



First Sunday in Lent

Preparation for **Worship**

“Lent is about being in thin places without resources and being driven back to the elemental reality of God, the reliability of God, and our capacity to trust God in the thin places where there are no other resources.”

Walter Brueggemann

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 "Beautiful Savior" Christiansen

Introit 11:15a “Come and Fill our Hearts” Berthier

* Call to Worship

Leader: O Christ, out of your fullness we have all received grace upon grace.
People: Save us, O Lord.
 Leader: O Christ, fountain of life and holiness, you have taken away our sins.
People: Save us, O Lord.
 Leader: O Christ, obedient unto death, you are our peace and reconciliation.
People: Save us, O Lord.
All: Let us worship God!

* Hymn No. 509 “All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly” HOLY MANNA

* Prayer of Confession

God of mercy, we have pledged our allegiance to the powers and principalities of this world. We consume, we compete, we climb ladders of success— all in a vain attempt to fill the hole in our hearts. Meanwhile, we have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Forgive us, Holy One. Grant us new minds, with which we may discern your will. Grant us new hearts, with which we may love our neighbors. Grant us new faith, with which we may carry another’s cross, and do so without fear. We ask it all in the name of Jesus Christ. 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.

Children in K5 - first grade are invited to leave for Children’s Church.

Hearing **God’s Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson, *Psalm 91:1-6, 11-12* p. 477

Gospel Lesson, *Luke 4:1-13* p. 835

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon “Running on Empty”

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.

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.

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

The bread will be held and taken together. The cup will be taken individually.

Prayer after Communion

Offering

Offertory “A Lenten Prayer” Hopson

* 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

* Hymn No. 722

“Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak”

CANONBURY

* Charge and Benediction

* Choral Response 11:15a Gaelic Benediction

Ulrich

* Postlude

Minuet Finale

Handel

**All who are able may stand*

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*

Julia Watkins, *liturgist*

Nancy Smith, *organist/pianist*

Judy McKenney, Emily Swezey (9a), *vocalists*

Sanctuary Choir (11:15a)

Kate Fowler (9a), Grady Patterson (11:15a), *lay readers*

Brandon Coker (9a), Bryant Puntch (11:15a), *head ushers*

Carl Muller, Jeff Beck, Laura Williams Sanders,

Kevin Lancaster, Lisa Mangione, (9a), *greeters*

Emily Busby, Caroline Clark, Durden Collins,

Mary Ashmore, LeAnne White, (11:15a), *greeters*

WORSHIP NOTES

NURSERY

Childcare is available for infants through four-year kindergarten. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment to all children.

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.

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.

OPEN HEARTS • Caring@WPC

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

Lynn Christian
 (12/13/1934 - 2/26/2022)

“I am the resurrection and the life.”
 - John 11:25

We Remember in Prayer

Amanda Parker on the death of her father, Glenn Odom, in Florence, SC - 2/25/2022.

OPEN HEARTS • Giving@WPC

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.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH - MARCH 6

This Sunday, March 6, Children's Church will meet in the Atrium to learn about the Sacrament of Communion. We'll celebrate with the elements of bread and juice while we learn what they mean. You are welcome to join us! Children will remain in the Atrium until they are picked up after the services.

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER CIRCLES

Tuesday, March 8

- **Circle 3**, at the home of Ruth Collins (103 Haddon Ln, Greer 29651) and by Zoom at 2p. Circle Chair: Dee Malone (dee05m@gmail.com).

Wednesday, March 9

- **Circle 6**, at the home of Liz Einstein at 9:30a. Sherry Tate (sherrytate63@gmail.com) and Liz Einstein (liz.ard.einstein@gmail.com) co-chairs.

Interested in joining a Circle? Write "Circles" on a Connection Card.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME:

Remember to turn your clocks back one hour [next](#) Sunday, March 13.

