



Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Preparation for **Worship**

Grant unto us, O God, the fullness of your promises. Where we have been weak, grant us your strength; where we have been confused, grant us your guidance; where we have been distraught, grant us your comfort; where we have been dead, grant us your life. Apart from you, O Lord, we are nothing, but in you and with you we can do all things. Amen.

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 *Prelude and Fugue in F Major* Bach

Choral Introit "All That Hath Life and Breath Praise Ye the Lord" Clausen

* Call to Worship Psalm 8:1, 3-5

Leader: O Lord our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

People: **When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have established;**

Leader: What are human beings that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?

People: **Yet you have made them a little lower than God,
and crowned them with glory and honor.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

* Hymn #10 "Sing Glory to the Name of God" LASST UNS ERFREUEN

* Prayer of Confession

**Holy and gracious God,
we have fooled ourselves about who and whose we are.
We like to believe that we have earned the good gifts
we receive in this life.**

**We pretend that our intentions are pure, our wisdom is sound,
and we have made our own way in this world.**

**We forget that any goodness and grace we possess
has come to us because of you.**

**Forgive us, O Lord, and remake us in the image
of your beloved Son.**

**Help us to be generous with our words, our wallets,
our judgments, and our time.**

**Remind us anew of the ways that you are at work in our lives,
so that we would always remember that we belong to you.**

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

* Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

* Gloria Patri Hymnal, #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.**

Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson, *Genesis 45:1-15* p. 37

Gospel Lesson, *Luke 19:1-10* p. 854

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "How Do We Measure Generosity?"

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.**

Choral Call to Prayer "Lord Jesus, Think On Me" Daman

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 God Beyond All Praising* arr. Forrest

* Doxology Hymnal, #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 #658 "God Is So Good" God Is So Good

* Charge and Benediction

* Choral Response "Amen" Rutter

* Postlude *Minuet Finale* Handel

**All who are able may stand*

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*

Leigh Stuckey, *liturgist*

Paul Grier, *lay reader*

Todd Monsell, *organist*

The Sanctuary Choir

Jacob Barker, *head usher*

Kevin Lancaster, Lisa Mangione, Rob Morgan,

Toni Paylor, Mae Todd Mullins, *greeters*

Pearson Mullins, Charlotte Willis, *acolytes*

Worship Notes

NURSERY

Childcare is available for infants through 4K. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment for children. The Nursery is located on the mezzanine level. The entrance is at Westminster Drive, at the columbarium or near the Westminster Weekday School offices.

WORSHIP BAGS

Each Sunday we offer worship bags in the atrium for children. The worship bags are designed to include reusable items that engage children in open ended play during worship. While children attend worship with their families, they can participate in worship and play to make foundational layers of meaning for faith. Please return the zipper bag and its contents each Sunday. This shift to reusable items demonstrates how we value hospitality and care for creation.

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.

MEMBERSHIP@WPC

INTERESTED IN JOINING WESTMINSTER?

Visitors interested in learning more about Westminster and joining the church are invited to attend our New Member Class from 9-10:30a on Sunday, September 25. Those who attend the class are invited to become members during the 11:15a worship service that same day or on a future new member Sunday. Childcare is available. Please contact Julia Watkins (jwatkins@wpc-online.org) at 232-2424 to learn more and RSVP.

In Memoriam

Ray Williams
(3/22/1941 - 8/30/2022)

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

With Thanksgiving We Celebrate MARRIAGE

On Saturday, September 3, 2022, *Emily Bridges* and *Will Hunt* were united in marriage at Westminster.

OPEN MINDS • Education@WPC

BAPTISM CLASS

If you would like to have your child baptized at Westminster, our next Baptism class is scheduled for this Sunday, September 11, at 4:30p. Please notify the church office if you would like to attend, and we will be glad to send you the information for this class.

Save the Date!

