



Sixth Sunday after Epiphany  
Youth Sunday

Preparation for **Worship**

Today is new, oh God. The light is gathering and spilling onto everything. The sleeping and the sleepy. The trees brushing the window. Even the unwashed dishes know it's time. What a gift. Unopened. Lord, you know the obstacle course ahead. The intractability of most of my problems. The irritations I will need to smile through. The forgetfulness that will undo my best efforts. And the fights I will need to pick because someone really should. But bring me back to this moment, God. The gratitude that rises up within me lifts my eyes and settles my soul. Resurrection has happened again today — you made the sun rise, and brought love to the world already, in the shape of a cross.

*Kate Bowler*

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 No. 5 in E-flat Major* C. Rollin

Choral Introit *Jambo Rafiki* V. Johnson

\* Call to Worship

**Leader:** This is the day that the Lord has made.  
**People:** **We will rejoice and be glad in it!**  
**Leader:** Do not rely on your own insight,  
**People:** **But trust in God with all your heart.**  
**Leader:** What does the Lord require of us?  
**People:** **To do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.**  
**Leader:** Who will separate us from God's love?  
**People:** **Nothing in all of creation!**  
**All:** **Let us worship God!**

\* Hymn 664 "Morning Has Broken" BUNESSAN

\* Prayer of Confession

**God with us, you call us to a sustaining relationship with you, but we confess that we sometimes treat your grace like a vending machine. In the midst of our hurry and distractedness we look to you for a sugar rush instead of the nourishing love you offer us freely. Help us to embrace the possibilities we will find in connecting deeply with you. Bless us with the determination and hopefulness we need to cultivate lives shaped and guided by your word. 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

Scripture Reflections  
9 & 11:15a

Luke 10:25-27 Reading: *McCrae Mattice*  
Reflection: *Abby Young*

Ruth 1:15-18 Reading: *Amelia & Henry Kent*  
Reflection: *Nan Patridge*

Esther 4:10-14 Reading: *Sarah Katherine White*  
Reflection: *Lily Runnion*

Matthew 5:13-16 Reading: *Katie Hoffman*  
Reflection: *Addison Royal*

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 Reading: *Kate Tiller*  
Reflection: *Dargan Culclasure*

1 John 4:7-9 Reading: *Sarah Sanders*  
Reflection: *Sam Gosnell*

Matthew 22:34-40 Reading: *Ben DuBose*  
Reflection: *Jack DuBose*

Musical Reflection *One Voice* R. Moody

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 *Thy Word* Smith/Grant, arr. Schrader

Offertory *Thy Word* Smith/Grant, arr. Schrader  
\* Doxology 606 OLD HUNDREDTH

***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 300 THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

*We Are One in the Spirit*

\* Charge and Benediction *The Class of 2024*

\* Postlude *The Festive Trumpet* Eliot

*\*All who are able may stand*

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Mary Kathleen Duncan, *liturgist*  
Todd Monsell, *organist and pianist*  
Cam Warren, *piano*  
Ben Bloodworth, *soloist*  
Rosemary Hughes, Kathi Hurst, Lynne Robinson, Hunter Smith, *percussion*  
Lynne Robinson, *Youth Choir accompanist*  
Allie Ablewood, Kristen Blumer, Marlon Hurst, *trio*  
Mac Gilliland, *guitar*  
Jacob Barker, *head usher*  
Gray Blount, Peyton Godwin, Creighton Likes, David Lowe, Whit Palmer, Emma Tucker, *youth ushers*  
Zach Freeman, Emily Cole, Jacob Barker, Marian Carpenter, Lindsey Donlan (9a), *greeters*  
Tom Vanderbloemen, Parks Workman, Nikki Grumbine, Bill Holt, Laura Cox (11:15a), *greeters*

Youth Choir Leading **in Worship**

Ben Bloodworth, George Blount, Addy Cizon, Eliot Cizon, Audrey Cox, Braden Cox, CJ Cox, Emily Craddock, Reid Craddock, Cooper Dorr, Ben DuBose, Jack DuBose, Amelia Hughes, McCrae Mattice, Sadie Mattice, Cam Monsell, Julian Monsell, Ellen Reynolds, Shaw Shurley, Lillian Threatt, Cam Warren, Zach Warren, Sarah Katherine White, Sawyer Woodard

