



Fifth Sunday in Lent

Preparation for **Worship**

"Actually time is neutral. It can be used either destructively or constructively.... We must come to see that human progress never rolls in on wheels of inevitability. It comes through the tireless efforts and persistent work of [people] willing to be co-workers with God... We must use time creatively, and forever realize that the time is always ripe to do right."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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 *Soliloquy* Brown
 Introit 11:15a *WOZO NOMTHWALO WAKHO*
 Hymn 851 "Come, Bring Your Burdens to God"
Please sing the introit as invited.

* Call to Worship Psalm 100
Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
People: **Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.**
Leader: Know that the Lord is God. It is God who made us. We are the sheep of God's pasture.
People: **Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and God's courts with praise.**
All: **Let us worship God!**

* Hymn 12 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" ST. DENIO

* Prayer of Confession
Almighty God,
we confess that we have fallen short and missed the mark.
You have called us to draw close to one another,
but we build walls.
You have asked us to love our neighbors,
but we ignore certain neighborhoods.
You have given us the gifts of time, treasure, life, and love,
but we have taken those gifts for granted.
Forgive us, Holy One.
Shape us once again into the community
Christ has called us to be.
Give us the courage to work for peace, stand with the poor,
serve the forgotten, and sacrifice for the common good.
We ask it in the name of Jesus Christ, through whom we pray.
Amen.

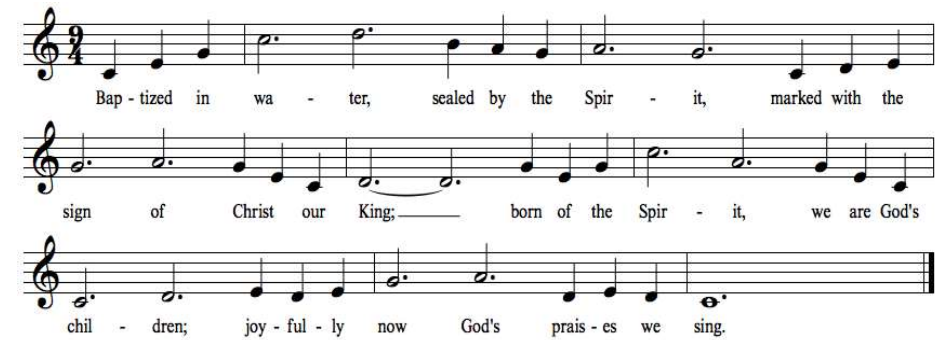
* Kyrie, Hymn 551 "Lord, Have Mercy" LAND OF REST

* 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.

The Sacrament of Baptism 11:15a James Bowen Hollar

Congregational Response "Baptized in Water" Bunessan



Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination
 Epistle Lesson, 2 Corinthians 5:18-6:2 p. 940
 Gospel Lesson, Luke 16:19-31 p. 851
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**
 Sermon "Chasms"

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 "In Paradisum" from *Requiem* Fauré
 * Doxology Hymn 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 757 "Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples" KINGSFOLD
 * Charge and Benediction
 * Postlude *O Love How Deep, How Broad, How High* Johnson
**All who are able may stand*

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*
 Leigh Stuckey, *liturgist*
 Marian Carpenter (11:15a), *sponsor*
 Deb Wiswell (9a), Sallie White (11:15a), *scripture readers*
 Rosemary Hughes, *pianist*
 Rosemary Hughes (9a), *soloist*
 Jacob Barker, *head usher*
 Keith Stevenson, Ginny Reed, LeAnne White,
 Ross Glidewell, Toni Paylor (9a), *greeters*
 Russ Williams, Jara Jones, Meg McKnight,
 Laura Cox, Hastings Blumer (11:15a), *greeters*
 Sawyer Rentz, Miles Threatt (9a), *acolytes*
 Berkeley Blumer, Adeline Johnson (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 Family Lounge, located down the stairs from the front office and straight down the hallway on the right, is available for any child caregiver 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 meaning in faith. Please return the zipper bag and its contents each Sunday.

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.

Join Us in Welcoming

BAPTISM
 This morning we welcome into our fellowship James Bowen Hollar, son of James & Betsy Hollar.

