



Preparation for **Worship**

Lord, open unto me light for my darkness, courage for my fear, hope for my despair, peace for my turmoil, joy for my sorrow, strength for my weakness, wisdom for my confusion, forgiveness for my sins, love for my hates, thy Self for my self. Lord, Lord, open unto me!

*Howard Thurman*

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

Prelude Prelude on HOLY MANNA Hamlin

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Stewardship Bill Ferrell

Call to Worship Psalm 116:2, 5, 8-9

Because the Lord inclined his ear to me,  
 therefore I will call on him as long as I live.  
 Gracious is the Lord, and righteous.  
 Our God is merciful.  
 For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears,  
 my feet from stumbling.  
 I walk before the Lord in the land of the living.  
 Let us worship God!

Hymn #307 *God of Grace and God of Glory* CWM RHONDDA

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon  
 Gracious and holy God, forgive us for taking the easy way out.  
 We have sought quick fixes, we have tried to increase our own comfort,  
 we have turned away from paths of justice,  
 and we have walked in valleys of deceit.  
 We contribute to the world's violence without  
 acknowledging our aggression.  
 We participate in society's greed while hiding from the poverty  
 we help create.  
 Forgive us, Almighty Lord.  
 Lead us in straight paths once again.  
 Clear the clutter from our faith,  
 so that we would love and pursue our neighbors with hope,  
 healing, gratitude, and grace. Amen.

The Sacrament of Baptism *Jackson Tillman Sessions*  
*Emma Grace Sessions*

Presentation  
 Questions to the Parents  
 Question to the Congregation  
 Thanksgiving over the Water  
 Baptism  
 Prayer

Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Epistle Lesson, *1 Corinthians 1:18-25*

Gospel Lesson, *Mark 6:1-6*

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *"If We Only Knew What He Said"*

Anthem *He Leadeth Me* Wegner

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.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
 thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
 on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts  
 as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
 and the glory forever.

Hymn #463 *How Firm a Foundation* FOUNDATION

Charge and Benediction

Postlude Lead On, O King Eternal arr. Lowe

Leading **Worship this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*

Mary Kathleen Duncan, *liturgist*

Amanda Warren, *lay reader*

Nancy Smith, *organist*

Emily Sweezey, Judy McKenney, Hunter Ditsch, Mark Kemp, *vocalists*

Join Us in Welcoming

BAPTISM

This morning we welcome into our fellowship *Jackson Tillman Sessions* and *Emma Grace Sessions*, son and daughter of Rob & Kathy Sessions.

We Remember in Prayer

Scott Ferrell on the death of his mother, Frankie Neely Ferrell, in Marion, VA - 10/3/2020.

OPEN HEARTS • Gathering@WPC

OUTDOOR PRAYER SERVICE CONTINUES OCTOBER 11th, 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/>.

TRICK OR TREAT

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

On Thursday, October 29, our children will bring joy to residents at the Westminster Retirement Home in a Halloween costume parade. Families can sign up to join the parade at 5p or 5:30p. We will meet at the Sanctuary Bell Tower to line up and walk over together. The parade will go through the parking lot and children will be able to pick up treat bags to take home. Space is limited to 50 people per parade, masks and social distancing required. Please sign up on the church website under events registration. Contact Associate Pastor Lauren Slingerland ([lslingerland@wpc-online.org](mailto:lslingerland@wpc-online.org)) for more information.

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

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!

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.

