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# HARBINGER

*open minds open hearts*

VOLUME LXXIV | JUNE 6, 2021 | No. 4

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## *From the Pews, Sarah Brice*

Our daughter, Anna, often counsels me, “Less is more.” Although she is usually referring to jewelry or home décor, it occurs to me that the value of simplicity is applicable to many other aspects of life. Isn’t it a marvelous mystery how we eventually learn so much wisdom from our offspring?

Perhaps this value of simplicity can be applied to our scripture for today, Mark 3:19b-27, to help us understand its meaning. When I first read the passage, a single word popped into my head: “inscrutable.” After uttering one of my favorite one word prayers that Anne Lamott suggests: “Help,” almost immediately the name “Leigh” occurred to me. Again, a single word. It is not surprising, given her vast knowledge of the Gospel of Mark, that Leigh very helpfully recommended a useful commentary, *Interpretation Bible Studies: Mark*. I’m sure you can just imagine my feelings of smug self-satisfaction when I read the author’s learned opinion that this is “one of the most arduous passages in the Bible.” So it is not just me who finds these words nearly impossible to fathom! However, I will try to state (fairly) simply the truth that I have gleaned from this passage. In verse 22, the scribes question Jesus’ remarkable goodness embodied in his deeds. Mark seems to answer this question by saying that Jesus represents God—who is goodness personified—reigning on earth. Jesus, then, is the antithesis of Satan, or evil. Though we humans may not understand or comprehend the inscrutable magnitude of God’s goodness or love for us, if we choose to follow Jesus, our lives—and the world through us—are forever changed: a simple truth but with huge significance. As Anne Lamott might pray, “Wow.”

As a final comment on the value of simplicity, an important lesson the pandemic has taught many of us is that there is tremendous substance in the seemingly mundane things and particularly in the wonders of nature. We find so much joy in the repetitive pleasure of daily neighborhood walks, the sweet song of birds, the splendid sights and scents of spring flowers, the gentle sound of gurgling water in a nearby stream, the solemn tolling of the time from our Westminster bell tower, the pleasant sharing of an outdoor meal with a loved one—quite simply, the comfort of our daily routine. To express appreciation for all of this, I would agree with Anne Lamott as she might simply whisper heavenward another of her one word prayers, “Thanks!”

# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, June 6, 2021 | In-Person at 10a | Second Sunday after Pentecost



## Preparation for **Worship**

God of all good, you are life and salvation to all - faithful and unfaithful, just and unjust, pious and impious, passionate and dispassionate, holy and worldly, wise and simple, healthy and sick, young and old. Make us faithful and wise in your worship and service, day by day and step by step, adding fervor to fervor, zeal to zeal, and love to love; in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Inspired by John Climacus, *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*

## Gathering and Preparing for God's Word

### Welcome and Announcements

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

**People:** **And also with you.**

Prelude "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" arr. Limbaugh

Choral Introit "The God of Love My Shepherd Is" Irish Melody

\* Call to Worship *1 Corinthians 13:4-7*

**Leader:** Love is patient, love is kind.

**People:** **Love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.**

**Leader:** It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.

**People:** **Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.**

**All:** **Let us worship God!**

# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## \* Prayer of Confession

**Gracious and holy God, we know that we have been  
too timid with our love and too cautious with your grace.  
We have become so acquainted with the greed and injustice  
of our world that we fail to see our sin  
when we are enmeshed in it.  
We pour our energy into vain pursuits,  
we place our trust in false gods,  
and we turn our backs on your radical, self-giving love.  
Forgive us, Holy One, and bring us back to your ways once again.  
Give us eyes to see our lives honestly.  
Give us ears to hear our neighbors clearly.  
And give us hearts filled with the courage and compassion of  
Jesus Christ, so that we might spread your hope to all. 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.***

The Sacrament of Baptism

William Heilig Sivertson

## Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Epistle Lesson, *1 Corinthians 4:9-13*

Gospel Lesson, *Mark 3:19b-27*

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

*"The Word on the Street"*

# **WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

\* 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. Amen.**

Offering

Anthem

"O Love"

Hagenberg

\* Doxology (Hymnal, No. 606)

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God,  
all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly  
host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

\* Prayer of Dedication

\* Charge and Benediction

\* Choral Response

"God Be with You"

Vaughan Williams

\* Postlude

Toccata on "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

arr. Kerr

*\*All who are able may stand*

# **WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*

Lauren Slingerland, *liturgist*

Emily Busby, *sponsor*

Nancy Smith, *organist/pianist*

Sanctuary Choir Ensemble

Jae Lowe, *head usher*

Ashley Gettys, Susan Jones, *greeters*

## **Join Us in Welcoming**

### **BAPTISM**

This morning we welcome into our fellowship *William Heilig Sivertson*, son of Erik & Lawson Sivertson.

## **With Thanksgiving We Celebrate**

The birth of a son, *Brian Calhoun King*, to John & Cameron King on February 16, 2021.

The birth of a daughter, *Addison James Riner*, to Michael & Mary Catherine Riner on May 27, 2021.

The birth of a son, *James Maddoc Patterson*, to Grady & Kate Weaver Patterson on May 27, 2021.

The birth of a son, *James Harvey Cleveland, V*, to Harvey & Greta Cleveland on May 28, 2021.

