



Preparation for **Worship**

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not seek so much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

*Francis of Assisi*

Gathering and Preparing for **God's Word**

Prelude What Wondrous Love Is This arr. Forrest

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Stewardship *Kathryn Rowan*

Call to Worship Ephesians 2:17, 19-20

Christ came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. Let us worship God!

Hymn *I Come with Joy* McKEE

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

Holy God, we know that our vision is poor. We see others as we would like to see them, so that our conscience would be more comfortable. We ignore those who are needy, we create caricatures of those we dislike, and we fail to look honestly at our own lives. Forgive us, Almighty God. Remove our scared and self-centered instincts. Make us open to the movement of your Spirit, so that strangers would find a home with us, the rejected would find acceptance with us, and the forgotten would find love with us. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson, Deuteronomy 10:17-19

Gospel Lesson, *John 4:3-29*

Leader: **The Word of the Lord.**

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *"On the Fringes"*

Anthem *Come Before the Table* Marrolli

Responding to **God's Word**

Affirmation of Faith, *The Nicene Creed*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**  
**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**  
**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.**  
**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**  
**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**  
**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**  
**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**  
**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**  
**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.**  
**Amen.**

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

The Great Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

Leader: **The Lord be with you.**

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: **Lift up your hearts.**

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: **Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

**People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Words of Institution

Partaking of the Elements

Prayer after Communion

Hymn *We Come to the Table* KREMSE

Charge and Benediction

Postlude Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens Adore Him arr. Cousins

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*

Lauren Slingerland, *liturgist*

Kristen Blumer, *lay reader*

Nancy Smith, *organist*

Kathryn Knauer, Diana Dailey, Judy McKenney,

Derek Pitman, Mark Kemp, *vocalists*

With Thanksgiving We Celebrate

The birth of a daughter, Olivia Marie Revson, to Will & Megan Revson in Greenville on 9/15/2020.

OPEN HEARTS • Giving@WPC

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESSING OFFERING

This Sunday, October 4, we will be taking our annual Peace & Global Witnessing Offering. These gifts enable the PC(USA) to promote economic and social peace all over the world. Twenty-five percent of the offering stays at Westminster for local peacemaking missions. Special envelopes for your contributions have been included in your mailed Harbinger this week.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE FUND

A special offering for the Congregational Care Fund is received on Communion Sundays. This fund is used to assist members of the congregation in a time of financial need. Please make checks payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church and mark for Congregational Care.

**You may also give online at <https://wpc-online.org/give-today> and specify the appropriate offering for your donation.**

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 2020 Advent Devotions series. Email Joanne Sweeny (swejoa38@gmail.com) if you would be willing to help with this. Thank you.

OPEN HEARTS • Gathering@WPC

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY:

This Sunday, October 4th, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper in our online worship service. When you prepare for worship this Sunday, please have bread and grape juice available and ready as you watch the service so that you can take the elements of communion at the appropriate time.

OUTDOOR PRAYER SERVICE CONTINUES OCTOBER 4th, 9am & 11:15am

Our outdoor Sunday morning prayer services will be in the Green Lot at 9am & 11:15am. Up to 50 WPC members may sign up to attend each service. No childcare will be provided. Please bring your own chair. Masks and social distancing will be the rule! We hope this time together will allow us to see one another in person, in a safe way, while worshipping God and growing together in our faith. Sign up at <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/outdoor-prayer-services/>.

OPEN SANCTUARY

Our sanctuary is open for individual prayer and reflection on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday (9a-1p). WPC members will need to sign up ahead of time at <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/prayer-in-the-sanctuary-at-wpc/>.

**MEN OF THE CHURCH!**

The Fall Men's Mission Trip to Camp Thornwell is ON! We will be up at the camp in northern Pickens County on Wednesday, October 7-Sunday, October 11. Overnight indoor accommodations will be limited for Covid reasons so sign ups to reserve beds are required. Camping onsite is an option. All food will be provided. We will be starting construction of a cabin structure plus the ever present landscaping, cleaning and odd jobs. Something for everyone and all man hours will be put to good use whether you come up for a day trip or for one or more nights. The kids at Thornwell have spent a tremendous amount of time at the camp this summer and are appreciative of all of the work we have done! Contact Jeff Reynolds (jrreynocu@yahoo.com) with questions and to sign up.

**WPC DRIVE SEASON  
BENEFITING SERENITY PLACE**

In this time of critical need, we are excited to expand our "Drive Season" initiative to offer monthly food and goods drives to benefit our mission partners across the city. The back to school Carolina Closet drive was a tremendous success, and students are already taking advantage of your generous donations.

This month we have partnered with Serenity Place, a residential treatment center for pregnant women, young mothers, and their preschool aged children. We have long supported Serenity Place through The Family Effect. As we head into the colder months, the team at Serenity Place is in particular need of items for their Welcome Baskets. Welcome Baskets are given to moms when they are admitted to Serenity Place with their children and to those who give birth while in the program.

Serenity Place's greatest needs include newborn baby clothes, infant grooming kits with nail clippers, infant bathtubs, diapers, wipes, bottles (packs of three or more), baby wash, baby lotion, baby powder, wash cloths, bibs, socks, mittens, burp cloths, and crib sheets. Watch our Facebook page for a link to an Amazon wish list or bring items by Westminster for collection. The Serenity Place Drive will run through October 20th.

