



First Sunday of Advent

Preparation for **Worship**

Faithful God, your promises stand unshaken through all generations.  
Renew us in hope, that we may be awake and alert,  
watching for your kingdom and welcoming  
Christ's dreams for the world as our own. Amen.

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

Prelude Sleepers, Wake J.S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Durden & Ruth Collins

The power of dreams lies in waking up. For when we close our eyes, We can see a better world. When we close our eyes, We can dream a better dream. But when we open our eyes, We begin the work of faith.	The power of worship is the same. When we enter this space, We can see a better world. When we enter this space, We dream a better dream. But when we leave this space, We begin the work of faith.
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So come in. Experience the dreams of God. Find hope here.  
Today we light the candle of hope,  
for hope is the very best thing that keeps dreams afloat.  
May this light be our invitation to keep awake, begin the work of faith,  
and be Advent people who are called to dream.

Hymn #94 *Now the Heavens Start to Whisper* JEFFERSON

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

**Holy God, who dreamed creation into being,  
over and over again in scripture,  
we hear your dream for a beautiful world.  
We hear your dream for peace and reconciliation.  
We hear your dream for harmony and togetherness.  
We hear your dream for community and hope.  
We hear your dreams, and yet we do not open our eyes.  
We continue to live with the curtains drawn,  
the covers pulled tight,  
eyes shut to the reality of the world.  
Forgive us.  
Kindle in us a hope that will burn through the darkest nights.  
Give us the strength and will to keep awake in this sleeping world.  
Amen.**

Anthem "E'en So Lord Jesus Come" Manz

*Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sins  
Who loved us all and shed his blood that we might be saved  
Sing "Holy, Holy" to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God,  
Who was, and is, and is to come.  
Sing "Holy, Holy Lord."*

*Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell within, rejoice on earth, ye saints below:  
For Christ is coming, is coming soon.  
E'en so Lord Jesus, quickly come and night shall be no more.  
They need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their all!*

Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination  
Old Testament Lesson, *Isaiah 64:1-9*  
Gospel Lesson, *Mark 13:32-37*

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "Any Time Now"

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 #104 *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You* VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

Charge and Benediction

Postlude Overture to *Messiah* Handel

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*

Mary Kathleen Duncan, *liturgist*

Ruth Collins, *lay reader*

Nancy Smith, *organist*

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

With Thanksgiving We Celebrate

The birth of a daughter, Amelia McKenzie Blumer, to Adam & Mary Blumer in Greenville on 11/19/2020.

We rejoice with Kelly Moorhead as she celebrates the adoption of her daughter, Melanie Margaret Louise Moorhead, on September 14, 2020.

OPEN HEARTS • Gathering@WPC

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY,  
NOVEMBER 29, 2020

This Sunday, November 29, our pre-recorded worship service will include communion. Please have bread and grape juice ready at home so that you can take the elements at the appropriate time. Our in-person worship will not include communion.

OPEN SANCTUARY

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/>.

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>.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

The Session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, December 6, to hear the report of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. If you attend in-person worship on December 6, you will be invited to stay to hear the APNC's report after both worship services. If you are unable to attend in-person worship, you will be able to hear the report via Zoom at 1pm on December 6.

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.**

2021 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

As of Monday, November 23, we have received \$1,674,272 in pledges toward our 2021 budget goal of \$2,513,715.

For your convenience, you may pledge via our website at [wpc-online.org/pledge-today](https://wpc-online.org/pledge-today), you may mail in your pledge, or send your pledge by email to the Church Financial Secretary, Sherri Owens, at [sherri@wpc-online.org](mailto:sherri@wpc-online.org).

**OPEN MINDS • Education@WPC**

**ZOOM BIBLE STUDY ON SUNDAY MORNINGS**

You are invited to participate in a Zoom Bible study at 10am on Sunday mornings led by Ben and Leigh! 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!

**JUST FAITH: 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).

**IT'S ELEMENTARY**

To kick off Advent, pick up your December materials on Sunday, Nov. 29 from 12:15-2pm or Monday, Nov.30 from 2-4pm. The December box is a special one, including some items for your family's Advent journey.