# **WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

## **OPEN HEARTS • Gathering@WPC**

### **SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

On Sunday, May 30, we began our summer schedule. We will live stream our services now at 10:00a. Please note the following changes:

- Our nursery has reopened.
- We will gradually introduce congregational singing back into our liturgy.
- We will have donuts and coffee following worship.

### **WESTFEST AT THE RUNWAY**

We are thrilled to announce a rescheduled WestFest, this time at the Downtown Airport in the Runway Cafe hangar (21 Airport Rd. ext), on Sunday, June 6th from 4:00-7:00p. WestFest on the Runway will be a ticketed event. Visit [wpc-online.org](http://wpc-online.org) to reserve your spot. WestFest on the Runway will feature live music from Sam Burchfield and beverages from Brewery 85.

## **OPEN MINDS • Education@WPC**

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**SAVE THE DATE! | AUGUST 2 - 6**

**RIISING KINDERGARTNERS TO RIISING FIFTH GRADERS**

Mark your calendars and join us for the 2021 Westminster Presbyterian Church Vacation Bible School - Compassion Camp: Changing the World with Lovingkindness!

Children will spend the week exploring what it means to have compassion for others, ourselves and the world.

This year's VBS will be in-person, with groups gathering both inside and outside.

Registration opens June 6. Register online at [vbspro.events/p/2021wpc](https://vbspro.events/p/2021wpc).

VBS needs volunteers! Please join us for a fun and fulfilling week with many volunteer opportunities! If you are interested in helping with VBS, please contact Rachel Workman ([rachelworkman@gmail.com](mailto:rachelworkman@gmail.com)), or Lindsey Donlan ([lindsey.donlan@gmail.com](mailto:lindsey.donlan@gmail.com)).

# **WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

## **JUSTFAITH:**

Sacred Air will be the next JustFaith program focus beginning in September. It will address climate change and energy through the lenses of faith, science, and environmental justice. Readings from Pope Francis, Hope Jahren, and others will help to guide this nine-week program. Stay tuned for dates/times of meetings. For more information, contact Meg McKnight (670-5078) or Bill Holt (982-3368).

## **WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER SCHOLARSHIP**

Each year Women of Westminster offers scholarships to provide financial aid among college and graduate student membership. Any Westminster member who will be furthering their education in the fall is eligible to apply. Applications are available from the church office or online at [www.wpc-online.org](http://www.wpc-online.org). Applicants may contact Coleman Dixon ([colemamdixon@hotmail.com](mailto:colemamdixon@hotmail.com)) with any questions. The deadline is Friday, June 18, 2021.

## **THEOLOGY READING GROUP**

The Theology Reading Group will gather on Monday, June 21, at 7p in the Green Lot. This will provide a time for talking with friends and a chance to consider options regarding reopening in the fall. All are welcome to attend.

## **OPEN HEARTS •Mission@WPC**

### **BECOME A PENPAL**

You are invited to connect with and encourage a woman in prison by serving as a pen pal. Through Westminster's partnership with Soteria, a local agency that empowers people who have been impacted by incarceration, pen pals will exchange letters with women who are scheduled for release and reentry into society. Contact Associate Pastor Julia Watkins to learn more and to get involved.

# **WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

We take this opportunity to extend congratulations to the young people of Westminster Presbyterian Church who are completing high school, college, or graduate school. We offer them our best wishes as they move into new phases of their lives.

## **2021 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES**

### ***Greenville High School***

*Hughes Clark*

*Wiley Phillips*

*Davis Usher*

### ***J.L. Mann High School***

*Kayla Burrell*

*Caroline Eades*

*James Moon*

*Sutton Vanderbloemen*

### ***Christ Church Episcopal High School***

*Brooks O'Hanlan*

*Mac Ridgeway*

## **2021 COLLEGE GRADUATES**

### ***Clemson University***

*Edward Pollock*

### ***Savannah College of Art & Design***

*Martha McLeod*

### ***University of Mississippi***

*Fletcher Williams*

### ***University of South Carolina***

*Grant Hall*



# **WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**June 6 - 13, 2021**

### **Sunday, June 6**

#### **2nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

10:00a Worship Service

11:00 Fellowship with donuts

4:00p WestFest at the Runway

### **Wednesday, June 9**

6:30p Waffle Cone Wednesday for Middler Group

7:30p Waffle Cone Wednesday for Senior High Group

### **Sunday, June 13**

#### **3rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

10:00a Worship Service

11:00 Fellowship with donuts

# **WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

## **CHURCH STAFF**

Ben Dorr  
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# **WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

## THE SESSION

### The Class of 2022

*Talitha Allen*

*Michael Dixon*

*Sarah Beasley*

*Ben Edwards*

*Brian Blount*

*Ashley Gettys*

*Scott Clark*

*Anna Hanor*

*Brandon Coker*

*Susan Jones*

*Bob Dellert*

*Becky Warth*

### The Class of 2023

*Mary Ashmore*

*Kevin Lancaster*

*Tony Atkins*

*Lisa Mangione*

*Jeff Beck*

*Rob Morgan*

*Emily Busby*

*Carl Muller*

*Caroline Clark*

*Mae Todd Mullins*

*Durden Collins*

*Laura Williams Sanders*

### The Class of 2024

*Hastings Blumer*

*Toni Paylor*

*Jay Culclasure*

*Neil Shurley*

*Ross Glidewell*

*Keith Stevenson*

*Jara Jones*

*Lesley Usher*

*Meg McKnight*

*LeAnne White*

*Kate Weaver Patterson*

*Russ Williams*