



Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Preparation for **Worship**

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end, nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. Therefore will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone. Amen.

Thomas Merton

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 "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" arr. Love

Introit (11:15) "Surely" Langston

* Call to Worship *Psalm 90:1-2, 4, 12*

Leader: Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

People: **Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

Leader: For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night.

People: **So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

* Hymn No. 687 "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past" ST. ANNE

* Prayer of Confession

O Lord our God, you call us to work for a world where all will be fed and have dignity, but we find ourselves distracted by our own desires.

You call us to seek justice and peace, but we are satisfied with injustice and discord.

We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns.

We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed.

In your loving-kindness, forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, that we may find new life in Jesus Christ, and joyfully share what we have been given. 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)

Glorify 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.

Children in K5-1st grade are invited to leave for Children's Church.

Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Epistle Lesson, *1 Timothy 6:6-10* p. 965

Gospel Lesson, *Luke 12:13-21* p. 847

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "Storage"

Responding to **God's Word**

* Hymn No. 847 "Our Hope, Our Life" O WALY WALY

* 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

Offertory "Offertory" Beck

* 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

Recognition of New Members (11:15a)

* Hymn No. 773 "Heaven Shall Not Wait" HEAVEN SHALL NOT WAIT

* Charge and Benediction

* Choral Response (11:15) "Gaelic Benediction" Ulrich

* Postlude Carrillon Toccata Wagner

**All who are able may stand*

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*

Amos Workman (*9a*), Julia Watkins (*11:15a*), *liturgists*

Nancy Smith, *organist/pianist*

Mark Kemp, soloist (*9a*)

Sanctuary Choir (*11:15a*)

Sarah Brice (*11:15a*), *lay reader*

Charlotte Willis, Molly Willis (*9a*), Emmie Paradise, Claire Puntch (*11:15a*), *acolytes*

Neil Shurley (*11:15a*), *sponsor*

Zach Freeman (*9a*), Bryant Puntch (*11:15a*), *head ushers*

Susan Jones, Jara Jones, Kevin Lancaster, Toni Paylor,

Keith Stevenson (*9a*), *greeters*

Talitha Allen, Meg McKnight, Rob Morgan,

Kate Weaver Patterson, Lesley Usher (*11:15a*), *greeters*

Worship Notes

NURSERY

Childcare is available for infants through four-year kindergarten. Our childcare program provides safe, secure nurseries for our babies and toddlers during worship services. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment to all children.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

During worship, children in K5-1st grade follow one of our ministers out for Children's Church. Children engage in worship education with Bible stories and crafts. Parents can pick their children up in the Children's Church room across from the library following worship.

PRAYER REQUESTS

As a congregation that prays with and for one another, Westminster invites you to share your prayer requests using the cards located in the Ritual of Friendship pad at the end of each pew. You may complete a card and leave it in the offering plate so that the pastors and/or prayer chain team may pray for you. If you wish to join the prayer chain, please indicate that on your card.

In Memoriam

Bob Yeargin (10/23/1926 - 9/15/2021)

*"I am the resurrection and the life."
- John 11:25*

We Remember in Prayer

The family of Bob Yeargin

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

This Sunday in the 11:15a worship service, we welcome new members into the Westminster Church family. All are invited to greet them in the Atrium following worship.

CONNECT WITH WESTMINSTER

Looking for ways to be involved? Please complete a Connection Card from the Ritual of Friendship pad and place it in the offering plate to express interest or sign up for an opportunity.

WELCOME TO WPC!

Please fill out a name tag and find more information about WPC at the Welcome Table in the Atrium. First time visitors are also invited to take home a WPC mug.

ENJOY WESTMINSTER'S FRONT PORCH

We hope you will feel at home in Westminster's redesigned Atrium. The space is meant to feel like Westminster's front porch, a place for you to gather, enjoy fellowship with one another, and learn more about who we are. The high tables were designed and built by Soteria, one of our local partners, and the gathering tables were designed and built by Westminster member Dale Gosnell, and reflect the Westminster crosses in their base. During the worship service, everything can be turned toward the screen to ensure you are able to participate in the service. The Atrium can also serve as a meeting space.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OPEN HEARTS • Gathering@WPC

BASKETBALL REGISTRATION

Children and youth ages 5K-grade 12 are invited to register for the church basketball season. Online player registration opened Monday, September 13 and continues through Sunday, October 10. The Session will determine any appropriate pandemic precautions and protocols. WPC members interested in being a coach or assistant coach may contact Bryant Puntch (864-915-5686). Registration may be accessed on the church's website at wpc-online.org/events_registration/youth_basketball/.

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER

SAVE THE DATE

On Thursday, September 30, at 6:30p, join us for the Fall Women of Westminster Social at the home of LeAnne White (9 Rockingham Rd., 29607). Contact Coleman Dixon at 607-8778 for more information!

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER CHILI COOK-OFF

Join your church family for the 2021 Women of Westminster Chili Cook-Off at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 3, in the Green Lot.

The lunch menu includes a baked potato bar, salad bar, and dessert. The cost is \$7 per adult and \$3.50 per child (ages 3-11). You may also purchase taste cards so you can judge fellow WPC members as they compete for coveted awards. And, don't forget your raffle tickets for the Ultimate Fall Package, which is filled with all sorts of goodies to help celebrate the fall season. (You do not have to be present to win.) Sign up for lunch and/or purchase taste cards and raffle tickets at <https://wpc-online.org/women-of-westminster/>. All proceeds will support the Scholarship Fund.