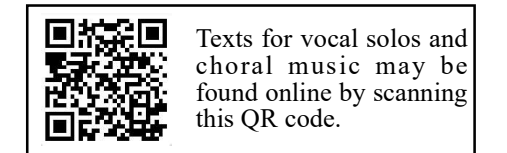
We Remember in Prayer
 Bradley Wingate on the death of his father, Ronald Wingate, on Monday, March 11, 2024, in Greenville.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 17
 All ages are invited to the Fellowship Hall at 10a this Sunday, March 17, for a Lenten Scavenger Hunt. Regular Sunday School classes for children and youth will not meet. Adult classes will meet.

NO CHILDREN'S CHURCH THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 17

LENTEN RESPONSE
 During the season of Lent, we will sing a "Kyrie" response between the Prayer of Confession and the Assurance of Pardon. First used liturgically in the 5th c.¹, the Kyrie (Greek: *Kyrie eleison – Lord, have mercy*) was employed by both Martin Luther and John Calvin as an act of contrition. ² Our hymnal, *Glory to God*, contains six settings of the Kyrie. We will sing the setting that employs the familiar American folk melody LAND OF REST.

1. Ron Jeffers. *Translations and Annotations of Choral Repertoire. Volume 1: Sacred Latin Texts.* (Corvallis, Oregon: earthsongs.1988), 48.
 2. Peter C. Bower, ed. *The Companion to the Book of Common Worship.* (Louisville: Geneva Press. 2003), 23.



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OPEN HEARTS • Gathering@WPC

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER CIRCLE MEETINGS

Monday, March 18

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

THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet in the Charter Room on Monday, March 18, at 7p. Lucy Stewart will lead the discussion of *How the Bible Actually Works: In Which I Explain How an Ancient, Ambiguous, and Diverse Book Leads Us to Wisdom Rather Than Answers - and Why That Is Good News*, by Peter Enns. Read the book and join us for an interesting and informative evening. All are welcome.

LUNCHEON GROUP

The Luncheon Group will meet Wednesday, March 20, at 12:30p in Room 212. Leader: Mary Ann Cox (lmaryanncox@gmail.com).

SERMON SERIES: THE FABRIC OF FAITH

It is second-nature for Christians to talk about “having faith,” “growing up in the faith,” or “coming to faith in Jesus Christ.” But what do we mean when we use the word, “faith”? Today’s sermon will explore faith as urgency.

BAPTISM CLASS

If you would like to have your child baptized at Westminster, our next Baptism class is scheduled for Sunday, April 7, 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.

MEN OF WESTMINSTER RETREAT MONTREAT CONFERENCE CENTER APRIL 26-28, 2024

All men of Westminster are invited to the second annual men’s retreat in Montreat, NC. Presbyterian College’s Chaplain and Dean of Spiritual Life, The Rev. Dr. Buz Wilcoxon, will be the guest speaker. The cost is \$255. Sign up online at wpc-online.org. For more information, contact Tony Threatt (tony.threatt@gmail.com).

SUPPERS WITH SEVEN APRIL – JUNE 2024

Spring is in the air! And you know what that means – Easter is approaching, buds are fixin’ to bloom, birds are chirping, time to shake off the winter blues, and there is nothing better to usher in spring than making plans to participate in Westminster’s Suppers with Seven! Suppers with Seven is a WPC tradition bringing together seven or so people – couples, singles, younger, older – for a series of two or three meals over the course of three months. If you are looking to make deeper connections, renew friendships with other Westminster members, or just want to show off your culinary skills, Suppers with Seven is for you! The deadline to sign up is Monday, March 25.

Name(s): _____
(Include both names if you are signing up as a couple.)

Phone: _____
(This phone number will be shared with members of your group.)

Email: _____
(This email address will be shared with members of your group.)

Preferred Method of Contact: Email Phone call Text

Check one:

_____ I/We can host and lead the first gathering of Suppers with Seven.

_____ I/We cannot host the first gathering but would consider a subsequent one.

_____ I/We cannot host but want to be part of a group.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

[f](#) [t](#) [@](#) [v](#) wpcgreenville | wpc-online.org | 2310 Augusta St.

