

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, October 29, 2023 |On Demand on Facebook & YouTube|9a & 11:15a



Twenty-second 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.”

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 Nikki Grumbine

Prelude Prelude Reformation Suite: Parts I and II Powell

Introit (11:15a) Hymn 709 "God, We Honor You" ABUNDANT BLESSINGS
Please join the children in singing as invited – first in unison and then in canon.

* Call to Worship Psalm 89:1-2
Leader: I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;
People: With my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.
Leader: I declare that your steadfast love is established forever.
People: Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.
All: Let us worship God!

* Hymn 712 "As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought" FOREST GREEN
(11:15a only) Stanza 1, Chorister choirs; Stanzas 2-3 ALL

* Prayer of Confession
Almighty God, we know that we have fallen short.
We have played it safe with our faith instead of confronting our fears.
We have asked others to change without considering the parts of ourselves that need changing.
Our patience with those we love has been thin.
Our love for those we dislike has been disingenuous.
We have not been the generous and hospitable people you created us to be.
Forgive us, Holy One.
Grant us new eyes to see the grace in which we stand, give us new ears to hear the voices we have shut out, and give us courage to go beyond our comfort zones as we follow Jesus Christ, for it is in his name that we pray.
Amen.

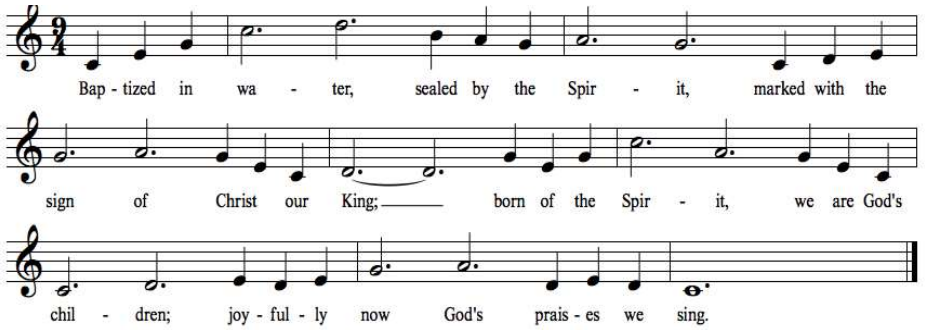
* Assurance of Pardon
Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.
People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

* 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.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Sacrament of Baptism 11:15a Laney Maybank Weed

Congregational Response Baptized in Water BUNESSAN



11:15a Children in K5 – first grade are invited to leave for Children’s Church.

Hearing God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination
Gospel Lesson, Mark 12:41-44 p. 825
Epistle Lesson, 2 Corinthians 8:1-7 p. 941

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

Sermon "Going Beyond"

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 "What Does the Lord Require of You?" Moon
Offertory 11:15a Give Almes of Thy Goods Christopher Tye
* 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

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

* Hymn 708 "We Give Thee but Thine Own" SCHUMANN
* Charge and Benediction
* Benediction Response 11:15a Hymn 558 "Amen" ROBERTS
Please join in singing the Benediction Response.
* Postlude Reformation Suite: Parts IV and V Powell
*All who are able may stand

Leading Worship this Morning

Ben Dorr, preaching
Lauren Slingerland, liturgist
Jay Culclasure (11:15a), sponsor
Paul Grier (9a), Jill Fairey (11:15a), scripture readers
Rosemary Hughes, Kathi Hurst, Marlon Hurst (9a), trio
Todd Monsell, organ/piano
Judy McKenney (9a), guitar
Cody Beard, trumpet
Junior Choristers, Kathryn Knauer, conductor (11:15a)
Senior Choristers, Hunter Smith, conductor (11:15a)
Jacob Barker, head usher
Keith Stevenson, Susan Grier, LeAnne White, Russ Williams, Toni Paylor (9a), greeters
Ross Glidewell, Jara Jones, Meg McKnight, Laura Cox, Hastings Blumer (11:15a), greeters
Gray Gault, Maisie Lucas (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.

With Thanksgiving We Celebrate

BIRTH
The birth of a son, James Bowen Hollar, to Jim & Betsy Hollar on Friday, September 29, 2023.

Join Us in Welcoming

BAPTISM
This morning we welcome into our fellowship Laney Maybank Weed, daughter of Banks & Mary Frances Weed.

In Memoriam

Fred Carpenter
11/5/1950 – 10/21/2023)

Paul O’Neal
(6/21/1942 – 10/21/2023)
“I am the resurrection and the life.”
– John 11:25

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.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Opportunities @WPC

SAVE THE DATE:
Men of Westminster
Spring Retreat
April 26-28, 2024
Montreat Conference Center

HIKING GROUP
The next hike for the Hiking Group will be on Thursday, November 2, on the Weston Trail of the Congaree National Park. Carole Dennison is the hike leader. If you are interested, contact Carole in advance at cdennison72@gmail.com.