Got a mean chili recipe? Grab a team and enter the cook-off! The entry fee is \$25 per team, which benefits the Scholarship Fund. Teams will be responsible for providing their famous chili and table decorations. We will provide taste cups and spoons. Awards will be given in many different categories including People's Choice, Most Unusual, Spiciest, and Most Creative Themed Table. Enter the cook-off at <https://wpc-online.org/women-of-westminster-chili-cook-off-entry/>.

HIKING GROUP

Our October 1 hike will be to Hidden Falls in Oconee State Park. We will meet in Oconee State Park at the Foothills Trail trailhead at 10a. It's about an hour and a half from the church. For those of you who want to carpool, you can arrange to meet at the church. We will have lunch at the Falls. Contact hike leader, Durden Collins (durden.collins@gmail.com or 414-6142) if you plan to attend.

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 2021 Advent Devotions series. Email Josie Williams (josiegwilliams07@gmail.com) if

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

[f](#) [t](#) [@](#) [v](#) [wpcgreenville](#) | wpc-online.org | 2310 Augusta St.

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

Leigh Stuckey
Associate Pastor
lstuckey@wpc-online.org

Mary Kathleen Duncan
Associate Pastor
mkduncan@wpc-online.org

Lauren Slingerland
Associate Pastor
lslingerland@wpc-online.org

Julia Watkins
Associate Pastor
jwatkins@wpc-online.org

Amos Workman
Parish Associate
aworkman@wpc-online.org

Mark Kemp
Director of Music
mkemp@wpc-online.org

Lauren Hood
Associate Director of Youth Ministry
lhood@wpc-online.org

Cara Puntch
Weekday School Director
cpuntch@wpc-online.org

Michelle Little
Office Manager
michelle@wpc-online.org

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, OCTOBER 10TH:

The Session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, October 10th, immediately following the 11:15a worship service. The meeting will be held in the sanctuary. The purpose of the meeting is to elect this year's Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee will meet to consider names of WPC members to serve as elders on the Session, class of 2025.

The Session presents the following slate for election to the Nominating Committee:

Neil Shurley (chair, Session member)
Mae Todd Mullins (Session member)
Keith Stevenson (Session member)
Becky Warth (Session member)

Roxanne Cromartie
Elizabeth McElveen
Eric McGregor
Parks McLeod
Tiffany Williams

CALENDAR OF EVENTS September 26 - October 3, 2021

Sunday, September 26
18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Interfaith Hospitality Network leaves
9:00a Worship Service
Education Committee Meeting
New Member Class
10:00 Sunday School
11:15 Worship Service
5:00 Middler Youth Group
5:15 Senior High Choir Rehearsal
6:30 Middler Choir Rehearsal
Senior High Youth Group

Wednesday, September 29
2:15p WPC Kids Afterschool
2:45 It's Elementary
4:30 Junior & Senior Choristers
5:30 JustFaith Meeting
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 30
6:00p Youth Leadership Team Meeting
6:30 Women of Westminster Social

Friday, October 1
10:00a Hiking Group

Sunday, October 3
World Communion Sunday
9:00a Worship Service w/communion
Membership Committee Meeting
10:00 Sunday School
11:15 Worship Service w/communion
12:30p Women of Westminster Chili Cook-Off in Green Lot
5:00 Middler Youth Group
5:15 Senior High Choir Rehearsal
6:30 Middler Choir Rehearsal
Senior High Youth Group

the HARBINGER

open minds open hearts

VOLUME LXXIV | September 26, 2021 | No. 20

From the Pews, Zach Weaver

I bought an '85 Jeep CJ-7 early in the pandemic. I've wanted one since I was a kid. It's orange, it's a stickshift, and it's awesome. I like to joke that whoever said things won't make you happy just didn't have this Jeep. And it feels like the Reverend assigning bible passages for the Harbinger cover got word of the joke and felt like making a point this week.

To that end, our passage concerns the accumulation of things and the parable of the rich fool. Jesus tells a man to "[b]e on guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." The parable goes on to discuss a wealthy man who intended to build up barns to store a surplus of grain after a bumper crop year. He wanted to hold those crops for many years "[t]ake life easy; eat, drink and be merry." But God tells him that his life will be demanded that very night and his accumulated crops will not go to serve him. "This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God."

It's easy to dislike this parable. It seems unfair. Someone works the land, earns a benefit, and wants to enjoy spoils. Is there something wrong with that? Those are most people's retirement goals.

But the broader takeaway for me is that the wealthy man in the parable has lost sight of what is important. He isn't thinking of others. His focus is solely on himself. That's not what God intended for us. We have the duty to give our time, money, and thought to God and those around us. If we focus on ourselves and what we can buy next, we're on a loop with no off-ramp; there's always something else to buy. Service to others should guide who we are rather than the accumulation of things.

So I'm not selling my Jeep, Reverend. But I will gladly offer free rides, and this week's passage is a good reminder that my thoughts and goals should be focused on others, rather than new tires or a renegade decal.