SUPPERS WITH SEVEN APRIL – MAY 2022

Spring is just around the corner and it's time to think about getting out and doing things. What about enjoying meals with other Westminster members? "Suppers With Seven" is seven (or so) persons - some couples, some singles, some older and some younger - gathering for a series of two or three meals at a time convenient to the group. It is a great way to establish or renew relationships with other Westminster members. To sign up, return this form to the church office, or fill out the online form on the church website by navigating to the Suppers With Seven page. Or, if you'd like someone to contact you, write "Suppers with 7" on your Connection Card. *The deadline to sign up is Monday, March 21.*

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Please check as many as apply:

_____ I/We would be willing to host a first gathering of seven or so people.

_____ I/We cannot host the first gathering, but would consider a subsequent one.

_____ I/We cannot host but would like to be part of a group.

FILL THE FOOD PANTRY

In this season of abundance, practice generosity by donating the following items to the United Ministries food pantry: canned fruit and vegetables, soups, pastas, canned meat, peanut butter, and powdered milk. Items may be left in the marked wall cabinets in the Friendship Court.

OPEN HEARTS • Fellowship@WPC

JOIN WPC'S HOSPITALITY TEAM

Are you a "do-er" looking to connect with others while contributing to WPC's culture of welcome? Consider serving on the Hospitality Team! Hospitality Team participants will receive regular invitations to help with events like the basketball banquet, church suppers, and after-worship donuts. Contact Julia Watkins or write "Hospitality Team" on a Connection Card to get involved.

THE HARBINGER

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 6 - 13, 2022

Sunday, March 6

First Sunday in Lent

- 9:00a Worship Service
75th Anniversary
Committee Meeting
- 10:00 Sunday School
- 10:55 Session Meeting
- 11:15 Worship Service
- 12:15p Youth Leadership Team Meeting
- 12:30 Personnel Committee Meeting
- 2:00 New Elder Training Class
- 5:00 Middler Youth Group
- 5:15 Senior High Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 Youth Dinner
- 6:30 Middler Choir Rehearsal
Senior High Youth Group

Tuesday, March 8

- 12:00p AI-Anon Group Meeting
- 2:00 Circle 3 Meeting

Wednesday, March 9

- 9:30a Circle 6 Meeting
- 2:15p WPC Kids Afterschool
- 2:45 It's Elementary
- 4:30 Junior & Senior Choristers
- 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 10

- 12:00p Finance Committee Meeting

Saturday, March 12

Confirmation Retreat at Montreat

Sunday, March 13

Second Sunday in Lent

Confirmation Retreat at Montreat

Daylight Savings Time begins

- 9:00a Worship Service
Witness & Service Committee Meeting
- 10:00 Sunday School
- 10:55 Session Meeting
- 11:15 Worship Service
- 4:30p Women of Westminster
Leadership Planning Meeting
- 5:00 Middler Youth Group
- 5:15 Senior High Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 Youth Dinner
- 6:30 Middler Choir Rehearsal
Senior High Youth Group

the
HARBINGER
open minds open hearts

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From the Pews, Elizabeth Timmons

Do promises make you feel anxious? If I'm being honest with myself, sometimes promises from friends, family or coworkers do make me feel anxious. Maybe that's because of all the hype that is behind a promise. Maybe it is a friend promising they will show up to an event that you're hosting, or a family member promising to be there for you during tough times. Or maybe even thinking back to when you were five years old and your best friend telling you they'd be your best friend forever. I think promises carry some anxiety because of the weight of the vows behind them.

Psalms 91 is full of promises. The difference is, they are promises from God. In the text for today "I will" or "they will" is said seven times in just eight verses. God says we "WILL rest in the shadow of the Almighty", "his faithfulness WILL be your shield", or "you WILL not fear the terror of the night". The present tense of this text provides me with a lot of comfort. It brings to life this text in the present-day.

In the text, I think Moses was trying to convince himself of these promises God had made to him, which if we're honest with ourselves, we sometimes must do too.

So what is the difference between making promises with a friend, or the promises in the text? Well, I think that answer is obvious. God. God makes promises that WILL be kept, despite it all.

SAVE THE DATE
WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER
SPRING GATHERING
SUNDAY, APRIL 10

