



Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Preparation for **Worship**

“Gratitude flows from the recognition that who we are and what we have are gifts to be received and shared. Gratitude releases us from the bonds of obligation and prepares us to offer ourselves freely and fully for the work of the Kingdom. God’s Kingdom is the place of abundance where every generous act overflows its original bounds and becomes part of the unbounded grace of God at work in the world.”

Henri Nouwen

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.**

Minute for Stewardship The Dixon Family

Prelude 9a "Who Will Be a Witness?" arr. Moore
 11:15a Variations from *Organ Concerto No. 4* Handel

Choral Introit 11:15a Clausen
 "All That Hath Life and Breath Praise Ye the Lord!"

* Call to Worship Psalm 66:1-4, 8

Leader: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth.
People: **Sing the glory of God’s name; give to God glorious praise.**
Leader: Say to God, “How awesome are your deeds! All the earth worships you; they sing praises to your name.”
People: **Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of God’s praise be heard.**
All: **Let us worship God!**

* Hymn #54 “Make a Joyful Noise to God!” Dix

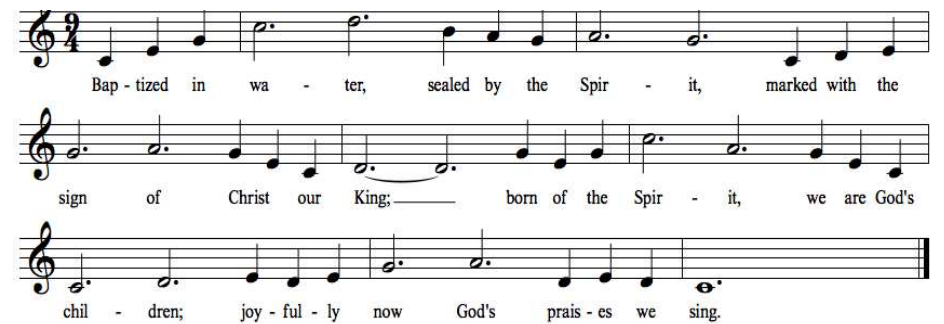
* Prayer of Confession
Almighty God, you are the giver of every good and perfect gift. Yet we confess that we are poor stewards of your bounty. You give us time, but we waste it. You give us life, but we use it to boost our own egos. You give us wealth, but we hoard it for our own security. You give us grace, but we are scared to trust your abundance. Change our hearts, O God, so that our fears would be forgotten. Help us to see the boundless joy of your generosity every day. Renew our spirits with your Holy Spirit, so that our faithfulness would flourish, and our lives would reflect the extravagance of your love. 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.

The Sacrament of Baptism 9a Mary Elliott Scales

Congregational Response "Baptized in Water" BUNESSAN



Presentation of Bibles to Third Graders 11:15a
 Children in K5 - first grade are invited to leave for Children’s Church.

Hearing **God’s Word**

Prayer for Illumination
 Gospel Lesson, *Luke 17:11-17* p. 852
 Epistle Lesson, *2 Corinthians 8:1-7* p. 941

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

Sermon “Grateful and Growing”

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 11:15a "Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us" Pardini
 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 *All Good Gifts* Schwoebel
 * 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 #694 “Great God of Every Blessing” AURELIA
 * Charge and Benediction
 * Choral Response 11:15a "Lead Me, Guide Me" arr. Smallwood
 * Postlude *Flourish* Wagner
 *All who are able may stand

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*
 Julia Watkins, *liturgist*
 Lesley Usher (9a), *sponsor*
 Molly Morgan (9a), Paige Randolph (11:15a), *lay readers*
 Todd Monsell, *pianist and organist*
 The Middler & Senior High Choirs (9a)
 Shawn Salley (9a), *Interim Youth Choir Director*
 The Sanctuary Choir Ensemble (9a)
 The Sanctuary Choir (11:15a)
 Jacob Barker (9a), Brad Hawkins (11:15a), *head ushers*
 LeAnne White, Russ Williams, Toni Paylor,
 Neil Shurley, Keith Stevenson (9a), *greeters*
 Meg McKnight, Emily Busby, Hastings Blumer,
 Jay Culclasure, Ross Glidewell (11:15a), *greeters*
 Ellis Bryan, Anna Clark Cameron (11:15a), *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.

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS

It’s that time of year again when we are looking for volunteers to write short devotionals to be included in the 2022 Advent Devotions series. Please contact Josie Williams (jgwilliams1803@gmail.com) if you would be willing to help with this.

We Remember in Prayer

Tracy Draganic and Melinda Dumpert on the death of their father, Gary Cretsinger, in Johnson City, TN - 10/21/2022.

Join Us in Welcoming

BAPTISM

This morning we welcome into our fellowship Mary Elliott Scales, daughter of McLain & Pearce Scales.

OPEN MINDS • Education@WPC

BAPTISM CLASS

If you would like to have your child baptized at Westminster, our next Baptism class is scheduled for Sunday, November 13, 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.