CHANCEL CHOIR
The Chancel Choir will sing next at the 9a worship service on Sunday, November 12. To prepare for worship leadership, they will rehearse on Tuesday, November 7 from 7-7:45p in the Choir Room. The Chancel Choir exists to provide choral singing opportunities for those who enjoy singing but who desire to participate in an ensemble that requires less of a time commitment than the Sanctuary Choir. Participation is open to all. For more information, contact Marlon Hurst, Director of Music.

INSTRUMENTAL/HANDBELL SURVEY
Are you an instrumentalist? Would you be interested in ensemble opportunities to share your gifts in worship? Are you interested in ringing handbells? If so, please visit the WPC website to complete a survey. This will help us learn the answers to these questions – and more! The survey will remain open through mid-November. Depending upon the responses, opportunities for sharing your gifts will develop in 2024.

Our Vision:
Open Minds Open Hearts

Our Pillars:
Hospitality
Generosity
Justice
Imagination
Joy

Our Goals:
Connect
Serve
Grow

YOUNG ADULTS
Please join us for a young adults oyster roast on Sunday, November 19 from 3-5p at the home of Mary Knight & Tyler Felt (214 Aberdeen Dr). To reserve your spot, venmo @MaryKnightFelt \$20 and in the description please label it, "WPC Oyster Roast". This will cover oysters, appetizers, and beverages. Registration will end November 11. Questions? Contact Elizabeth Timmons at lelizabethtimmons@gmail.com.

2023 GIVING:
At the end of September, we were ¾ of the way through the year, and had received 60% of anticipated pledge income. Please check your quarterly giving statement to see where you stand with your 2023 giving. Thank you for your generosity with Westminster!





LEFTOVER CANDY DRIVE
BENEFITTING PROJECT HOST
Wondering in the days and weeks after Halloween what to do with all that leftover candy? This year we're collecting candy on behalf of Project Host so that PH can distribute the sweets among luncheon participants. Bring your candy by the office November 1-6 or drop it at the designated spot under the UM Collection Cabinets in the Friendship Corridor.

THE SESSION		
The Class of 2024		
Hastings Blumer	Toni Paylor	
Laura Cox	Neil Shurley	
Jay Culclasure	Keith Stevenson	
Ross Glidewell	Lesley Usher	
Jara Jones	LeAnne White	
Meg McKnight	Russ Williams	

The Class of 2025		
Jacob Barker	Nikki Grumbine	
Marian Carpenter	Bill Holt	
Lindsey Donlan	Ginny Reed	
Carroll Farmer	Jordan Smith	
Zach Freeman	Tom Vanderbloemen	
Susan Grier	Parks Workman	

The Class of 2026		
Emily Cole	Walker Miller	
Ingrid Erwin	Stan Pendergrass	
Roger Gower	Betsy Raines	
Amy Hawkins	Jeff Reynolds	
Anne Howson	Susan Robbins	
George McLarty	Zach Weaver	

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

    wpcgreenville | wpc-online.org | 2310 Augusta St.

THE HARBINGER
Westminster Presbyterian Church
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Todd Monsell	Organist tmonsell@wpc-online.org

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Weekday School Director
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Lynn Bennett
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Michelle Little
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wendy@wpc-online.org

Aly Friend
Director of Nurseries
alyfriend@wpc-online.org

Steve Phillips
Building Supervisor
sphillips@wpc-online.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS	
October 29 - November 5, 2023	
Sunday, October 29	
Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost	
9:00a	Worship Service
	Library Committee Meeting
10:00	Sunday School
	WestConnect - Kathleen Reynolds
	WestConnect - Leigh Miller
	WestConnect - George Howell
10:55	Sunday Session Meeting
11:15	Worship Service
4:30p	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 30
8:00p Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, October 31
12:00p Al-Anon

Wednesday, November 1
2:15p It's Elementary
3:30 Cherub Choir
4:15 Middlers Open Gym
4:30 Junior & Senior Choristers
6:00 WestConnect - Ingrid Erwin
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 2
8:00a Hiking Group
10:00a Thursday Bible Study
8:00p Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday, November 5
All Saints Sunday
9:00a Worship Service
10:00 Sunday School
WestConnect - Kathleen Reynolds
WestConnect - Leigh Miller
WestConnect - George Howell
10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
11:15 Worship Service
2:00p Nominating Committee Meeting
4:30 First Steps Music Class
5:00 Vespers Service
5:20 November Nights Dinner
6:00 Rise Against Hunger

the
HARBINGER
open minds open hearts

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From the Pews, Stephen & Mary Ridgeway
“A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny.” “He said to them “truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had...” Mark 12:42-43

