



ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

Preparation for **Worship**

God of life, there are days when the burdens we carry are heavy on our shoulders and weigh us down, when the road seems dreary and endless, when our lives have no music in them, and our souls have lost their courage. Flood the path with light, turn our eyes to where the skies are full of promise; tune our hearts to brave music; give us the sense of comradeship with saints of every age; and so quicken our spirits that we may be able to encourage the souls of all who journey with us on the road of life, to your honor and glory. Amen.

Attributed to Augustine of Hippo

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

Prelude For All the Saints arr. Hobby

Welcome and Announcements

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

People: And also with you.

Minute for Stewardship Caroline Clark

Call to Worship Psalm 116:12-15

What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation,
and call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.

Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his faithful ones.

Let us worship God!

Hymn #326 For All the Saints SINE NOMINE

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

**Eternal God, in every age you have raised up women and men
to live and die in faith.**

We confess that we are indifferent to your will.

You call us to proclaim your name, but we are silent.

You call us to do what is just, but we remain idle.

You call us to live faithfully, but we are afraid.

In your mercy, forgive us.

**Give us courage to follow in your way, that,
joined with those from ages past, who have served you with faith,
hope, and love, we may inherit the kingdom
you promised in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Sacrament of Baptism *Mary McBrayer Murphy*

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

Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson, *Isaiah 43:1-7*

Epistle Lesson, *Hebrews 12:1-2*

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Looking Back"

Anthem Neither Death Nor Life Crutchfield

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.**

A Ritual of Remembrance

We give thanks to God for the following Westminster members who joined the Church Triumphant in the past year: *Carlisle & Betty Rogers, Bert McEldowney, Roger Hotchkiss, Lisa Haney, Tom Stewart, Rupert Huse, Nancy Barnwell, Dot Marshall, Rick Carpenter, and Jack Runnion.*

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 #375 *Shall We Gather at the River* HANSON PLACE

Charge and Benediction

Postlude Carillon Toccata Wagner

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*

Leigh Stuckey, *liturgist*

Michael Dixon, *sponsor and lay reader*

Nancy Smith, *organist*

Katie Knauer, Diana Dailey, Derek Pitman, Mark Kemp, *vocalists*

Join Us in Welcoming

BAPTISM

This morning we welcome into our fellowship *Mary McBrayer Murphy*, daughter of Margaret Murphy.

We Remember in Prayer

Beth Kastler on the death of her father, Lonnie Hunsucker, in Concord, NC - 10/18/2020.

**VOTE FOR THIS YEAR'S
NOMINATING COMMITTEE!**

The slate of names can be found on our website at <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/nominating-committee-ballot/>. The Nominating Committee will meet in November to propose names for the next class of elders to serve on the Session.

OPEN HEARTS • Gathering@WPC

OPEN SANCTUARY

Beginning the week of November 2, our sanctuary is open for individual prayer and reflection on Monday and Tuesday (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/>.

NOVEMBER NIGHTS:

DRIVE THRU DINNER & ONLINE WORSHIP, CRAFTS, AND EDUCATION

We are thrilled to offer November Nights this year on November 1st and November 8th. You will have an option to reserve a meal to pick up between 4:00-5:00p on Sunday followed by an online Vespers worship service at 5:30p. Education options (including a special guest for a craft class!) will begin at 6:15p for WPC Kids and adults. Youth will participate in Shepherd Groups (watch for more information from MK for the WPCYG schedule). Sign up now at <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/november-nights/>.

**TOGETHER:
INTRODUCING THE PLEDGE THRU
FOR COMMITMENT SUNDAY**

This year Commitment Sunday will feature donuts and coffee under Westminster's own "golden arches" – The Niven Memorial Bell Tower. For generations members of Westminster have brought their pledges forward on Commitment Sunday as a public act of faithfulness. When we pledge we commit the fruits of our labor to one another, making our faithfulness known to our families, children, friends, and the gathered congregation. We align ourselves with the vision and values of this congregation, and commit to the ways God is working through us.

This year the bringing of our pledges will look a bit different but carry the same significance. If you are joining us in person, you will have an opportunity to drop your pledge card in baskets as you retire. For those who can't join us or those who wish for another public act of faithfulness, you're invited to participate in our Pledge Thru. From 2-5p on November 8th, drive through our "golden arches" (the Niven Memorial Bell Tower), and greet a pastor with your pledge card.

When you Pledge Thru you will experience the benefits of communal giving and, as a token of our gratitude during this difficult time, a custom WPC mug and (*drum roll, please*) a donut (*COVID precautions honored!*).

As always, you are also welcome to pledge online.

We'll see you November 8th!

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP FROM HOME ON SUNDAY MORNING?

