



Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Preparation for **Worship**

O God, full of compassion, I commit and commend myself to you, in whom I am, and live, and know. Be the goal of my pilgrimage, and my rest by the way. Let my soul take refuge from the crowding turmoil of worldly thought beneath the shadow of your wings. Let my heart, this sea of restless waves, find peace in you, O God. Amen.

Augustine of Hippo

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

Amy Hawkins

Prelude "Chanson" from *Suite Antique*

Rutter

Choral Introit "Be Still and Know"

Iona Community

Please sing as invited - first in unison, then in canon.



Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that I am God.

* Call to Worship Psalm 92:1-4

Leader: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High.
People: **It is good to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night.**

Leader: For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work.
People: **At the works of your hands I sing for joy.**
All: **Let us worship God!**

* Hymn 393 ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVOGELIN
 "O Day of Rest and Gladness"

* Prayer of Confession

Holy and gracious God, we are masters of self-deception. We like to believe that we have earned all that we have, and that we are self-made people. We convince ourselves that we have paid our debts, and that any grace we need remains small. We ignore our limits, we forget why you created us, and we pretend that our lives are our own. Forgive us, Holy One, and wrap us in your arms of compassion once again. Remind us anew what it means to be your children: dependent on your saving hands, in need of your healing heart, and powerless without your holy love. Through 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, Hymn 581 GLORIA PATRI

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.

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 13:10-17*

p. 848

Old Testament Lesson, *Deuteronomy 5:12-15*

p. 142

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Set Free"

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.

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 9a *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* Helgen
The text for the 9a offertory may be found in the hymnal, no. 182.

Offertory 11:15a *This Is the Day* Rutter

* Doxology #606 OLD HUNDRETH

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 673 LAUDA ANIMA
 "Jesus, Light of Joy"

* Charge and Benediction

* Choral Response 11:15a ROBERTS
 Hymn 558 "Amen"

* Postlude CARLSON
Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

**All who are able may stand*

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*

Mary Kathleen Duncan, *liturgist*

Susan Grier (9a), Beth Edwards (11:15a), *scripture readers*

Todd Monsell, *organist*

Youth Choir; Lynne Robinson, *pianist* (9a)

The Sanctuary Choir (11:15a)

Rosemary Hughes, *flute*

Parks Workman (9a), Ben Edwards (11:15a), *head ushers*

Zach Freeman, Meg McKnight, Laura Cox, Hastings Blumer, Jay Culclasure (9a), *greeters*

Lesley Usher, LeAnne White, Russ Williams,

Toni Paylor, Neil Shurley (11:15a), *greeters*

Salters Kelley (9a),

Berkeley Blumer, Gretchen Cleveland (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. The Women's Lounge, located down the stairs from the front office and straight down the hallway on the right, is available for any child caretaker and includes worship livestream, comfortable seating, and a changing table.

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.

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.

With Thanksgiving We Celebrate

BIRTH

The birth of a daughter, *Layla James Shepherd*, to Paul & Allston Shepherd, on Wednesday, September 13, 2023.

Choral Introit, "Be Still and Know"
 Words: Psalm 46:1; Music: John L. Bell.
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Opportunities @WPC

INTERFAITH SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY G.O.A.L.

Greenville Organized for Accountable Leadership had an extraordinarily successful first year! As we start our second year, we invite you to join us. We will be holding a House Meeting on Monday, October 9 at 10a at the home of Bill Holt (105 Rockingham Rd, 29607). For GOAL related questions, contact juliabellew@gmail.com.

HIKING GROUP

The Hiking Group will meet again on Thursday, October 12 to Chimney Rock State Park. Hike Leader: Anne Holleman (holl2759@att.net).

YOUNG ADULTS

Calling all Young Adults: Join us at Southernside Brewery (25 Delano Dr, Unit D) on Sunday, October 15, following the 11:15a worship service. We will enjoy lunch and fellowship - and kids are welcome! Questions? Contact Elizabeth Timmons at lelizabethtimmons@gmail.com.

THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet Monday, October 16 at 7p in the Charter Room. Do Kaiser will lead the discussion of *Accidental Saints: Finding God in All The Wrong Places* by Nadia Bolz-Weber. Read the book and join us for an interesting and informative evening. All are welcome.