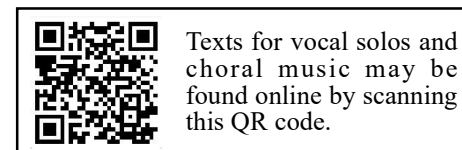
Additional Youth Leading **in Worship**

Harrison Beck, Rollins Beck, Sam Dorr, Ellis Farmer, Patrick Farmer, CeCe Gault, John Gettys, Cole Kirven, Carter Likes, Louise Lowe, Bradley Lucas, Charlie McFadden, Kate McGhee, Laney Palmer, Anna Patry, Evie Rodwell, Margaret Rowan, Langley Smith, Caroline Young

WORSHIP NOTES

NURSERY

Childcare is available for infants through 4K. Our 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 Family Lounge, located down the stairs from the front office, is available for any child caregiver and includes worship livestream, comfortable seating, and a changing table.



With Thanksgiving We Celebrate

BIRTH

The birth of a son, James Harrison Frazier, to Jim & Julia Frazier on Wednesday, January 17, 2024.

We Remember in Prayer

Susan Johnson and Anna Johnson on the death of their father, Greg Johnson, on January 30, 2024, in North Litchfield, SC.

We Remember in Prayer

Susan Grier on the death of her mother, Elizabeth Guritz, on Wednesday, January 31, 2024, in Savannah, GA.

CONNECTIONS GROUP

Connections, a luncheon group for couples and singles, will meet Sunday, February 18, at Stella's Southern Bistro (684 Fairview Rd., Simpsonville) at 12:45p after the 11:15a worship service. Please RSVP to Ruth Johnston (ruthjohnst51@gmail.com) by Friday, February 16. Newcomers are always welcome!

THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet in the Charter Room on Monday, February 19, at 7p. Kathryn Algary will lead the discussion of *American Idolatry: How Christian Nationalism Betrays the Gospel and Threatens the Church*, by Andrew L. Whitehead. Read the book and join us for an interesting and informative evening. All are welcome.

HANDS-ONLY CPR CLASS

On Wednesday, February 21, at 4p, a 45-minute class will be held at Westminster in Room 209 and is open to 15 participants (teenagers and adults only). The class will teach basic hands-only CPR (compressions), NOT certification for full CPR training. We also hope to have an AED demonstration and practice as well. Childcare will be available during the class. Contact Emily Cole (864-612-6185) with questions. To sign up for the class, go to <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/cpr-class/>.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS JUNE 10-14

FOR RISING KINDERGARTNERS THROUGH RISING 5TH GRADERS

REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW!

Mark your calendars and join us for Westminster Presbyterian Church Vacation Bible School 2024 - The Great Adventure. Children will explore Psalm 121:1 "I lift up my eyes to the mountains- where does my help come from? We will learn that God is always with us and will guide our path. We will learn to never give up even when the adventure seems so great! Finally, we will look to help others on their great adventure.

Register online at the link on our website or you can go directly to <https://vbspro.events/p/events/wpcvbs2024>. If you have questions or would like to know more, please write VBS on your connection card.

VBS needs volunteers! Please join us for a fun and fulfilling week with many volunteer opportunities! Older youth members who would like to be a classroom assistant and adult volunteers are needed. If you are interested in helping with VBS, please contact [vbs@wpc-online.org](mailto:vbs@wpc-online.org).

ASH WEDNESDAY

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14. Worship opportunities to begin this holy season include:

- 8-9a & 12-1p Prayer and imposition of ashes in Columbarium
- 6p Worship service in the Sanctuary

CHERUB CHOIR

REGISTRATION OPEN

Visit the WPC website to register your child for Cherub Choir. Cherub Choir is for children grades K4/K5. Led by music educator Diana Dailey, the Cherub Choir meets weekly on Wednesday (3:30-4p) in Room 210 - beginning February 7 and continuing through mid-April.

THE HARBINGER

Westminster Presbyterian Church  
2310 Augusta Street  
Greenville, South Carolina 29605  
(864) 232-2424  
[www.wpc-online.org](http://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

February 11-18, 2024

Sunday, February 11

Youth Sunday

Souper Bowl of Caring

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

- 9:00a Worship Service  
Witness & Service Committee Meeting
- 10:00 Sunday School
- 10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
- 11:15 Worship Service
- 12:15p Rise Against Hunger
- 4:00 First Steps in Music - Class 1
- 4:30 First Steps in Music - Class 2

Monday, February 12

- 5:30p WestConnect (Sallie White)
- 7:00 WestConnect (Mollie Pile)
- 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, February 13

- 12:00p AI-Anon Meeting
- 2:00 Circle 3 Meeting
- 5:30 Personnel Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 14

