

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Sunday, January 12, 2020
9:00 and 11:15 a.m.**

Baptism of the Lord

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Eternal God, at the baptism of Jesus in the river Jordan, you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Grant that we, who are baptized into his name, may keep our baptismal covenant, loving others with humility and humor, serving the stranger with gratitude and grace. Amen.

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 Prelude on NETTLETON arr. Smith

* CALL TO WORSHIP *Psalm 29:3-4, 11*

Leader: The voice of the Lord is over the waters;
the glory of God thunders, the Lord, over mighty waters.

People: **The voice of the Lord is powerful;
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.**

Leader: May the Lord give strength to his people!
May the Lord bless his people with peace!

All: **Let us worship God!**

* HYMN OF PRAISE No. 475 NETTLETON

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from one another. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another. We allow the past to hold us captive. In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin. Fulfill the promises of our baptism, so that we may rise to new life, and live together in grace. 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 - first grade are invited to leave for Children’s Church.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HEARING GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 42:1-4 O.T., p. 584

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 3:13-17 N.T., p. 784

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON Ben Dorr

“This Is Who You Are”

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *From The Confession of 1967*

By humble submission to John’s baptism, Christ joined himself to men and women in their need and entered upon his ministry of reconciliation in the power of the Spirit. Christian baptism marks the receiving of the same Spirit by all his people. Baptism with water represents not only cleansing from sin, but a dying with Christ and a joyful rising with him to new life. It commits all Christians to die each day to sin and to live for righteousness. In baptism, the church celebrates the renewal of the covenant with which God has bound us to God’s very self.

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER *11:15* Berthier

“O Lord, Hear My Prayer”

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING

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

OFFERING

Solo/Anthem “Deep River” Culloton

* 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. 482 BUNESSAN

“Baptized in Water”

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

* CHORAL RESPONSE “God Be With You” Tomer

* POSTLUDE “Awake the Trumpet’s Lofty Sound” Handel

**All who are able may stand*

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HEAD USHERS: 9:00 a.m. Anne Nuttall
11:15 a.m. Brandt Givens
SPONSOR: Ben Edwards
GREETERS: 9:00 a.m. Phillip Cox, Michael Dixon
Sarah Beasley
11:15 a.m. Catherine Pollock, Becca Donohue
Susan Jones
LITURGIST: Lauren Slingerland
LAY READERS: 9:00 a.m. Jill McCreight
11:15 a.m. Cara Puntch
ACOLYTES: 9:00 a.m. Ellie Coker, JP Hartman
11:15 a.m. Amelia Key, Emmie Paradise

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.

Emily Sweezey, soloist

11:15 a.m.

Sanctuary Choir

LET US PRAY FOR:

Cris Crain and family

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

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.

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, January 26, at 4:00 p.m.** in the **Charter Room**. Please email Michelle in the church office at michelle@wpc-online.org if you are planning to attend.

The Session has called the annual meeting of the congregation this **Sunday, January 12, 2020**, immediately following the **11:15 a.m.** worship service. The purpose of the meeting is threefold:

- a) To vote on the proposed terms of call for 2020 for our pastoral staff;
- b) To receive the 2020 operating budget;
- c) To elect 12 elders (Class of 2023) to the Session, 2 trustees, and to elect an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.

The proposed slates being presented by the Nominating Committee are as follows:

Elders: *Mary Ashmore, Tony Atkins, Jeff Beck, Emily Busby, Caroline Clark, Durden Collins, Kevin Lancaster, Lisa Mangione, Rob Morgan, Carl Muller, Mae Todd Mullins, Laura Williams Sanders*

Trustees: *Charlie Gentry (to fill an unexpired term, Class of 2021) and Rick Carpenter (Class of 2025)*

APNC: *Roger Beasley, Ted Gentry, Allen Gillespie, Charlie LeGrand, Christa Likes, Susan McLeod, Gaye Sprague, Amanda Warren*

CONNECTIONS GROUP

GRAB A NAMETAG

Connections will meet this **Sunday, January 12**, at **12:45 p.m.** at the **Iron Hill Brewery** (741 Haywood Rd.). Newcomers are welcome!

MEN'S GROUP BOOK STUDY
The Men's Group will begin a new book study on **Monday, January 13**, at **6:00 p.m.** in **Room 209-C**. We will study the book, *The Bible Jesus Read*, by Philip Yancey. All WPC men are invited to participate and newcomers are welcome. For more information, contact *Rick Carpenter* (608-1881).

