Sunday, April 14, 2024 | On Demand on Facebook & YouTube | 9a & 11:15a



Third Sunday of Easter Preparation for Worship

Grant unto us, O God, the fullness of your promises. Where we have been weak, grant us your strength; where we have been confused, grant us your guidance; where we have been distraught, grant us your comfort; where we have been dead, grant us your life. Apart from you, O Lord, we are nothing. In you and with you we can do all things. Amen.

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 and Fugue in G Major J.S. Bach Taizé

FOUNDATION

Introit, Hymn 243 11:15a "Be Not Afraid"

first time, Sanctuary Choir; second time, all

* Call to Worship Psalm 111

Leader: I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,

in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

People: Great are your works, O Lord,

pondered by all who delight in them.

Leader: Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

People: You cause your wonders to be remembered;

you are gracious and full of compassion.

All: Let us worship God!

"How Firm a Foundation" * Hymn 463

Stanzas 1 and 5, all in unison; stanza 2, low voices;

stanza 3, all in harmony; stanza 4, high voices

* Prayer of Confession

Good and gracious God,

we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

Our fears have triumphed over our faith.

We have been too cautious with our love,

too careful with our wealth,

and have tried too hard to control our future.

In your mercy, forgive what we have been.

Help us amend what we are,

and give us courage to turn our future over to you.

By your grace, mold us into the people you have created us to be, showing forth the love of Christ to neighbor,

stranger, enemy, and friend.

We ask it in his holy name. 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.

The Sacrament of Baptism 9a

11:15a

Brynn Christine Rowland Ashton Burdine Nalley



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

Hearing God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson, John 21:15-19 Second Scripture Lesson, Acts 12:6-17

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

"Prison Break" Sermon

Responding to God's Word

* Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

p. 884

p. 896

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 Lord, Here Am I Beck Offertory 11:15a He Comes to Us Marshall * Doxology Hymn 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 239 "Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!" GELOBT SEI GOTT
- * Charge and Benediction
- * Benediction Response, Hymn 740 11:15a

LEAD ME, GUIDE ME

"Lead Me. Guide Me" Please join the choir in singing the Refrain.

* Postlude O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

Burton *All who are able may stand

Leading Worship this Morning

Ben Dorr, preaching Lauren Slingerland, liturgist Talitha Allen (9a), Brad Hawkins (11:15a), scripture readers Jeff Reynolds (9a), Trey Morrow (11:15a), sponsors Todd Monsell, *organist/pianist* The Sanctuary Choir Hunter Smith (9a). soloist

Rosemary Hughes, Hunter Smith (11:15a), flute Judy McKenney (11:15a), quitar Jacob Barker, *head usher*

Susan Grier, Ben Bloodworth, Nikki Grumbine, Roger Gower, Amy Hawkins (9a), greeters

George McLarty, Walker Miller, Stan Pendergrass, Betsy Raines, Anne Howson (11:15a), greeters

Ellis Bryan (9a), Anna Clark Cameron, James Knauer (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.



Texts for vocal solos and choral music may be found online by scanning this QR code.

Join Us in Welcoming

RAPTISM

This morning we welcome into our fellowship Brynn Christine Rowland. daughter of Anthony & Kristin Rowland.

BAPTISM

This morning we welcome into our fellowship Ashton Burdine Nalley, son of Weston & Emily Nalley.

With Thanksgiving We Celebrate

The birth of a daughter, Anne Michael Riley, to Josh & Allison Riley on Saturday, April 6, 2024.

With Thanksgiving We Celebrate

MARRIAGE

On Saturday, April 6, 2024, Diana Dailey and Libba Mattison were united in marriage in Greenville.

SERMON SERIES: THEN AND NOW

During the Easter season, our sermon series will explore the question, "What does the early church have to teach us?" We will look at how the early church is described in the New Testament, and explore how those descriptions are related to being God's church in the 21st century. Our topic this Sunday is adventurous faith.

INTERESTED IN JOINING WESTMINSTER?

Visitors interested in learning more about Westminster and joining the church are invited to attend our New Member Class from 9-10:30a on Sunday, April 21. Those who attend the class are invited to become members and be introduced during the 11:15a worship service that same day or on a future new member Sunday. Childcare is available. Please contact Leigh Stuckey (Istuckey@ wpc-online.org) at 232-2424 to learn more and RSVP.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OPEN HEARTS • Gathering@WPC LIGHTLY SEASONED GROUP

CREATION STEWARDSHIP GROUP

WPC's Creation Stewardship group will hold its quarterly meeting on Sunday, April 14, at 9a in Room 211. All interested in the care of God's creation are invited to participate.