It’s likely that everyone can look back and remember a small gesture from a mentor, friend, or stranger that had an outsized impact. A few encouraging words, a quick visit, or a hastily jotted note can be the thing that keeps someone going. Most of us can remember that teacher who spent a little extra time, a coach who continued to encourage, or a nurse who lingered because they knew that going beyond would make all the difference. Little things, in other words, can become big things.
Recently, we found an anonymous handwritten note under the windshield wiper of our car pointing out a concerning bit of damage to the rear passenger-side tire. A defect that at highway speeds could’ve resulted in a serious accident. Who knows what trouble this small act of kindness saved us? A small gesture, but, possibly a consequential one.
When we starting attending Westminster almost twenty years ago, the sense that it was a congregation of people who went beyond in ministering to each other, supporting the community, and expressing God’s love was evident. The pillars of hospitality, generosity, justice, imagination, and joy are still in abundance. A quick glance at the Harbinger will show this. From a comprehensive worship and Sunday School schedule, to Narcotics Anonymous, to Trick-or-Treating at the Terra Bella Retirement Home, we reach out to each other and beyond our walls.
This verse from Mark and the contribution of the poor widow is a challenging text for Stewardship Season. Who can match her generosity? This can be seen, though, as an act of faith on her part. She made the donation of little, believing that with God’s will, it could become something greater. Who but Jesus could imagine that we’d find power and inspiration in her example 2000 years later?
We give to Westminster because we believe that it is the best way to go beyond ourselves. That, with the love of God expressed in this congregation and what we give, will be magnified beyond our imagination. It’s hard to imagine a better stewardship of our gifts.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ADULT EDUCATION ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

We at Westminster believe that education is essential for discipleship and hope that what you learn in this place will transform your living beyond our doors. This quarter will run each Sunday through November 26. You are welcome to join any class at any point!

1. Faith & Medical Ethics

Teachers: Scott & Denise Broderick with Trey & Kimmie DuBose, Rob Morgan, and Ben Alexander, Jim & Betsy Bloodworth

Room 209

From the earliest beginnings of the Christian faith, its members have been devoted to helping others. After a brief review of the interwoven history of Christianity and medicine in general, the focus of this class will be on the current interaction between the Christian faith and the complexities of the modern medical world. Topics will be presented by a variety of congregational members involved in the medical field and will include mission work, challenging patients and diagnoses, medical malpractice, and medical finances.

2. Short Stories; Big Impact

Teacher: Leigh Stuckey

Room 212

Jesus’ most evocative and visceral stories often come in the form of parables – and are as often misunderstood as they are repeated. A skilled teacher, Jesus used images that would be familiar to hearers in first century Palestine as a way to evoke curiosity about the character of God’s kingdom. But life in the first century middle east and life in Greenville today are rather different. How can we understand these stories, and how can they provoke us to deeper seeking?

YOUTH EDUCATION ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

Senior High West Connect

This group meets two more times this semester (October 29 and November 5). If you haven’t yet participated, you’re more than welcome to jump in for these last two sessions. Another Senior High WestConnect group will meet this spring.

Middler Sunday School

All Middlers are invited to meet with the Doctors each Sunday morning in the Youth Suite during the Sunday School hour. During this time, youth will share prayer concerns, preview/review worship, and build community through a variety of activities.

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WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER NIGHTS
NOVEMBER 5 AND 12, 2023

Join your church family the first two Sunday evenings in November for November Nights. We will begin in the Sanctuary at 5p for a brief Vespers service. Dinner, catered by Sunflower Eatery, will begin at 5:20p. On November 5, you will have the opportunity to participate in Rise Against Hunger, an intergenerational mealpacking event. Over the course of an hour and a half, we will pack over 10K meals that will provide essential nutrients to individuals in developing nations. Rise begins in the gym at 6p. On November 12, we will be joined by Mill Village Ministries to learn more about hunger in our own communities. As with Rise, the Mill Village opportunity will begin at 6p.

SIGN UP FOR EACH SUNDAY'S DINNER
ON THE CHURCH WEBSITE.

- Deadline for the November 5 taco bar is Wednesday, November 1.
- Deadline for the November 12 dinner (salad and lasagna) is Wednesday, November 8.

Nursery is available for K4 and younger. All children and youth are encouraged to participate in Rise Against Hunger and the educational hour led by Mill Village.

WPCYG
DURING NOVEMBER NIGHTS

The Youth Groups will continue to meet on November Nights, but follow the November Nights schedule. All youth are invited to join the Westminster church family for vespers at 5p in the sanctuary, dinner at 5:30p in the fellowship hall and programming from 6-7p. On Sunday, November 5, we will join in the meal packing event with Rise Against Hunger. On Sunday, November 12, we will join the panel discussion with Mill Village Ministries and then split into a youth only discussion led by Jessica Brown, Mill Village Ministries' Youth Program Director.



As he lay swaddled in the manger, Jesus received three gifts from the wise men. To mark the surprise, delight, and joy of that morning two millennia ago, it has been the practice of Christians to exchange gifts with one another on Christmas morning, a tradition that connects us to our past and to generations and communities who have gone ahead of us.

This year, Westminster is proud to sponsor the first ever Pleasant Valley Magi Market. Members of Westminster are asked to help provide gifts for families at the Pleasant Valley Connection. Children from each family will receive three gifts from lists (one small, one medium, one large). We will also need volunteers to help set up the store, provide hospitality as families shop for gifts, and break down after all the shopping has ended. Find out more about the Market here or contact Carrie Marguet (carriemarguet@gmail.com).

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