- 8:00a Imposition of ashes in columbarium
- 9:00 Circle 6 Meeting
- 10:15 Weekday Chapel w/imposition of ashes
- 12:00p Imposition of ashes in columbarium
- 2:15p It's Elementary
- 3:30 Cherub Choir
- 4:30 Junior & Senior Choristers
- 6:00 Ash Wednesday Service
- 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 15

- 10:00a Thursday Bible Study
- 12:00p Endowment Committee Meeting
- 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday, February 18

First Sunday in Lent

- 9:00a Worship Service w/communion
- 10:00 Sunday School
- 10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
- 11:15 Worship Service w/communion
- 12:30p Stated Session Meeting
- 12:45 Connections Group
- 2:00 New Elder Training
- 4:00 First Steps in Music - Class 1
- 4:30 First Steps in Music - Class 2
- 6:00 WestConnect (Heather Dorr)

the  
**HARBINGER**  
open minds open hearts

VOLUME LXXVI | February 11, 2024 | No. 43

*From the Pews, Mike Peters*


Today is Super Bowl Sunday, that distinctly American spectacle of athletic prowess, showmanship and commercialism. Here at Westminster, it is also Youth Sunday when our youth speak about the Bible passages that have particular meaning to them. It is also the day the youth encourage us to collect canned goods and contributions for the Souper Bowl of Caring and to pack meals with Rise Against Hunger.

Each year the Super Bowl reminds us of the powerful role sports and especially football seem to play in our lives. But the cultural importance of sports is not unique to our time. The Greeks, in the time of Christ, celebrated sports and champion athletes as well. Even the apostle Paul used a sport's analogy in his ministry. Consider this passage from his first letter to the church in Corinth as presented in Eugene Peterson's interpretation, *The Message*.

"You've all been to the stadium and seen the athletes race. Everyone runs; one wins. Run to win. All good athletes train hard. They do it for a gold medal that tarnishes and fades. You're after one that's gold eternally."

Paul's admonition reflects the words from Christ's Sermon on the Mount found in Matthew 6:30, a passage that our Youth Group studied just last week. "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness ..."

The world offers constant distractions and enticements that divert us from what is truly important. We are encouraged to get ahead, to win, but to win in arenas where the prizes are ephemeral and will not last. Amidst the noise and confusion of everyday life it is difficult to remain focused on the prize that does not fade – our relationship with Jesus Christ. As the youth remind us in the passage from Matthew, let us continue to seek first His kingdom. It's hard. You have to train for it. Like even the best athletes we will stumble at times. But the prize is worth it – the gold that does not tarnish or fade, the kingdom of God. Let's run for the gold that does not fade.



LIFE@WPC

Wondering if weather will postpone an event? Need a reminder to sign up for a church-wide meal? Text "wpcgreenville" to (864)232-2424 to get up-to-date information about our life together! We promise we won't bombard you. Text today or follow the QR code.

**Mark your calendars:**

**Celtic Spirituality and Our Scottish Roots**

**March 12-23, 2025: A Pilgrimage to Scotland**

Join Westminster members and families on our inaugural international pilgrimage! The 12-day journey provides a deep dive into the Scottish roots of the Presbyterian Church as well as its contemporary expression in the Church of Scotland. Pilgrims will also connect with the contemporary Iona community in Glasgow and on Iona (where aspiring golfers are welcome to choose a tee time). Highlights include Edinburgh and Glasgow, the Isle of Iona with its evocative abbey, and key sites related to the life and ministry of John Knox in St. Andrews and Edinburgh. Travelers of all ages are welcome. The trip is designed to partially overlap with Greenville County Schools Spring Break. Contact Leigh Stuckey for more information. Final pricing and details to reserve your spot will be released in the coming months.

**WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER  
CIRCLE MEETINGS**

**Tuesday, February 13**

- Circle 3, at the home of Diane Hughs (118 Melbourne Ln) at 2p. Circle Chair: Dee Malone (dee05m@gmail.com).

**Wednesday, February 14**

- Circle 6, at the home of Liz Einstein (223 Camille Ave) at 9a. Circle Co-Chairs: Liz Einstein (liz.ard.einstein@gmail.com) and Sherry Tate (sherrytate63@gmail.com).