SPRING CHORISTERS MUSICAL

The Junior and Senior Choristers. accompanied by a trio from the Greenville Jazz Collective, will present their spring musical. Wise Guys: A Musical Play Based on the Book of Proverbs in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, April 14 at 4p. The musical will be preceded by a presentation from the Cherub Choir. All are invited to come out in support of our musical WPC children!

Women of Westminster CIRCLE MEETINGS

Tuesday, April 16

Circle 7, at the home of Terri LeGrand (16 N. Brookwood Dr) at 6p. Circle Chair: Josie Williams (igwilliams1803@gmail. com).

HIKING GROUP

On Thursday, April 18, we will hike in Tallulah Gorge State Park near Tallulah Falls, Georgia. This is a moderate three mile hike. Hike Leader: Anne Holleman. If you plan to hike or have questions, contact Anne at holl2759@att.net.

LUNCHEON GROUP

The Luncheon Group will meet Wednesday, April 17, at 12:30p in Room 212. Leader: Mary Ann Cox (Imaryanncox@gmail.com).

Lightly Seasoned is a Westminster fellowship group for those in (or near) their fifties and sixties. We will gather on Saturday, April 20, at 6:30p at the home of Joanie & Mike Martin (66 Woodvale Ave). Watch your e-mail for more information or check the church's website ("Connect" then "Events Registration" tabs) or contact Susan Grier (susan@grierfamily.org) for details. We hope to see you there!

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).

2024 CIVIL RIGHTS PILGRIMAGE

Mark your calendars! We are thrilled to announce the 2024 Lowcountry Civil Rights Pilgrimage. from October 11-14. Continuing our tradition of educational experiences that enrich our faith and challenge our present discipleship. we will travel to Charleston to learn more about the Gullah-Geechee community of South Carolina, visit Mother Emmanuel AMC, worship with a historically Black PCUSA congregation organized during Reconstruction, and visit the newly opened International African American Museum in Charleston. Watch the Harbinger and eNews for details and to sign up. Email Leigh Stuckey with questions.

A PILGRIMAGE TO SCOTLAND CELTIC SPIRITUALITY AND OUR SCOTTISH ROOTS MARCH 12-23, 2025

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. 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. Spots are limited and can be reserved at the Progressive Pilgrimage portal [https://progressivepilgrimage.com/westminster/]. The estimated cost is \$5971/person with a single supplement of \$950. Round trip airfare, entry fees, transportation-in-country, daily breakfasts, five lunches, seven dinners, and all tips are included. Contact Leigh Stuckey for more information.

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THE HARBINGER

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CHANGE SERVICE REOUESTED

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Steve Phillips

Building Supervisor sphillips@wpc-online.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS April 14-21, 2024

Sunday, April 14

Third Sunday of Easter Worship Service Creation Stewardship Meeting Membership Committee

> Meeting Witness & Service Committee

Meeting 10:00 One Adult Sunday School Confirmation Class #7

WestConnect (Leigh Miller) WestConnect (George Howell) WestConnect (Kathleen Reynolds)

Sunday Session Meeting

11:15 Worship Service 12:45p Connections Group

Cherub Choir & Choristers Spring

Programs 5:00 Middler Youth Group

5:15 Senior High Choir Rehearsal

6:00 Youth Dinner

Middler Choir Rehearsal

Senior High Youth Group

Monday, April 15

Weekday School Committee Meeting 6:30

GOAL Nehemiah Action Event 7:00 Theology Reading Group

Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, April 16

Al-Anon Meeting 12:00p 6:00

Circle 7 Meeting Men of Westminster Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 17

Weekday Chapel 10:15a

Luncheon Group Meeting

It's Elementary

Junior & Senior Choristers 4:30

7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 18

Hiking Group Thursday Bible Study 8:00a

10:30 WestConnect (Joey Fievet)

5:00r Health & Safety Committee Meeting

Personnel Committee Meeting

Soteria Reentry Simulation

8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, April 19

Weekday School Closed

Saturday, April 20

Hands on Greenville [HOG] Day 6:30p Lightly Seasoned Group

Sunday, April 21 Fourth Sunday of Easter

Worship Service

Library Committee Meeting New Member Class

10:00 One Adult Sunday School WestConnect (Leigh Miller)

WestConnect (George Howell) WestConnect (Kathleen Reynolds)

Sunday Session Meeting

Worship Service 12:30p Stated Session Meeting

Middler Youth Group Senior High Choir Rehearsal 5:15

6:00 Youth Dinner

Middler Choir Rehearsal Senior High Youth Group

HARBINGER

VOLUME LXXVI | April 14, 2024 | No. 52

From the Pews, Rosemary Hughes

Adventure. Nine days out of ten, just the word sends me into organizational panic. I like structure, logic, predictability, and consistency. There are likely those of you who thrive on all the opposite words ... spontaneity, fluidity, mystery, and (you guessed it) adventure.