75TH CELEBRATION

To register for the September 22nd celebration at the Poinsett Club, see the link in the e-News and on the church website at www.wpc-online.org. Or, you may call the church office. Registration Deadline: Monday, September 19, at Noon.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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HABITAT FOR HUMANITY - ABRAHAM BUILD

Habitat for Humanity's Abraham Build kicked off last week! AM and PM shifts are available throughout the fall, including the following September dates: 9/15, 9/17. No experience is necessary, but volunteers must be 16+. Sign up on the church website or contact Tony Atkins (tony@indconinc.com) to get involved.

Gathering@WPC

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER CIRCLES

Tuesday, September 13

- **Circle 3**, at the home of Joanne Sweeny (407 Wembley Rd., 29607) at 2p. Circle Chair: Dee Malone (dee05m@gmail.com).

Wednesday, September 14

- **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.

WESTCONNECT

Looking to nurture lasting friendships and grow in faith? You're invited to participate in WestConnect, a new ministry of small groups meeting regularly on a seasonal basis to share life, pray, and study together. Beginning in early October, WestConnect will gather for a 6-week series on Jesus' parables. Contact Julia Watkins to learn more, or complete the WestConnect interest form on the website.

THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet Monday, September 19 at 7p in the Charter Room. After the long "Covid lapse," we need to regroup. Hope you can attend this gathering. Please bring books/suggestions for upcoming programs. All are welcome.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, SEPTEMBER 11TH:

The Session has called a congregational meeting for this Sunday, September 11, immediately following the 11:15a worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to vote on the terms of call for Leigh Stuckey as Executive Associate Pastor for Faith Formation, and to elect the members of the 2022 Nominating Committee.

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

Neil Shurley (chair, Session member)	Sarah Beasley
Jacob Barker (Session member)	Randy Blouin
Lindsey Donlan (Session member)	David Hanor
Susan Grier (Session member)	Lydia Kellett
	Gaye Sprague

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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THE HARBINGER

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ANNUAL CHURCHWIDE

CHILI COOK-OFF

Join us for the churchwide chili cook-off on Sunday, October 2, hosted by the church and Women of Westminster, in the Fellowship Hall after the 11:15a worship service. Eight teams have signed up to impress you with a variety of chillies...meat lovers, vegetarian, and possibly seafood! A baked potato bar with salad will be available as well. There will be a raffle you won't want to miss that will benefit the Scholarship Fund. Contact Coleman Dixon (864-607-8778 for more information.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 11 - 18, 2022

Sunday, September 11

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00a	Kick-Off Breakfast & Connection Fair
10:00	Sunday School begins
10:55	Sunday Session Meeting
11:15	Worship Service
12:15p	Congregational Meeting
12:30	Children's Ministry Coordinator Search Comm.
4:30	Baptism Class
5:00	Middler Youth Group WoW Board Meeting Senior High Choir Rehearsal
5:15	Youth Dinner
6:00	Middler Choir Rehearsal
6:30	Senior High Youth Group

Tuesday, September 13

12:00p	Al-Anon Group Meeting
2:00	Circle 3 Meeting
7:00	Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, September 14

9:30a	Circle 6 Meeting
2:30p	It's Elementary
7:00	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 15

8:00a	Habitat for Humanity
9:30	Weekday School Chapel (3K)
9:45	Weekday School Chapel (5K)
10:00	Weekday School Chapel (4K) Thursday Bible Study

Saturday, September 17

8:00a	Habitat for Humanity
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Sunday, September 18

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00a	Worship Service
10:00	Sunday School
10:55	Sunday Session Meeting
11:15	Worship Service
12:30p	Stated Session Meeting
12:45	Connections Group
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, Amanda Brinkley

If you are like me, when you start reading the first ten verses of Luke 19, you inevitably start singing in your head: "Zacchaeus was a wee little man, and a wee little man was he." It is a classic Sunday school song that spans generations and is not easily forgotten. But Zacchaeus' story has much more depth than this children's song about a tax-collector conveys.