**Tuesday, February 20**

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

**Our Vision:  
Open Minds Open Hearts**

**Our Pillars:**

*Hospitality  
Generosity  
Justice  
Imagination  
Joy*

**Our Goals:**

*Connect  
Serve  
Grow*

**New Members@WPC**

We welcomed the following new members into our fellowship on February 4, 2024:

- Wyatt & Mary-Elizabeth Amacker come to us by reaffirmation of faith.
- Phil & Julie Ball come to us by reaffirmation of faith. They have two children: Ava Clare (18) and Noah (14).
- Clayton & Kadie Berline come to us by reaffirmation of faith. They have one son, Clayton (1).
- Justin & Whitney Blum come to us by transfer from First Baptist, Greenville. They have three children: Porter (15), James (12), and Britton (8).
- Patricia Gettys comes to us by transfer from Mauldin United Methodist.
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**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 February 25. You are welcome to join any class at any point!

**1. The Last Days of Christ**

**Led by Leigh Stuckey**

**Room 209**

"The Christmas Feast is already a fading memory, / And already the mind begins to be vaguely aware / Of Lent and Good Friday which cannot, after all, now / Be very far off." (from For the Time Being , Auden). As we prepare to move into Lent, with the liturgical scent of pine a fading memory, we turn our eyes towards the final, climactic stories of Jesus' earthly life. Join us for this five week lecture-style series during which we will explore Peter's confession, the triumphal entry, John's account of the Last Supper, the Synoptic Last Supper, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.

**2. The Confessions by St. Augustine of Hippo**

**Taught by John MacCarthy**

**Room 211**

St. Augustine (354-430 CE) is viewed as one of the most important of the early "Church Fathers." He is often credited with providing the initial philosophical basis for Christian theology, and his writings have had a major impact on the development of Western philosophy, Western Christianity, and developmental psychology. He is also considered one of the theological fathers of the Protestant Reformation and is credited with our understanding of doctrines of grace, predestination, and original sin. St. Augustine's Confessions is generally considered one of his most important (and accessible) works. It is the story of his journey from "sinful youth" to his adult conversion to Christianity (thanks to his mother's constant "help"). I personally find it to be one of the most hilariously funny works by a serious philosopher/theologian that I have had the pleasure to read (and I hope that by the end of the class, you will share this opinion as well). The course will begin with a brief overview of the life and significance of St. Augustine and some of the relevant heresies of the time and then proceed to an in-depth study of Confessions.

**3. The Flock Reads the Psalms**

**Led by Members of The Flock**

**Room 212**

Join the Flock (an age-and-stage group at Westminster with folks ranging from mid-40s through late 50s) for an in-depth study of a book of the Bible. Each week the group will read and explore a text from the Psalms. This discussion-style class is facilitated by members of the Flock.

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St. Augustine (354-430 CE) is viewed as one of the most important of the early "Church Fathers." He is often credited with providing the initial philosophical basis for Christian theology, and his writings have had a major impact on the development of Western philosophy, Western Christianity, and developmental psychology. He is also considered one of the theological fathers of the Protestant Reformation and is credited with our understanding of doctrines of grace, predestination, and original sin. St. Augustine's Confessions is generally considered one of his most important (and accessible) works. It is the story of his journey from "sinful youth" to his adult conversion to Christianity (thanks to his mother's constant "help"). I personally find it to be one of the most hilariously funny works by a serious philosopher/theologian that I have had the pleasure to read (and I hope that by the end of the class, you will share this opinion as well). The course will begin with a brief overview of the life and significance of St. Augustine and some of the relevant heresies of the time and then proceed to an in-depth study of Confessions.

**3. The Flock Reads the Psalms**

**Led by Members of The Flock**

**Room 212**

Join the Flock (an age-and-stage group at Westminster with folks ranging from mid-40s through late 50s) for an in-depth study of a book of the Bible. Each week the group will read and explore a text from the Psalms. This discussion-style class is facilitated by members of the Flock.

**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 February 25. You are welcome to join any class at any point!

**1. The Last Days of Christ**

**Led by Leigh Stuckey**

**Room 209**

"The Christmas Feast is already a fading memory, / And already the mind begins to be vaguely aware / Of Lent and Good Friday which cannot, after all, now / Be very far off." (from For the Time Being , Auden). As we prepare to move into Lent, with the liturgical scent of pine a fading memory, we turn our eyes towards the final, climactic stories of Jesus' earthly life. Join us for this five week lecture-style series during which we will explore Peter's confession, the triumphal entry, John's account of the Last Supper, the Synoptic Last Supper, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.

**2. The Confessions by St. Augustine of Hippo**

**Taught by John MacCarthy**

**Room 211**

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