I wonder how the early Christians felt after the resurrection? Or how Peter felt when the angel broke him out of jail? Maybe Peter just wanted a good night's sleep, but no ... the angel had other plans.

In thinking about Rev. Dorr's message from April 7 ... being sent ... I am struck by the nebulous nature of discernment. How do we know where God is sending us? What if we really do not want to go in that direction? Is that what it means to have an adventure ... to trust a path that you cannot see, a destination that is shrouded in uncertainty, and a purpose that has yet to be revealed?

I have never felt like I was someone that God spoke directly to, and in fact, there have been numerous times in my life when my path seemed contradictory, aimless, or downright inane, and the meaning/purpose/logic was revealed at a much later date.

How is it that one discerns the will of God? What happens when you take someone who is rooted in the known and thrust her into the complete and total unknown? That is where the truest adventure begins ... but not without anxiety, questions, and fear.

In today's scripture passage, Peter follows the angel out of the jail. He follows the angel through the iron gate to the city ... but shortly after, the angel leaves. Well, what now? Peter has a choice. Does he accept the adventure that God has laid out for him, or does he return to the familiar? Are we more ready to remain imprisoned by the familiar than we are to step out on faith? Even when we cannot see the angels, God assures us that we are not alone on the adventure.

The closing hymn on April 7 invited us to "seek God's presence" and reminded us that he is with us "til the age shall end." Maybe that is how we approach discernment ... seek God's presence, taking comfort in his steadfast and abiding love ... and remain open to the angel that leads us out of our prison and into God's divine adventure.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HANDS ON GREENVILLE [HOG] DAY

Join folks from across our congregation and community for Hands on Greenville Day on Saturday, April 20. Projects supporting Soteria, United Ministries, and World Relief are available for all ages and abilities. Service projects will be followed by a lunch and celebration at Fluor Field. Read more about each project and register on WPC's website.

Women of Westminster

Our next WoW social will be Wednesday, April 17, 6p at Tacozzini (1818 Augusta Rd). Grab a friend or two, a new member, and come join us for fellowship and fun.

HOSPITALITY TEAM

Are you a worker bee with a gift for welcoming others? Join WPC's Hospitality Team! Volunteers receive regular invitations to help with receptions (including donuts!), meals, and other church-wide events. To sign up, contact Wendy Bagley at wendy@wpc-online.org.

THORNWELL SUPPLY DRIVE:

Westminster is a proud supporter of Thornwell. Join our supply drive to support Thornwell's Foster Care Program, which works to provide children in need with safe homes to support trauma recovery and healing while their families cope with crisis. For a list of needed items, visit https://qrco.de/betsMV or scan the QR code. You can drop off items at WPC throughout the month of May.



SUPPLY DRIVE

WPCYG - SUNDAY, APRIL 14

WPCYG will meet at regular times this Sunday - but in a new location. Join us for kickball and pizza at the ball fields behind First Baptist. Youth choir will meet at WPC and transportation will be provided to and from First Baptist.

WESTMINSTER ACADEMY, 10A SUNDAYS

Adult Class: God's Servants, the Prophets

Room 209

Join us for the annual Westminster Academy Series throughout the month of April. This year's lecturer, Dr. Bryan Bibb, will focus on the challenge and promise of the Hebrew Prophets.

Westminster Academy, led each year by local academics, exists to cultivate theological imagination. Adults will meet at 10a for one unified Sunday School class (the class will also stream at wpc-online.org). Past lecturers have included Dr. Peter Hobbie (2019, 2020, 2022) and Dr. Bob Bryant. This year's lecturer, Dr. Bryan Bibb, is a Professor of Religion, with a specialty in Hebrew Bible/Old Testament. A 1994 graduate of Furman, Bryan received his MDiv and PhD degrees from Princeton Theological Seminary, and returned as a member of the Furman faculty in 2000. During his career, he has been awarded both the Furman Standard Research Grant and the Alester G. Furman Jr. and Janie Earle Furman Award for Meritorious Teaching. Bryan has served as the President of the Southeastern regional of the Society of Biblical Literature, as the Board Chairman of the Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion, and as a research fellow with the Nida Institute of the American Bible Society. Having written books about Leviticus and about the Hebrew Prophets, Bryan's current area of research is the history and ideology of Bible translation, and he is also writing a major academic commentary on the book of Numbers for the Word Biblical Commentary