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER
Tuesday, January 14

- **Circle #5:** *Ilene Schlacht*, chair (rischlacht@att.net), will meet at **10:00 a.m.** in the **Choir Room**.
- **Circle #3:** *Dee Malone*, chair (dee05m@gmail.com), will meet at Dee's home (624 McDaniel Ave.) at **4:00 p.m.**

**Women of Westminister:
Women's Retreat
February 21-23, 2020**

Registration available at www.wpc-online.org.
Deadline: January 21.

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!

THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet **Monday, January 20**, at **7:00 p.m.** in the **Charter Room**. *Sonya O'Neal* will lead the discussion of *Liberation Theology for Armchair Theologians* by Miguel A. De La Torre. Read the book and join us for an interesting evening. All are invited.

LIGHTLY SEASONED

"Lightly Seasoned" – a Westminster fellowship group for those in their fifties (very loosely defined) – will meet **Friday, January 24**, at **7:00 p.m.** at the home of *Todd & Sara Harward* (74 Woodvale Ave). Watch your e-mail for more information, or, if you don't hear from us, please contact *Susan Grier* (susan@grierfamily.org) for more information. We hope to see you there!

**THE HARBINGER
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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

www.wpc-online.org

THE HARBINGER: (USPS No. 764160)
Published weekly by the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2310 Augusta Street, Greenville SC 29605. Periodical postage paid at Greenville SC 29605.

CHURCH STAFF

Church 232-2424	Weekday School 232-5766
Pastor	Ben Dorr
	bdorr@wpc-online.org
Associate Pastor	Leigh Stuckey
	lstuckey@wpc-online.org
Associate Pastor	Mary Kathleen Duncan
	mkduncan@wpc-online.org
Associate Pastor	Lauren Slingerland
	lslingerland@wpc-online.org
Parish Associate for Older Adults	Amos Workman
	aworkman@wpc-online.org
Music Director	Mark Kemp
	mkemp@wpc-online.org
Children's Choir Coordinator	Kathryn Knauer
	kknauer@wpc-online.org
Volunteer Coordinator	Jennifer Dillard
	jdillard@wpc-online.org
Youth Intern	Lauren Ghighi
	lghighi@wpc-online.org
Organist	Nancy Smith
	nls1949@aol.com
Weekday School Director	Cara Puntch
	cpuntch@wpc-online.org
Financial Secretary	Sherri Owens
	sherri@wpc-online.org
Office Manager	Michelle Little
	michelle@wpc-online.org
Secretary	Wendy Bagley
	wendy@wpc-online.org
Director of Nurseries	Janell Pitman
	jpitman@wpc-online.org

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS
January 12 - 18, 2020**

SUNDAY
IHN arrives
8:45 a.m. Witness & Service Committee Meeting
9:00 a.m. Worship Service
Confirmation Class Meeting
Creation Stewardship Meeting
Membership Committee Meeting
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:15 a.m. Worship Service
12:15 p.m. Annual Congregational Meeting
12:45 p.m. Connections Group
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
8:00 p.m.

MONDAY
IHN
6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study Group
6:15 p.m. NAMI
8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

TUESDAY
IHN
10:00 a.m. Circle #5 Meeting
11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
12:00 p.m. AI-Anon
4:00 p.m. Circle #3 Meeting
4:30 p.m. Gifts & Gratitude Committee Meeting

WEDNESDAY
IHN
9:30 a.m. Weekday Chapel
9:45 a.m. Weekday Chapel
3:00 p.m. It's Elementary!
4:30 p.m. Junior & Senior Choristers
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

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

FRIDAY
IHN
Youth Ski Trip

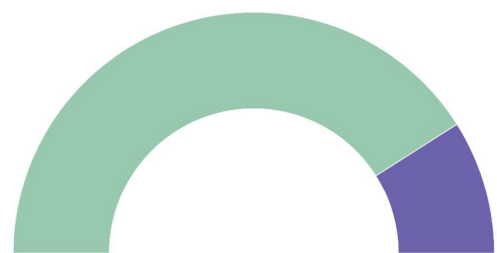
SATURDAY
IHN
Youth Ski Trip

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 _____

**2020 STEWARDSHIP
CAMPAIGN**



Pledged Goal

We have met 95% of our goal.

As of Tuesday, January 7, we have received \$2,385,368 in pledges toward our 2020 budget goal of \$2,513,715.

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.