THE HARBINGER

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Steve Phillips
Building Supervisor
sphillips@wpc-online.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 17-24, 2024

Sunday, March 17

Fifth Sunday in Lent

- 9:00a Worship Service
Creation Stewardship Meeting
- 10:00 Sunday School
Lenten Scavenger Hunt
WestConnect (George Howell)
WestConnect (Kathleen Reynolds)
WestConnect (Leigh Miller)
- 10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
- 11:15 Worship Service
- 6:00p WestConnect (Heather Dorr)

Monday, March 18

Weekday School closed

- 5:30p WestConnect (Sallie White)
- 6:00 Circle 7
- 7:00 WestConnect (Mollie Pile)
Theology Reading Group
- 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, March 19

Weekday School closed

- 12:00p Al-Anon Meeting
- 7:00 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, March 20

Weekday School closed

- 12:30p Luncheon Group Meeting
- 6:30 WestConnect (Ingrid Erwin)
- 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 21

Weekday School closed

- 10:00a Thursday Bible Study
- 10:30 WestConnect (Joey Fievet)
- 8:00p Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, March 22

Weekday School closed

Sunday, March 24

Palm Sunday

- 9:00a Worship Service with communion
- 10:00 Sunday School
Confirmation Class #5
WestConnect (George Howell)
WestConnect (Kathleen Reynolds)
WestConnect (Leigh Miller)
- 10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
- 11:15 Worship Service with communion
- 4:00p First Steps in Music - Class 1
- 4:30 First Steps in Music - Class 2
- 5:00 Middler Youth Group
- 6:00 WestConnect (Heather Dorr)
- 6:30 Senior High Youth Group

the HARBINGER

open minds open hearts

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From the Pews, Will Edwards

In today’s scripture, Luke 16:19-31, Jesus tells us the parable of the rich man and the poor man. The rich man is a cliché in his purple garments and lavish feasting while Lazarus lies in a dire state outside of the rich man’s gate (notice that we never know the rich man’s name as, unfortunately, it could be anyone of us at any given time). Lazarus would have been happy with even the smallest of crumbs that fell from the ‘rich man’s’ table but was still left starving. Both men passed away.

Lazarus was carried off by angels while the rich man was punished. The rich man begged for pity but was faced with the truth that he was selfish with his fortune instead of sharing it with those less fortunate. The lesson is that there are consequences when we do not live by God’s simple rule: Do unto others as you would have done to you. The rich man, understanding his transgressions, asked that his brothers be warned. Abraham said that there is Moses and the prophets, so let them listen to them.

What does this parable teach us? We should never sit idly by and do nothing. Treat everyone with mercy, grace, and kindness. We should be compassionate stewards with what we have.

We are a blessed congregation at Westminster Presbyterian Church. We are excellent stewards of how we share our dollars for mission work. We do give of our time and talents. We are also called to act. Action is required to be Jesus’ disciples; to be the hands and feet of our living God.

As we leave the doors of WPC, let us remember those who may be outside the gate.

*May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind always be at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face.
The rains fall soft upon your fields,
And, until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.*

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 March 24. You are welcome to join any class at any point!

1. Easter Appearances in the Gospels

A Lecture-Style Class led by Leigh Stuckey

Room 209

Each Gospel narrates a slightly different scene to highlight the good news of new creation at Easter. In this lecture-style class, we will consider the road to Emmaus, the meal on the beach, and the great commission.

What do the resurrection appearances tell us about who Jesus is? How can they inspire faith today?

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. Faith at the Border

Facilitated by WPC Members

Room 212

In February 2023, a delegation of members from Westminster traveled to the US/Mexico border. Over the course of four weeks, members of the delegation will share their experiences from the trip. The Group spent eight days with our PCUSA partners, Frontera de Cristo, in Douglas, Arizona and Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico. Discussion will include a reflection on the history of the border and reflections on life on the border from both sides of the "wall."

March 3: History of the Border

March 10: Frontera de Cristo's Work and Partners at the Border

March 17: Frontera de Cristo's Work and Partners at the Border
(Mandy, Jerry, Keith)

March 24: The Immigrant Experiences in Greenville and SC

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Our Vision:
Open Minds
Open Hearts

Our Pillars:
Hospitality
Generosity
Justice
Imagination
Joy

Our Goals:
Connect
Serve
Grow

EASTER LILIES/MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS

Those desiring to remember loved ones during the Easter season may do so in three ways. Money may be given to purchase a lily for the sanctuary (\$15.00), or a contribution may be made to either the Endowment Fund or the Heritage Lecture Fund. **Deadline is Sunday, March 24.**

Donor _____

In Memory of _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

In Honor of _____

Lilies x \$15.00 _____ Endowment. \$_____ Heritage Lecture \$_____

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