1st grade follow one of our ministers out for Children’s Church in Room 206.

LET US PRAY FOR:

Gretchen Reed & family

The Family of Helen Pickelsimer

Gaye Sprague & family

Elizabeth Rasor & family

The Family of Tommy Miller

FALL SERMON SERIES

The title of our fall sermon series is "Who Do You Say That I Am?" Each Sunday until the end of November, we will explore a different name, description, or identity given to Jesus in the New Testament. Last week, we began the series by looking at Jesus the teacher. The focus for today’s sermon is Jesus the exorcist.

BIRTH

A son, *Evan Rick Black*, was born to Evan & Laurie Black on Tuesday, August 20, 2019, in Greenville.

SYMPATHY

We extend sincere sympathy to *Gaye Sprague* and *Elizabeth Rasor* on the death of their mother, *Juanita Garrison*, on Thursday, September 5, 2019, in Anderson.

INTERESTED IN JOINING WESTMINSTER?

Visitors interested in learning more about Westminster Presbyterian Church, membership here, and what it means to be Presbyterian are invited to attend our New Member Class from **9:00–10:30 a.m. on Sunday, September 22**. Those who have been baptized and who wish to become members may do so on **Sunday, September 22**, during the **11:15 a.m.** worship service or on a future new member Sunday. If you are interested in joining us, please contact *Jennifer Dillard* (jdillard@wpc-online.org) at 232-2424.

In Memoriam

James T. Miller, IV

7/26/1948 - 9/9/2019

"I am the resurrection and the life."

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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!

ADULT GROUPS

- **Hiking Group:** Will hike Burnt Mountain Trail on **Friday, September 27**. Hike Leader: *Buffie Taylor* (ehtaylor87@gmail.com or 640-4554).

THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet at **7:00 p.m.** in the **Charter Room** on **Monday, September 16**. *Jan Haubenreich* will lead the discussion of Benediction, a novel by Kent Haruf. Read the book and join us for an interesting evening. All are invited.

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER

Tuesday, September 17

- **Circle #7:** *Talitha Allen*, chair (bewt29617@bellsouth.net), will meet at **6:30 p.m.** at *Terri LeGrand's* home (16 N. Brookwood Dr.).

YOUNGISH ADULTS

Mark your calendars for the kick off of our Youngish Fellowship & Discussion series on **Wednesday, September 18** at Birds Fly South (1320 Hampton Ave.) from 6:30-8:00ish. Please note that childcare will be available beginning at 6:15 p.m. at Westminster. Youngish Adults, which is open to folks 20ish-45ish, meets every first and third Wednesday.

ADVENT DEVOTIONS

It's that time of year again when we are looking for volunteers to write a short devotional to be included in the 2019 Advent Devotions series. Email *Joanne Sweeny* (swejoa38@gmail.com) if you would be willing to help with this. Thank you.

MEN'S GROUP BOOK STUDY

The Men's Group will continue their fall book study on **Monday, September 16**, at **6:00 p.m.** in **Room 209-C**, studying the book Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference by Philip Yancey. All WPC men are invited to participate and newcomers are welcome. For more information, contact *Rick Carpenter* (608-1881).

UNITED MINISTRIES

FOOD PANTRY

The food pantry is in need of peanut butter, dry milk, and other non-perishable food items. Donations may be left in the labeled cabinets in the Friendship Court.

JUSTFAITH

Poverty, Consumerism, Compassion: JustFaith is a transformative 8-week journey delving into how these issues can challenge our world view. Risk stretching your spiritual boundaries and join us beginning **Monday, October 7, at 6:00 p.m.** For more information, call *Susan McLeod* (787-6262), *Susan Fender* (905-5466), or *Bill Holt* (982-3368).

SAVE THE DATE!

The Men of the Church will be back up at Camp Thornwell **October 16-20** for our fall mission trip. We'll have indoor and outdoor construction, demolition, and landscaping projects for all skill levels plus evening fellowship. Come up for some or for all - every bit will help the kids at Thornwell to have fun camp experiences. For questions about Camp Thornwell, our involvement, or to find out how to get involved, please contact *Jeff Reynolds* (rjreynocu@yahoo.com or 617-5152).

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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THE HARBINGER WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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CHURCH STAFF

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Pastor	Ben Dorr
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Associate Pastor	Leigh Stuckey
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Associate Pastor	Mary Kathleen Duncan
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Parish Associate for Older Adults	Amos Workman
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Children's Choir Coordinator	Kathryn Knauer
	kknauer@wpc-online.org
Volunteer Coordinator	Jennifer Dillard
	jdillard@wpc-online.org
Youth Intern	Lauren Ghighi
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Organist	Nancy Smith
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Weekday School Director	Cara Puntch
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	jpitman@wpc-online.org
Director of Hospitality	Lisa Ridge
	lisa@wpc-online.org
Building Supervisor	Steve Phillips
	stevep30@bellsouth.net

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 15-21, 2019

SUNDAY

9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	Library Committee Meeting
	Membership Committee Meeting
10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
11:15 a.m.	Worship Service
12:30 p.m.	Stated Session Meeting
4:00 p.m.	Baptism Class
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
	Senior High Group Meeting
	Alcoholics Anonymous

MONDAY

6:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study
6:15 p.m.	NAMI
7:00 p.m.	Theology Reading Group
8:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous

TUESDAY

11:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
12:00 p.m.	AI-Anon
12:30 p.m.	Senior Adult Luncheon
6:30 p.m.	PW Circle #7

WEDNESDAY

12:00 p.m.	Gifts & Gratitude Committee Meeting
3:00 p.m.	It's Elementary
4:30 p.m.	Junior & Senior Chorister Rehearsal
6:15 p.m.	Youngish Adults Bible Study
7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY

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

BASKETBALL REGISTRATION BEGINS

Youth ages 5K-12 grade are invited to participate in Christian fellowship and recreational basketball for the upcoming season, which will begin the week of November 16. The 5K-1st grade league will begin Saturday, December 7. WPC members interested in being a coach or assistant coach may contact Bryant Puntch (bryant_puntch@ucbi.com or 915-5686). **Online player registration will end Thursday, October 10.** Registration and schedules may be accessed on the church's website (<https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/youth-basketball/>).



When I look at a beautiful mountain range or stare at the vastness of the ocean, I'm always reminded of how small we are in the grand scheme of life and how amazing God is. How is he so powerful that he was able to mold the mountains and fill the oceans with water?

This week's bible verses not only exhibit God's power, but also how God uses his strength. Mark 5:1-20 forces us to see that God often works through those who we may perceive as insignificant. In a world full of humans trying to acquire power by any means necessary – whether it be through material possessions or social/work status – God reminds us that he doesn't value the power, wealth, and fame that humans can be wooed by here on Earth. Exposure to the story of Legion presents the opportunity to transform our perceptions, and ultimately, our actions.

When I read this verse, I really had to dig deep and ask myself how often I pay attention to the marginalized and seemingly insignificant people in our society. I was ashamed to admit to myself that in recent years, I have rarely left my "bubble." Throughout my life, I have spent time helping those who were less fortunate – reading to underprivileged kids at Head Start, adopting "little sisters" from Big Brothers Big Sisters and the like. But when I stop to think about how often I step outside my "bubble" these days, I could count them on my hands. I've been so wrapped up with what's going on in my life and my children's lives, that I was unaware that I may have chosen a turn or two on the journey of life that may have slightly shifted my desired path.

This bible verse forced me to ask myself if I am teaching my children some of the values that I have held so dear throughout my life. Am I opening myself up to experience God's amazing power in all possible ways, including surrounding myself around others who may be seemingly powerless (and yet, who may be the most powerful of all)?

Although God's power is awe-inspiring and we may seem miniscule in comparison to the mountains and the oceans that he formed, God created each of us with the ability to think, grow, change, and make a positive difference in the world around us. Each day is a new day and the opportunity to be better than the day before.

Tiffany Williams

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

We at Westminster believe that education is essential for discipleship, and hope that what you learn in this place will transform your living beyond our doors. Each quarter we offer three classes, covering topics that range from theology and Biblical literacy to culture. This quarter kicked off on **Sunday, September 8**, and will run each Sunday **through October 27**. You are welcome to join any class at any point!

1. Rabble-Rousers, Protesters, and Priests: Ancient Heresies and their Modern Manifestations

The first centuries after that very first Easter were filled with lively debate, drunken monks, and pedantic scholars all attempting to understand how to coherently articulate the radical faith they found in Jesus. In *Rabble-Rousers, Protesters, and Priests* we will explore the long-forgotten characters who formed our faith and the early debates that shaped orthodoxy and still crop up today. For instance: is Jesus fully God?, must priests be “holy” to be effective in their ministry?, was Jesus more “spirit” than flesh?, and are works necessary to salvation? Join us for an immersive jaunt in early church history, and learn something about living faith in the 21st century.

Teacher: Leigh Stuckey, an Associate Pastor at Westminster, with occasional guest spots by Pastors Ben Dorr, Mary Kathleen Duncan, and Lauren Slingerland.

Room: 209

2. Moral Leadership for a Divided Age

Great moral leaders inspire and unite us. In the midst of our increasingly divided age, examining remarkable leaders can help us understand the central qualities of moral leadership and discover lessons for our own lives and times. Using David Gushee and Colin Holtz’s recent compilation *Moral Leadership for a Divided Age: Fourteen People who Dared to Change our World*, this discussion-based class will explore the lives and messages of 14 brilliant, flawed leaders who have helped shape our world.

Teacher: Judith Chandler, a member of Westminster, has taught at Furman's Lifelong Learning Institute since its inception. She is also a recognized local artist.

Room: 210

3. Bless this Mess: Parenting in the 21st Century

Raising children is hard work, and “perfect” parenting is an alluring myth. Using *Bless This Mess: A Modern Guide to Faith and Parenting in a Chaotic World* by the Reverend Molly Baskette and Ellen O’Donnell, a child psychologist, this biblically based class will explore what it means to be a parent and maintain your sanity.

Teacher: Cara Puntch is a certified educator with experience in classrooms and at the Greenville School District, is the Director of the Westminster Weekday School, and a mother of three.

Room: 213

Class assignments for children and youth Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. are as follows:

2K will meet in Room 108, on our lowest floor, 3K in Room 109 and 4K in Room 110. 5K and 1st grade will meet together in Room 123. Grades 2 and 3 will meet together in Room 119. Grades 4 and 5 will meet together in Room 116.

Grades 6, 7, and 8 will meet together as a class in Room 301A and Grades 9–12 will meet in the Youth Suite. Confirmation Class will meet in 300B&C.

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