NEW APPROACH TO NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

My sister sent me an email at the end of the year with an excerpt of an article she had read. The article posed seven questions to ask yourself as you head into the new year. I found these questions really helped me think outside of the traditional "New Years Resolutions," meaning the setting of specific quantifiable goals, i.e., lose weight, go to gym four times per week, study the Bible every day. Nothing is wrong with such goals and if they work for you, more power to you. However, I find that I soon lose steam in maintaining such goals. (Perhaps I should set such goals with a duration of a few weeks!) In contrast, these questions caused me to be far more reflective on bigger picture issues and think a bit more holistically. It made me think less about accomplishing a specific task and focus on what I am really trying to achieve through the tasks. This has been really useful for me and I wanted to share some of these questions with you, as you may find it a worthwhile exercise to consider what your responses might be.

- *What do you hope for this coming year that is different from other years?*
- *What do you want to contribute to your community to make it a better place?*
- *How do you want to be different by the end of the year?*
- *In what way or ways do you want to deepen your spiritual life?*

Of course there are no right or wrong answers to questions of this nature. They are simply a way to help guide us as we try and think about the coming year. You may think of additional questions that resonate better with your life at this moment or are more thought provoking, all of which is wonderful. One that came to mind for me was thinking about how I might want to positively impact others in my life.

The world today is so caught up in the moment that we can lose sight of the bigger picture and the start of a new year provides us a great opportunity to pause and think a bit larger.

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. This quarter kicked off on **Sunday, January 5**, and will run each Sunday **through February 23**. We will introduce a new peer-led discussion-based class exploring Luke and Acts on February 2. You are welcome to join any class at any point!

1. God Save This Honorable Court:

What Christians Should Know About the Supreme Court.

The United States Supreme Court is deeply entwined with the religious and moral lives of Americans. For some Christians, judicial appointments have become the most important factor in deciding for whom to vote. By studying how the Court operates and, equally importantly, delving into the stories and the “real people” behind contentious court decisions, we will endeavor to reach conclusions about how we as Christians ought to think about “the least dangerous branch” of government.

Teacher: *Ted Gentry*, a member of Westminster since 1992, has extensive appellate experience, including cases before the South Carolina Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, and the United States Supreme Court. Ted is of Counsel at Wyche, P. A. and serves as an Elder and Chair of Finance at Westminster.

Room 209

2. Bible Stories We Almost Remember

Who was that character that defeated the Philistines with just a rock and a slingshot? And who exactly is Mary Magdalene? Join this small-group, discussion-based class to delve deeply into some of Scripture’s most memorable — and least understood! – texts.

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. Riddles from Long Ago: Unpacking Jesus’ Parables in the 21st Century

Jesus’ most evocative and visceral stories often come in the form of parables — and are as often misunderstood as they are repeated. A skilled teacher, Jesus used images that would be familiar to hearers in first century Palestine as a way to evoke curiosity about the character of God’s kingdom. But life in the first century middle east and life in Greenville today are rather different. How can we understand these stories, and how can they provoke us to deeper seeking?

Teacher: Leigh Stuckey is the Associate Pastor for Adult Education at Westminster.

Room 211

SUPPER WITH SEVEN

It's time to sign up for our next Supper With Seven series. Supper With Seven groups will be made up of couples and singles who will get together for fellowship. The goal will be to have each group get together three times in a period from late February through May. The meal-sharing opportunities range from a traditional dinner at a member's home to backyard barbecues to meetings at the pizza parlor. It is up to each group to decide. ***The deadline to sign up for Supper With Seven is Monday, February 3.***

To sign up, return this form to the church office, or fill out the online form on the church website by navigating to the Supper With Seven page (<https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/supper-with-seven/>).

Name(s): _____

(Include both names if you are signing up as a couple.)

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Please check as many as apply:

_____ I/We would be willing to host a first gathering of seven or so people.

_____ I/We cannot host the first gathering, but would consider a subsequent one.

_____ I/We cannot host but would like to be part of a group.

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. This quarter kicked off on **Sunday, January 5**, and will run each Sunday **through February 23**. We will introduce a new peer-led discussion-based class exploring Luke and Acts on February 2. You are welcome to join any class at any point!

1. God Save This Honorable Court:

What Christians Should Know About the Supreme Court.

The United States Supreme Court is deeply entwined with the religious and moral lives of Americans. For some Christians, judicial appointments have become the most important factor in deciding for whom to vote. By studying how the Court operates and, equally importantly, delving into the stories and the “real people” behind contentious court decisions, we will endeavor to reach conclusions about how we as Christians ought to think about “the least dangerous branch” of government.