CHANCEL CHOIR

Are you interested in singing in the choir but enjoy a more relaxed schedule? Consider joining the Chancel Choir. Rehearsals are held on Tuesdays from 7-7:45p prior to singing at the 9a service. The next cycles are November 1, 8, 13, and November 22, 29, and December 4. Contact Rosemary Hughes (rhughes@wpc-online.org).

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Gathering@WPC

WESTMINSTER BOOK CLUB

The Westminster Book Club will meet in the church library on Tuesday, November 1 at 7p. Ruth Johnston will lead our discussion of *Honor* by Thrity Umrigar. Set in India, this riveting and immersive novel tells the story of two couples and the challenges of love across a cultural divide. New attendees are always welcome. Please join us!

HIKING GROUP

Saturday, November 5

Whitewater Falls

Contact Hike Group Leader, Durden Collins (durden.collins@gmail.com), if interested.

MEN OF WESTMINSTER

The Men of Westminster will be helping with general maintenance at The Thornwell Camp for Boys at Lake Jocassee on November 2-6 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.

THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet Monday, November 21, at 7p in the Charter Room. Cathy Grills will lead the discussion of *Flying, Falling, Catching: An Unlikely Story of Finding Freedom*, by Henri Nouwen and Carolyn Whitney-Brown. Read the book and join us for an interesting and informative evening. All are welcome.

NOMINATIONS FOR ELDERS

The Nominating Committee will meet in the near future to discuss names for the next class of elders for the Session. If you have a name that you would like the Nominating Committee to consider, please contact one of the members of the Nominating Committee. (Please do not contact the individual whom you would like to nominate—that is the job of the Nominating Committee.) The Nominating Committee is comprised of the following members: Neil Shurley (chair), Jacob Barker, Lindsey Donlan, Susan Grier, Sarah Beasley, Randy Blouin, David Hanor, Lydia Kellett, and Gaye Sprague.

Education@WPC

This Sunday, October 30, children in Third Grade will celebrate a faith milestone as they receive a new Bible during 11:15a worship. Third Graders are invited to attend a Bible Workshop during the Sunday School hour to learn the features of their new Bible and age-appropriate tools for Bible study and discipleship. Please join us to celebrate these disciples and pray for their continued growth in faith. Contact Lauren Slingerland for more information.

Opportunities@WPC

VOLUNTEER WITH HABITAT IN NOVEMBER

Westminster volunteers have been making good progress alongside other faith communities on Habitat for Humanity's Abraham Build! AM and PM shifts for volunteers (ages 14+) remain available through year-end, including November 3, 17, and 18. All training will be provided, so consider this an invitation to try something new! Contact Tony Atkins (tony@indconinc.com) to get involved.

US/MEXICO BORDER TRIP

Join Westminster to build relationships and understanding across the US/Mexico border. We will be serving alongside Frontera de Cristo, a ministry of the PC(USA). Trip dates are February 11-17, 2023. Registration and a non-refundable deposit are due by December 9. Contact Julia Watkins for more information.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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THE HARBINGER

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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.

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Steve Phillips

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 30 - November 6, 2022

Sunday, October 30

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

9:00a Worship Service
Library Committee Meeting
10:00 One Adult Sunday School
Third Grade Bible Workshop
10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
11:15 Worship Service
12:30p Called Session Meeting
4:30 First Steps
5:00 Middler Youth Group
5:15 Senior High Choir Rehearsal
6:00 Youth Dinner
6:30 Middler Choir Rehearsal
Senior High Youth Group

Monday, October 31

8:00p Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, November 1

9:30a Foothills Presbytery Meeting
12:00p Al-Anon Group Meeting
Administrative Committee Meeting
7:00 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Westminster Book Club

Wednesday, November 2

Men's Work Retreat at Camp Thornwell
2:30p It's Elementary
3:30 Cherub Choir
4:30 Junior & Senior Choristers
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 3

Men's Work Retreat at Camp Thornwell
Habitat for Humanity Build Day
9:30a Weekday School Chapel (3K)
9:45 Weekday School Chapel (5K)
10:00 Weekday School Chapel (4K)
Thursday Bible Study
8:00p Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, November 4

Men's Work Retreat at Camp Thornwell

Saturday, November 5

Habitat for Humanity Build Day
Hiking Group

Sunday, November 6

All Saints Day

Men's Work Retreat at Camp Thornwell
9:00a Worship Service
Membership Committee Meeting
10:00 One Adult Sunday School
10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
11:15 Worship Service
2:00p Nominating Committee Meeting
5:30 Vespers Service
5:45 November Nights Dinner
6:30 November Nights Classes

the

HARBINGER

open minds open hearts

VOLUME LXXV | October 30, 2022 | No. 26

From the Pews, Larry Gluck

One can feel the surge of momentum intrinsic to the mounting anticipation of the 75th anniversary of Westminster Presbyterian Church. From our truly humble beginnings, an army tent — poignantly reminiscent of protection from the recently ended WWII — was erected to create a sanctuary space for those seeking a greater relationship within the community and a greater relationship with God.

Today's epistle from 2 Corinthians focuses on grace while the gospel lesson from Luke 17 pivots on thankfulness and gratefulness. In these moments of escalating enthusiasm for our Diamond Anniversary, I find myself pondering the similarities and differences surrounding these three words: grace, thankfulness, and gratefulness.