**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**
- Ben Dorr**  
Pastor & Head of Staff  
[bdorr@wpc-online.org](mailto:bdorr@wpc-online.org)
- Leigh Stuckey**  
Associate Pastor  
[lstuckey@wpc-online.org](mailto:lstuckey@wpc-online.org)
- Mary Kathleen Duncan**  
Associate Pastor  
[mkduncan@wpc-online.org](mailto:mkduncan@wpc-online.org)
- Lauren Slingerland**  
Associate Pastor  
[lslingerland@wpc-online.org](mailto:lslingerland@wpc-online.org)
- Amos Workman**  
Parish Associate  
[aworkman@wpc-online.org](mailto:aworkman@wpc-online.org)
- Mark Kemp**  
Director of Music  
[mkemp@wpc-online.org](mailto:mkemp@wpc-online.org)
- Jennifer Dillard**  
Volunteer Coordinator  
[jdillard@wpc-online.org](mailto:jdillard@wpc-online.org)
- Kathryn Knauer**  
Children's Choir Coordinator  
[kknauer@wpc-online.org](mailto:kknauer@wpc-online.org)
- Lauren Hood**  
Associate Director of Youth Ministry  
[lhood@wpc-online.org](mailto:lhood@wpc-online.org)
- Nancy Smith**  
Organist  
[nsmith@wpc-online.org](mailto:nsmith@wpc-online.org)
- Cara Puntch**  
Weekday School Director  
[cpuntch@wpc-online.org](mailto:cpuntch@wpc-online.org)
- Sherri Owens**  
Financial Secretary  
[sherri@wpc-online.org](mailto:sherri@wpc-online.org)
- Michelle Little**  
Office Manager  
[michelle@wpc-online.org](mailto:michelle@wpc-online.org)
- Wendy Bagley**  
Secretary  
[wendy@wpc-online.org](mailto:wendy@wpc-online.org)
- Janell Pitman**  
Director of Nurseries  
[jpitman@wpc-online.org](mailto:jpitman@wpc-online.org)
- Steve Phillips**  
Building Supervisor  
[sphillips@wpc-online.org](mailto:sphillips@wpc-online.org)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS  
October 11-17, 2020

- SUNDAY
- Men's Mission Trip to Camp Thornwell
- 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
- 5:00 p.m. WPCYG Middler Shepherd Groups
- 6:30 p.m. WPCYG Senior High Shepherd Groups
- MONDAY
- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in the Sanctuary (thru 1pm)
- TUESDAY
- 10:00 a.m. PW Circle #3 - 1of2 In-Person Meeting at home of Diane Hughs
- 2:00 p.m. PW Circle #3 - 2of2 In-Person Meeting at home of Diane Hughs
- WEDNESDAY
- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in the Sanctuary (thru 1pm)
- 12:00 p.m. WPCYG Senior High Lunch
- 3:00 p.m. It's Elementary Zoom Meeting
- 4:30 p.m. Ukelele Club (grade 1-5)
- THURSDAY
- 12:00 p.m. WPCYG Senior High Lunch
- FRIDAY
- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in the Sanctuary (thru 1pm)

the  
**HARBINGER**  
open minds open hearts

VOLUME LXXIII | OCTOBER 11, 2020 | No. 22

**From the Pews, Kelly Heegard:**

I'm not a fan of social distancing. It's not that I don't understand the need for it or the rationale behind it because I certainly do. I just think that when the term was coined and made its way into our daily lexicon, it missed the mark. Physical distancing? Sure. Properly spaced? Okay. But socially distant? No. The pandemic has immeasurably altered our daily lives and social distancing has left many people feeling isolated and disengaged. That's why it is so important for our church community to not be socially distant, but connected. For us to have the comfort from knowing that while we are physically apart, we are together in spirit.

Being together has been a tough task recently. It wasn't long ago, that our family's Sundays consisted of perpetually trying, with varying degrees of success, to get our kids dropped off in the childcare and make it into the sanctuary before the services started. My wife and I would scurry in last minute with a knowing glance to the other parents of preschoolers sitting in the last few rows. Despite the chaos of it all, we miss it. We miss the music and fellowship. Our kids miss seeing friends and going to Children's Church. And, of course, we all miss the donuts. And while we're hopeful that we'll have our chaotic Sundays back again, donuts and all, we take comfort in knowing that we remain connected to each other through our faith and as the Apostle Paul writes in Romans 8:38-39, through our love from God.

*For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

Whether you've been directly affected by COVID-19 or not, we have all sacrificed something. Many of us, myself included, have sacrificed visiting loved ones and traded it for seeing them through the screen of an iPad. The separation has been tough, but I'm comforted by Paul's message. It reminds us that while we are physically apart from one another, we are not separated from God's love. It calls us to not be socially distant, but to be connected. To be together. Just six feet apart.