**HIKING GROUP**

The Hiking Group will next hike at Moonshine Falls on Saturday, December 5. Hike Leader: Kathryn Algary, 907-7291 or kaalgary@gmail.com.

**WPC DRIVE SEASON BENEFITTING UNITED MINISTRIES**

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 Serenity Place drive was a tremendous success. Young mothers and their children are already benefitting from the benevolences you offered.

This month, in celebration of their 50 years of service to the Greenville community, we have partnered with United Ministries. UM offers programs that serve and empower those in our community who are striving to achieve self-sufficiency. Programs include education and employment, crisis assistance, and services to those experiencing homelessness.

UM's greatest non-perishable needs include canned meats and fruits, canned vegetables, grits, macaroni and cheese, dried beans, rice, ramen noodles, saltines, peanut butter, powdered milk, and cereal. They are also in need of items for individual hygiene: hotel-sized soap, shampoo, and lotion, small bottles of hand sanitizer, q-tips, standard sized spray deodorant, standard-size vaseline, hydrogen peroxide, and shaving cream, wash cloths, sunscreen, chapstick, and bug spray.

You are welcome to drop items by the church office or order directly from the Amazon Wish List ([https://smile.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1MNf6VPVU487F/?ref=cm\\_go\\_nav\\_hz](https://smile.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1MNf6VPVU487F/?ref=cm_go_nav_hz)). Deadline for donations will be Tuesday, December 1.

**BASKETBALL REGISTRATION**

There is still time to register for church basketball! You may register for a Westminster team at [www.wpc-online.org/eventsregistration/athletics/youth](https://www.wpc-online.org/eventsregistration/athletics/youth) basketball. The registration deadline is this Sunday, November 29.

**WESTMINSTER BOOK CLUB**

The Westminster Book Club will meet on Tuesday, December 1 at 7pm. Verify location or type of meeting with Ellen Stevenson ([ellens7377@gmail.com](mailto:ellens7377@gmail.com)). This month, Ruth Johnston will lead our discussion of Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi. Please join us! New attendees are always welcome.

**FIRST STEPS MUSIC FOR 2-3 YR OLDS**

Music this fall for the youngest voices at Westminster will be offered online, still as a part of the First Steps Music program. Register to receive access to on-demand links with Diana Daily that explore music and movement through simple songs and activities. For more information, contact Mark at [mkemp@wpc-online.org](mailto:mkemp@wpc-online.org) or visit the events registration page under "connect" at [wpc-online.org](https://www.wpc-online.org). Registration is free!

**THE HARBINGER**

Westminster Presbyterian Church  
2310 Augusta Street  
Greenville, South Carolina 29605  
(864) 232-2424  
[www.wpc-online.org](https://www.wpc-online.org)

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**ADVENT DEVOTIONALS**

The 2020 Daily Advent Devotionals will be delivered by email beginning this Sunday, November 29. If you prefer to receive a paper copy, contact the church office at 232-2424. We invite you to take a moment out of your day to read and meditate on this daily devotion that will lead us through the Advent season.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

November 29-December 5, 2020

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

- 9:00 a.m. In-Person Worship Service
- 10:00 a.m. Zoom Bible Study
- 11:15 a.m. In-Person Worship Service
- 12:15 p.m. It's Elementary Materials  
Pick Up - Main Parking Lot
- 5:00 p.m. WestFest8 Early Show  
in Green Lot
- 6:30 p.m. WestFest8 Late Show  
in Green Lot

**MONDAY**

- 2:00 p.m. It's Elementary Materials  
Pick Up - Main Parking Lot

**TUESDAY**

- 12:00 p.m. Zoom Administrative  
Committee Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Westminster Book Club  
Meeting

**THURSDAY**

- 11:00 a.m. Zoom Personnel  
Committee Meeting

**SATURDAY**

- 8:30 a.m. Hiking Group

the  
**HARBINGER**  
*open minds open hearts*

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**From the Pews, Scott Clark:**

The ancient Greeks had a few different words for time. Chronos refers to clock time, linear and predictable, whereas kairos encompasses a more complex notion of time. Kairos includes the idea of an opportunity or a suitable time for an action to take place. In the New Testament kairos was used to refer to the appointed time in the purpose of God. Kairos has no regard for the length of time.