**OPEN MINDS • Education@WPC**

**WESTMINSTER BOOK CLUB**

The Westminster Book Club will meet in the Green lot on Tuesday October 6 at 6pm (NEW TIME: to be able to be done before it gets dark!). In case of rain, we will hold the session on GoToMeeting. Send Ellen Stevenson an email (ellens7377@gmail.com) if you want the log in information to join the meeting. Join us! New people are always welcome.

This month, Sherry Tate will lead our discussion of Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng. From the bestselling author of Everything I Never Told You, a riveting novel that traces the intertwined fates of the picture-perfect Richardson family and the enigmatic mother and daughter who upend their lives.

**ZOOM BIBLE STUDY ON  
SUNDAY MORNINGS THIS FALL!**

You are invited to participate in a Zoom Bible study at 10am on Sunday mornings led by Ben and other members of the pastoral staff! The Zoom information will be sent the preceding Thursday in the weekly newsletter and each Friday with the weekly emailed Harbinger. We will take a look at the texts that are being used in that particular Sunday's worship service. Please join us!

**JUSTFAITH:  
FAITH AND RACIAL EQUITY**

Zoom meetings of the JustFaith Group will begin Monday, October 5 at 6pm. For information previously registered class members may call Susan McLeod (787-6262) or Bill Holt (982-3368).

**THE HARBINGER**  
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**OPEN HEARTS • Service@WPC**

**2020 NOMINATING COMMITTEE:**

If you would like to nominate a member of WPC to serve on this year's Nominating Committee, please submit the name of this individual to the church office by October 5. The Nominating Committee will be elected this year by a congregational vote via the website, at the end of October. The Session will approve the proposed slate of names for the Nominating Committee, which will consist of 4 Session members and 5 at-large members.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS  
October 4-10, 2020**

SUNDAY	9:00 a.m.	Online Worship Service Green Lot Prayer Service
	10:00 a.m.	Zoom Bible Study
	11:15 a.m.	Online Worship Service Green Lot Prayer Service
MONDAY	9:00 a.m.	Prayer in the Sanctuary (thru 1pm)
TUESDAY	12:00 p.m.	Zoom Administrative Committee Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Westminster Book Club Group in Green Lot
WEDNESDAY		Men's Mission Trip to Camp Thornwell
	9:00 a.m.	Prayer in the Sanctuary (thru 1pm)
	12:00 p.m.	WPCYG Senior High Lunch
THURSDAY		Men's Mission Trip to Camp Thornwell
	9:00 a.m.	Prayer in the Sanctuary (thru 1pm)
	12:00 p.m.	Zoom Finance Committee Meeting WPCYG Senior High Lunch
FRIDAY		Men's Mission Trip to Camp Thornwell
	9:00 a.m.	Prayer in the Sanctuary (thru 1pm)
SATURDAY		Men's Mission Trip to Camp Thornwell

the  
**HARBINGER**  
open minds open hearts

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**From the Pews, Kristen Blumer:**

In the midst of a global pandemic where we are being told to remain 6 feet apart and avoid in-person gatherings, writing a Harbinger cover on this year's stewardship theme of "Together" seemed a bit ironic...

It goes without saying, but this has been a HARD year. In mid-March, our 4-year-old and 6-month-old came home from daycare for their Spring break week and did not return for 4 months. My husband and I saw colleagues around us lose their jobs, and experienced overwhelming stress, anxiety and survivor's guilt as more work was piled on our plates while also trying to care for 2 children at home. Our daughter did not get to have a 5th birthday party or get to experience her first summer on the swim team. My 99-year-old grandmother in New York passed away after 2 months with no visitors in a nursing home, and we watched her funeral via video feed.

People have had to cancel trips, weddings, graduation parties. Many are grieving formative milestones that were not at all what they expected. Children who relied on school as a stable safe haven are instead at home, falling through the cracks of society's safety net that seems to have unraveled in 2020. My heart is broken daily with news reports of worsening economic conditions, hospitalizations and deaths, racial injustice, explosions, fires, and natural disasters. As election season draws near, political ads will undoubtedly be targeted toward amplifying our fear, and in a year like this it doesn't take much to bring that fear to the surface.

To combat the fear and worry, I have tried to find the silver linings. We have bonded with our neighbors because everyone was always home. We have gotten much more time with our children and witnessed precious milestones firsthand. When we were able to get together with grandparents and family, our appreciation for their presence and help with our kids was multiplied tenfold. We still have jobs. We are healthy. We are truly among the lucky ones.

Which brings me to the topic of "Together." If I had to boil down the lessons of this year to the single kernel of truth I have learned, it is that we cannot thrive in isolation; we are in this together and community is critical to our well-being. While we cannot physically gather together in the literal sense we are accustomed to, we must come together in other ways. We must use our voices to vote and remove barriers so that everyone who is entitled to vote has that opportunity. We must be the hands and feet of God, finding new ways to show love and grace to our neighbors during this unprecedented time. And we must give generously from our abundant blessings by pledging during this year's stewardship campaign because now, more than ever, our community needs us. We can sow hope instead of fear and rise to that challenge, *together*.