Teacher: *Ted Gentry*, a member of Westminster since 1992, has extensive appellate experience, including cases before the South Carolina Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, and the United States Supreme Court. Ted is of Counsel at Wyche, P. A. and serves as an Elder and Chair of Finance at Westminster.

Room 209

2. Bible Stories We Almost Remember

Who was that character that defeated the Philistines with just a rock and a slingshot? And who exactly is Mary Magdalene? Join this small-group, discussion-based class to delve deeply into some of Scripture’s most memorable — and least understood! – texts.

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. Riddles from Long Ago: Unpacking Jesus’ Parables in the 21st Century

Jesus’ most evocative and visceral stories often come in the form of parables — and are as often misunderstood as they are repeated. A skilled teacher, Jesus used images that would be familiar to hearers in first century Palestine as a way to evoke curiosity about the character of God’s kingdom. But life in the first century middle east and life in Greenville today are rather different. How can we understand these stories, and how can they provoke us to deeper seeking?

Teacher: Leigh Stuckey is the Associate Pastor for Adult Education at Westminster.

Room 211

SUPPER WITH SEVEN

It's time to sign up for our next Supper With Seven series. Supper With Seven groups will be made up of couples and singles who will get together for fellowship. The goal will be to have each group get together three times in a period from late February through May. The meal-sharing opportunities range from a traditional dinner at a member's home to backyard barbecues to meetings at the pizza parlor. It is up to each group to decide. ***The deadline to sign up for Supper With Seven is Monday, February 3.***

To sign up, return this form to the church office, or fill out the online form on the church website by navigating to the Supper With Seven page (<https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/supper-with-seven/>).

Name(s): _____

(Include both names if you are signing up as a couple.)

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Please check as many as apply:

_____ I/We would be willing to host a first gathering of seven or so people.

_____ I/We cannot host the first gathering, but would consider a subsequent one.

_____ I/We cannot host but would like to be part of a group.

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. This quarter kicked off on **Sunday, January 5**, and will run each Sunday **through February 23**. We will introduce a new peer-led discussion-based class exploring Luke and Acts on February 2. You are welcome to join any class at any point!

1. God Save This Honorable Court:

What Christians Should Know About the Supreme Court.

The United States Supreme Court is deeply entwined with the religious and moral lives of Americans. For some Christians, judicial appointments have become the most important factor in deciding for whom to vote. By studying how the Court operates and, equally importantly, delving into the stories and the “real people” behind contentious court decisions, we will endeavor to reach conclusions about how we as Christians ought to think about “the least dangerous branch” of government.

Teacher: *Ted Gentry*, a member of Westminster since 1992, has extensive appellate experience, including cases before the South Carolina Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, and the United States Supreme Court. Ted is of Counsel at Wyche, P. A. and serves as an Elder and Chair of Finance at Westminster.

Room 209

2. Bible Stories We Almost Remember

Who was that character that defeated the Philistines with just a rock and a slingshot? And who exactly is Mary Magdalene? Join this small-group, discussion-based class to delve deeply into some of Scripture’s most memorable — and least understood! – texts.

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. Riddles from Long Ago: Unpacking Jesus’ Parables in the 21st Century

Jesus’ most evocative and visceral stories often come in the form of parables — and are as often misunderstood as they are repeated. A skilled teacher, Jesus used images that would be familiar to hearers in first century Palestine as a way to evoke curiosity about the character of God’s kingdom. But life in the first century middle east and life in Greenville today are rather different. How can we understand these stories, and how can they provoke us to deeper seeking?

Teacher: Leigh Stuckey is the Associate Pastor for Adult Education at Westminster.

Room 211

SUPPER WITH SEVEN

It's time to sign up for our next Supper With Seven series. Supper With Seven groups will be made up of couples and singles who will get together for fellowship. The goal will be to have each group get together three times in a period from late February through May. The meal-sharing opportunities range from a traditional dinner at a member's home to backyard barbecues to meetings at the pizza parlor. It is up to each group to decide. ***The deadline to sign up for Supper With Seven is Monday, February 3.***

To sign up, return this form to the church office, or fill out the online form on the church website by navigating to the Supper With Seven page (<https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/supper-with-seven/>).

Name(s): _____

(Include both names if you are signing up as a couple.)

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Please check as many as apply:

_____ I/We would be willing to host a first gathering of seven or so people.

_____ I/We cannot host the first gathering, but would consider a subsequent one.

_____ I/We cannot host but would like to be part of a group.