LIGHTLY SEASONED

The autumn 2023 Lightly Seasoned fellowship gathering has been scheduled for Saturday, October 28, at 6:30p at the home of Jeff & Nancy Giguere (121 Rhett St., #703).

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER CIRCLE MEETINGS

Tuesday, October 10

- **Circle 3**, at the home of Fran Walker (47 Charlbury St) at 2p. Circle Chair: Dee Malone (dee05m@gmail.com).

Wednesday, October 11

- **Circle 6**, at the home of Sherry Tate (207 Camille Ave) at 9a. Circle Chairs: Sherry Tate (sherrytate63@gmail.com) and Liz Einstein (liz.ard.einstein@gmail.com).

Tuesday, October 17

- **Circle 7**, at the home of Terri LeGrand (16 N. Brookwood Dr) at 6p. Circle Chair: Josie Williams (jgwilliams1803@gmail.com).

TRICK OR TREAT

On Wednesday, October 25, our children will bring joy to residents at the Terra Bella Retirement Home as they go trick-or-treating in their Halloween costumes. Arrive at the church at 5:30p to walk over together to trick or treat with residents. We'll return to the Fellowship Hall for pizza dinner afterwards! There is no cost, but we ask that you please sign up on the church website under the event registration so that we know how much pizza to buy. Contact Associate Pastor Lauren Slingerland (lslingerland@wpc-online.org) for more information.

Our Vision:
Open Minds Open Hearts

Our Pillars:
Hospitality
Generosity
Justice
Imagination
Joy

Our Goals:
Connect
Serve
Grow

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.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS
October 8 - 15, 2023

Sunday, October 8

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:00a Worship Service
Witness & Service Committee Meeting
- 10:00 Sunday School
- 10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
- 11:15 Worship Service
- 12:45p Connections Group
- 4:30 First Steps Music Class
- 5:00 Middler Youth Group
- 5:15 Senior High Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 Youth Dinner
WestConnect - Heather Dorr
- 6:30 Senior High Youth Group
Middler Choir Rehearsal

Monday, October 9

- 8:00p Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, October 10

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

Wednesday, October 11

- 9:00a Circle 6 Meeting
- 7:00p Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 12

Weekday School closed

- 8:30a Hiking Group
- 10:00 Thursday Bible Study
- 12:00p Finance Committee Meeting
- 4:30 Heritage Lecture Committee Meeting
- 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, October 13

Weekday School closed

Sunday, October 15

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:00a Worship Service
- 10:00 Sunday School
- 10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
- 11:15 Worship Service
- 12:15p Young Adults Group
- 4:30 First Steps Music Class
- 6:00 WestConnect - Heather Dorr

the
HARBINGER
open minds open hearts

VOLUME LXXVII | October 8, 2023 | No. 24

From the Pews, Cappy Riley

I have been teaching first grade for over two decades, and one of the most important aspects of any well managed class is boundaries. Boundaries help children learn how to limit themselves. They give children a sense of security, safety, and self-control that can serve them well throughout their lives.

At the beginning of each year, I read a cute children's book to help conceptualize the importance of boundaries. What If Everybody Did That by Ellen Javernick exaggerates simple boundaries being broken and the aftermath that follows. For example, when no one is looking, a boy drags his fingers through a fancy wedding cake and takes a big lick of the icing. A lady behind the boy sternly says "what if everybody did that?" On the next page you see a completely ruined wedding cake and everybody licking icing off of their fingers.

Although softer boundaries than our own emotional, financial, and intellectual limits that we have built, I believe Javernick's story offers us an opportunity to step back and challenge ourselves. Our stewardship campaign theme this year is "Beyond." The campaign is encouraging everyone to go beyond in our generosity towards God and one another.

Well, what IF everybody did that? What if everybody at Westminster goes beyond (even just a little bit) with their generosity? What if we break down the boundaries that have been holding us back from giving? What if we spread God's love with no limits? What if everybody does just that? Think about what the next page of our story could be...

Prayer: Loving God, We are grateful for your abounding love and abundant blessings. Help us to hear you and go beyond our limits. Guide us as we dig deep to find ways that we can spread your love and kindness. Lead us to go beyond our boundaries as we give our time, talent, and treasures to our beloved community and church. Amen.