To live in the modern world is to live in a chronos world. Now more than ever there is an immediacy to our thoughts, our actions and our expectations. Schedules exist, alarms are set, deadlines are met, iPhones are synchronized. Arriving very early to the party, a poet wrote of life in 1807 –

*“The world is too much with us; late and soon,  
Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers.”*

If Wordsworth believed people were too preoccupied with the material world and had lost touch with the spiritual world and with nature, what pray tell do you think he would make of all this?

In Mark 13:32-37, Jesus tells his disciples to keep alert and stay awake, for you do not know when Christ will return. What is it, though, that we are supposed to be alert to? The scripture does not exactly say, but it's the kind of thing you feel like you are supposed to know. Is it to love the Lord thy God with all your heart? Certainly. What about loving your neighbor as yourself? Another great idea!

I have a couple more too. I want to be awake in the world God has placed me. I want to be alert to and have gratitude for the blessings that I have been given. I want to be thankful more than a couple of days in November or a few moments in prayer. I want to actively live my life in such way that when it feels like time is pouring out like water, gone and never to come back, I would be content and not regretful.

We have such a brief moment on earth, and chronos time is fleeting. We are given a short opportunity to shepherd our kids when they are young. When a friend is experiencing pain, we have a brief window of time in which to reach out to them. We have but ephemeral windows to make connections with other sentient beings. But instead of looking at our time as grains of sand slipping through an hourglass, we should view our time as opportunities coming towards us. As kairos moments.

I want to live so that when my requiem is finally read it can be said that my time was well spent. And for the opportunities that I was given and the opportunities that I made; I did something with them.

*“Home is the sailor, home from sea,  
And the hunter home from the hill.”*

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### WESTFESTVIII

New this year: a safe, socially-distanced take on your favorite Advent event featuring responsibly distanced live-music from Atlanta musician Sam Burchfield in the WPC Green Lot. To accommodate maximum fun and safety, we're hosting two 45-minute concerts this Sunday, November 29, each capped at 100 participants. The Early Concert begins at 5:00p and will run under an hour. The Late Show will begin at 6:30. Guests will be asked to stay in their "pods" and remain masked when not eating or drinking (BYO). Don't forget blankets and lawn chairs, and don't you worry, you'll be able to holler at your friends and glow in the light of this year's WFVIII koozies and swag. To sign up and learn more, visit [wpc-online.org](http://wpc-online.org).

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#### NEW MEMBERS

Last Sunday at the Zoom Session Meeting, we welcomed the following new members into our fellowship

- Wayne & Beth Brown joined by transfer from Spring Valley Presbyterian, Columbia, SC.
- Doug & Pam Evans joined by transfer from Buncombe Street United Methodist.
- Jim & Julia Frazier joined by reaffirmation of faith. They have a daughter, Nan (11 mos.).
- David & Elizabeth McNeely joined by transfer from First Presbyterian, Rogersville, TN. They have a daughter, Catherine (6), and a son, David (1).
- Jeff & Mara Meehan joined by transfer from Westminster Presbyterian, Youngstown, OH. They have a son, Vinny (3), and a daughter, Adalynn (1).
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#### POINSETTIA/LIBRARY MEMORIALS

Those who wish to remember loved ones during the Christmas Season may do so in two ways. Poinsettias for the sanctuary may be purchased for \$15.00, or money may be given to buy library books. Poinsettias will decorate the sanctuary again this year. Please fill out the slip below or contact the church office, 232-2424. Donors may pick up their poinsettias after Christmas if they wish to take them home. Orders must be placed by Sunday, December 13.

Donor \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Library Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ OR Poinsettias x \$15.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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