Grace is both a noun and a verb. In the context of 2 Corinthians, the presence of God graces our lives while through God's grace we are given divine favor despite our transgressions or paucity of merit, thus the gift of God.

The more familiar passage of Luke 17:11-19 reflects our reaction of the gift of God through his son Jesus. Ten lepers are freed from the ravages of their illness, this act acknowledged by only one of the ten, the one doubly blighted in Biblical terms as both a leper and a Samaritan. This one of ten not only thanked God "with a loud voice" but "fell to Jesus' feet" in a demonstratively deeper appreciation.

While I find thankfulness and gratefulness to be inextricably woven, I regard thankfulness as being conscious of benefit received and responding cognitively from the mind. Gratefulness is a more complex and deeper sense of appreciation that manifests as a feeling arising from within our soul. One we articulate, the other we feel.

Grace, thankfulness, and gratefulness are everyday words, but today's scripture deepens their meaning with divine connectivity. I am thankful for our church community and the gifts that are continuously and selflessly bestowed every day. I am grateful to those who congregated seventy-five years ago to give rise to the years of our WPC legacy that my family has inherited. May we be ever mindful of the grace of God ever present in our lives and progressively strengthen our commitment to others in our forward quest to give the gift of God to the generations to come.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER NIGHTS NOVEMBER 6 AND 13, 2022

Join your church family the first two Sunday evenings in November for worship, fellowship, and education. A Vespers Service, Salt & Light, begins in the Sanctuary at **5:30p**. Dinner will be at **5:45p** catered by Sunflower Eatery. Programs and classes for all will begin at **6:30p**. We are all finished by **7:30p**.

Sign up for each Sunday's dinner on the church website.

- Deadline for the November 6th dinner is Wednesday, November 2.
- Deadline for the November 13th dinner is Wednesday, November 9.

Adult Classes:

- Faith, Families, & Foster Care

Hear from some of Westminster's partners working locally to support vulnerable children and their families, as well as members of our congregation who are following calls to serve as foster parents.

November 6: Thornwell and WPC member, Elizabeth Timmons

November 13: Fostering Great Ideas and WPC members,
Jenny Lee & Sara Turner

- Viewing of the "Connectivity Project" with Creation Stewardship
Join Creation Stewardship on their journey to explore the interconnections all around us. By shining light on the many ways that our actions can generate far-reaching reactions, "Connectivity Project" serves to remind us of the power each one of us holds to make a difference in this world.

- Advent Crafting with Vino & Van Gogh

WPC Youth Group:

WPCYG looks a little different during the first two weeks of November. We still eat together and meet as a youth group, but with a slightly different schedule. We will also join the church-wide dinner but youth don't need to pay – it is covered by our budget.

All youth are invited to Vespers at 5:30p in the sanctuary (look for Mary Kathleen and Lauren so that we can sit together) and then we can walk to and eat dinner together from 6-6:30p. Youth Programs will take place from 6:30-7:30p. Middlers will be in room 309 and Sr. Highs will be in the Youth Suite. Both groups will explore the power of breath and breathing along the journey of faith. One week youth will participate in a Bible Study on "Breath" and another they will have a breath and meditation workshop with our own Perrin White of Breathe Well Be Well. There is no youth choir during November Nights.

WPC Kids:

Nursery is available for K4 and younger, children's programming is for K5-5th grade.

Come learn about the characters of Advent: Mary, Joseph, the angels, the shepherds and the magi. We'll create things for you to take home to continue the journey to Bethlehem this Advent and learn more about the story of Christ's birth. Join us on the 100 hall.

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WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PROJECT HOST

In this season of gratitude and giving, you're invited to serve our neighbors in downtown Greenville. Space is available to volunteer with the Project Host soup kitchen from 9a-1p on the following dates: 11/8, 11/22, and 12/20. Contact Julia Watkins to sign up.

INTERFAITH JUSTICE NETWORK ASSEMBLY

Join Greenville's new interfaith justice ministry, GOAL, to vote on this year's focus issue (i.e., housing, mental health, education, criminal justice) at the Community Problems Assembly. The meeting will be held at Westminster on Monday, November 7, from 6:30-8:30p. Contact Julia Watkins to get connected.

Our Vision:

Open Minds Open Hearts

Our Pillars:

Hospitality
Generosity
Justice
Imagination
Joy

Our Goals:

Connect
Serve
Grow

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES TO THIRD GRADERS

Leader: What is the church?

All: We are the church: the people who believe the good news about Jesus, who are baptized, who share in the Lord's Supper. Through grace, the Spirit renews us so we may serve God in love.

Leader: How do we know this good news?

All: Through reading the Bible and hearing it taught and preached. The Holy Spirit inspired those who wrote the Bible and helps us rely on its promises today.

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Dear God, as we read and study our Bibles, by your Spirit help us to learn about your love for us in Jesus Christ. Help us to learn how to follow you. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Holy God, when these children were baptized, we promised to guide and nurture them by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging them to know and follow Christ and to be faithful members of his church. We pledge ourselves anew to this promise. Amen.

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