Children/Youth Sunday School Class Locations

Children - Growing in Grace & Gratitude

5K/1st (Room 209) 2nd/3rd (Movie Room) 4th/5th (Room 112A)

Youth

Middlers (Youth Suite) Senior Highs (300 Hall)

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WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet in the Charter Room on Monday, April 22, at 7p. Nikki Grumbine will lead the discussion of Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants, by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Nikki is presenting the program on behalf of the WPC Creation Stewardship Group. Read the book and join us for an interesting and informative evening. All are welcome.

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER ANNUAL LUNCHEON SUNDAY, APRIL 28, AT 12:30P

Please join us for the Annual Women's Luncheon on Sunday, April 28, at 12:30p in the Fellowship Hall. This year's speaker will be Lisa O'Connell Hall, CEO of Jasmine Road and Jasmine Kitchen. Lunch will be catered and all Women of Westminster are invited to attend. Sign ups begin online Tuesday, April 9 - Wednesday, April 24. Contact Jill Fairey (803-920-2071) with any questions.

Our Vision: Open Minds

Open Minas Open Hearts

Our Pillars:

Hospitality Generosity Justice Imagination Joy

Our Goals:

Connect Serve Grow

GREENVILLE ORGANIZED FOR ACCOUNTABLE LEADERSHIP (GOAL)

The relationship between faith and social justice is historical and diverse. Faith communities have long been involved in direct action for justice and civil rights. Greenville Organized for Accountable Leadership (GOAL) is a group of twenty-nine local congregations, including Protestants, Catholics, Jews, Bahai's, and Unitarians. We unite with the shared purpose of promoting and showing up to demand a healthy and prosperous Grenville for all.

The faith-at-work community has long demonstrated that spirituality motivates us to action. In March of 2023, over 1600 people showed up to the Nehemiah Action, where our local leaders agreed to work toward significant funding for affordable housing. Additionally, state Senator, Ross Turner, helped us secure legislative commitment of \$3.9M to fully fund the suicide crisis line (988).

This year, we continue our work to ensure that our demands remain fulfilled. The research committee has determined that the Mental Health Crisis Line actually requires \$4.1 million, so we will be reaching for that amount through our legislators. This year's Nehemiah Action is April 15 at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Simpsonville. WPC sent 116 attendees last year, and we hope that we will have an even larger number at this year's Nehemiah Action. The WPC bus will be available for this trip and we encourage carpooling among members and their invitees.

If you are interested in joining GOAL, or would like additional information, contact Julia Bellew (juliabellew@gmail.com) or Bill Holt (billholt71@aol.com).

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This year, we continue our work to ensure that our demands remain fulfilled. The research committee has determined that the Mental Health Crisis Line actually requires \$4.1 million, so we will be reaching for that amount through our legislators. This year's Nehemiah Action is April 15 at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Simpsonville. WPC sent 116 attendees last year, and we hope that we will have an even larger number at this year's Nehemiah Action. The WPC bus will be available for this trip and we encourage carpooling among members and their invitees.

If you are interested in joining GOAL, or would like additional information, contact Julia Bellew (juliabellew@gmail.com) or Bill Holt (billholt71@aol.com).

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet in the Charter Room on Monday, April 22, at 7p. Nikki Grumbine will lead the discussion of Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants, by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Nikki is presenting the program on behalf of the WPC Creation Stewardship Group. Read the book and join us for an interesting and informative evening. All are welcome.

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER ANNUAL LUNCHEON SUNDAY, APRIL 28, AT 12:30P

Please join us for the Annual Women's Luncheon on Sunday, April 28, at 12:30p in the Fellowship Hall. This year's speaker will be Lisa O'Connell Hall, CEO of Jasmine Road and Jasmine Kitchen. Lunch will be catered and all Women of Westminster are invited to attend. Sign ups begin online Tuesday, April 9 - Wednesday, April 24. Contact Jill Fairey (803-920-2071) with any questions.

Open Minds

Open Minds Open Hearts

Our Pillars:

Hospitality Generosity Justice Imagination Joy

Our Goals:

Connect Serve Grow

GREENVILLE ORGANIZED FOR ACCOUNTABLE LEADERSHIP (GOAL)

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