Zacchaeus, because of his short stature, climbed up a sycamore tree to see Jesus as he was passing through Jericho. He was one of the most disliked and greedy townspeople. But Jesus saw Zacchaeus, and acknowledged his effort to desperately seek Him by then visiting Zacchaeus' home. We all claim to want this closer look at Jesus—but are we willing, like Zacchaeus, to go out on a limb for Him? No one comes to Jesus without leaving their comfort zone, and this story reminds us to meet Jesus in the hard places. Our limb might be leaving our neighborhood to serve; it might be using our talents to help non-profits when we already feel stretched too thin; our limb may be donating to schools in need or signing up for a mission trip on our vacation time.

More importantly, once we take that risk for Jesus, are we ready to respond like Zacchaeus did, in extravagantly generous ways? Zacchaeus came face to face with Jesus, and transformed into a whole heartedly unselfish person. After his encounter, he gave half of his possessions to the poor, and returned four times the amount of what he had previously cheated from his community. In his book *Following Jesus*, Henri Nouwen challenges us to respond just like Zacchaeus: "How do we respond? By letting go, by giving away! Five loaves, two fish. They multiply in the giving. There is enough for everyone. What we hold on to always diminishes. What we give away always multiplies. It is the great illogic...Those who give away what they have will see it multiply. Those who hold on to it in fear will see it dwindle right in front of them."

As you're singing to yourself that little earworm about Zacchaeus this week—strive to respond as he did. We show our love of God through loving our neighbor, and our response to follow the call of Jesus can be very concrete. Go out on a limb for Jesus. Receive the gift of Christ and share it generously with others.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

welcome back!

*Join WPC in Sunday School starting
this Sunday, September 11 at 10a.*

*On September 18, we'll resume worship
services at 9a and 11:15a with Sunday
School at 10a.*

Children/Youth Sunday School Class Locations

Children - Growing in Grace & Gratitude
*5K/1st (Room 109)
2nd/3rd (Movie Room)
4th/5th (Room 112A)*

Youth - Feasting on the Word
*Middlers (Youth Suite)
Senior Highs (Game Room of Youth Suite)*

Adult Sunday School (September 11–October 23)

*Daughters & Disciples: Women in the New Testament
led by Leigh Stuckey
Room 209*

Often when we think of the New Testament we remember Jesus' 12 disciples and the Apostle Paul, but women's stories are critical to Jesus' early ministry and the spread of the gospel in the first century. From Elizabeth and Anna to the Samaritan woman and Paul's early supports, women's stories are rich and can help inform modern discipleship. Join us for this lecture-style class.

*Perspectives on Science and Faith
led by John MacCarthy
Room 212*

This course will be structured around discussions of questions such as the following: What is science? What is religion? What is the purpose of science? What is the purpose of religion? Is there scientific evidence for the existence of God? Do astrophysics and evolution disprove the existence of the God of Hebrew scriptures? How are scientific and religious realities similar and different? How are scientific and religious thought similar and different? Is science fundamentally anti-religious? Is religion fundamentally anti-science? Are there ways in which they can support one another? What are miracles? Do they (did they) occur and what does science say? Does prayer "work?" Is religious experience "simply a brain state" or is it communion with God? What does science say about religious experience? What are scientific and religious perspectives on free will? Does God exist and are we able to know Him/Her/It?

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WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OPEN MINDS • Serving with WPC

MEN OF WESTMINSTER

The Men of Westminster will have their September gathering at Brewery 85 (Whitlee Ct.) on Thursday, September 29, at 6p. A representative from Habitat for Humanity will be the guest speaker.

The Men of Westminster will be helping with general maintenance at The Thornwell Camp for Boys at Lake Jocassee on October 5-9 and would appreciate any help from other gentlemen in the church. There will be spots available for overnight or just for the day. Call Tyler Fairey (803-237-6009) with questions about logistics and participation.

PVC VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Love games? Love kids? Come join us at Pleasant Valley Connection on the second Monday of the month for games and relationship building. Contact Anna Hanor (anna.hanor@gmail.com) for more information or signup at <https://bit.ly/3qdhStH>.

Our Vision:

Open Minds Open Hearts

Our Pillars:

Hospitality

Generosity

Justice

Imagination

Joy

Our Goals:

Connect

Serve

Grow

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