Our pre-recorded service will continue to air on our website at 9am, and on our social media platforms. Our in-person worship service will air on our website via livestream at 11:15a. The Harbinger that you receive in the mail will be for our pre-recorded worship. If you would like the Harbinger for our 11:15am livestream worship, you may download it from our website at <https://wpc-online.org/sermon-archive>.

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!

WESTMINSTER BOOK CLUB

The Westminster Book Club will meet in the Green lot on Tuesday, November 3 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.

This month, Kathryn Algary will lead our discussion of The Yellow House: A Memoir by Sarah Broom. A brilliant, haunting and unforgettable memoir from a stunning new talent about the inexorable pull of home and family, set in a shotgun house in New Orleans East beginning in 1961.

Please join us - new people are always welcome.

JUSTFAITH: FAITH AND RACIAL EQUITY

Just Faith meets Mondays at 6p on ZOOM. For information, previously registered class members may call Susan McLeod (787-6262) or Bill Holt (982-3368).

HIKING GROUP

On Saturday, November 7, the Hiking Group is scheduled for a hike to Whitewater Falls. Bob Vannoy will lead the hike. Bob's contact information is 640-9073 or bobvannoy47@gmail.com.

BASKETBALL REGISTRATION

The Session will decide at its stated meeting in November whether or not Westminster will participate in church basketball this year. If you would like to register your child, in the event that WPC does participate, you may do so at our website at <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/youth-basketball/>. If the Session decides that Westminster will not participate, all fees will be refunded.

THE HARBINGER

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DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME:

Remember to turn your clocks back one hour this Saturday, October 31.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 1-7, 2020

SUNDAY

- 9:00 a.m. In-Person Worship Service
- 10:00 a.m. Zoom Bible Study
- 11:15 a.m. In-Person Worship Service
- 2:00 p.m. Zoom Baptism Class
- 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

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in the Sanctuary (thru 1pm)
- 12:00 p.m. Zoom Administrative Committee Meeting
- 4:00 p.m. Middler's Bible Study in Green Lot
- 7:00 p.m. Westminster Book Club in Green Lot

WEDNESDAY

- 3:00 p.m. Zoom It's Elementary
- 8:00 p.m. Zoom Music Gathering

THURSDAY

- 12:00 p.m. Zoom Finance Committee Meeting
- 3:30 p.m. WPCYG in the Green Lot

the **HARBINGER**
open minds open hearts

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From the Pews, Meg Hyche:

About this same week 24 years ago, I worked for the United Way of Greenville County. This time of year was always busy for them due to the fact that their annual campaign was in full swing. So, when the phone rang on the morning of Election Day in 1996, I answered it assuming the person on the other line would be calling in with a phenomenal pledge report. This particular call, however, came from Tod Hyche, whom I had met a few weeks earlier when he had volunteered with the campaign. He did not call to give an impressive report, but simply to ask, "Hey, Meg, do you want to go to lunch?" After stuttering and stalling, I told him that I couldn't because I needed to go vote. He jokingly responded, "Do you even know who is running?" I paused and decided not to make any more excuses and answered, "Yes!" We headed to lunch together that day, and the rest is history!

Coincidentally, the summer of 1996 was special to me for another reason. The Olympic Torch Relay traveled through Greenville in route to Atlanta, Georgia. If you have ever watched the Opening Ceremonies of the Olympic Games, then you have seen the relay runner carrying the flaming torch burst into the arena. With the crowds in full blown cheer, the runner ignites the Olympic Torch to signify the beginning of the games. On television, the Olympic Torch Run appears to be a simple production, but for Roxanne Cromartie, my boss at the time, and for me, the torch relay manifested into quite an undertaking. The Olympic Committee tasked United Ways across America to select 5500 "Community Heroes" to run the Olympic Torch. This assignment presented as an effortless job; just select the most important people in the Upstate and call it a day! But, how does a committee decide what makes a person a "Community Hero" and one worthy of carrying the torch?

Aren't we fortunate that God doesn't use committees to select just a few for his Work! God allows everyone the privilege to be a carrier of his gospel torch to accomplish his divine plan. There is a portion of the relay for each to run so that others see the light of God that we carry. Together we make up an entire relay team with many gifts and talents to contribute to Westminster Presbyterian Church and its work near and far. Going back to days of United Way lingo, we must all do our "fair share" in running this race.

When I think back to Tod's question to me that day, I realize that my answer changed the entire course of my life and his. Now, I am posing a question to the members of our congregation which hopefully will be recalled in 24 years as a life-changing one. How did you carry the torch on your leg of the race in the fall of 2020? Faithfully? Sacrificially? Did you hold it high even though it was a heavy load to bear? My hope is that everyone's answer will be a yes.