



Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Preparation for **Worship**

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not seek so much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

St. Francis of Assisi

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 *Sheep May Safely Graze* J.S. Bach

Choral Introit 11:15a *Psalms 66: Shout for Joy!* Patterson

* Call to Worship *Isaiah 40:9, 11*

Leader: Go up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings.
People: Lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem.

Leader: God will feed God's flock like a shepherd;
 God will gather the lambs in God's arms.

**People: God will carry them in God's bosom,
 and gently lead the mother sheep.**

All: Let us worship God!

* Hymn 36 "For the Fruit of All Creation" Ar HYD Y Nos
 (11:15a) *Stanza 1, All; Stanza 2, Choristers, Stanza 3, All*

* Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God,
 we know that our arrogance and indifference
 have gotten the better of us.
 We have cared too much about possessions
 and too little about other people.
 Our self-righteousness has flourished,
 while our self-denial has been flimsy.
 We have been selective with our love and stingy with our grace.
 Forgive us, Holy One, and grant us eyes to see your world anew.
 Renew the fruits of the Spirit within our hearts,
 so that the light of Christ would shine in us
 and the gentleness of Christ would be known through us.
 In Jesus' name, 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.**

The Sacrament of Baptism 11:15a *Sutton Louise Carraway*
 Congregational Response "Baptized in Water" BUNESSAN



Presentation of Bibles to Third Graders 11:15a

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

Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Lesson, *Matthew 11:28-30* p. 792

Epistle Lesson, *Galatians 5:22-6:2* p. 948

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Anger, Gentleness, and the Gospel"

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 *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms* arr. Giamanco

Offertory 11:15a *Gentle Words* Rupe/Arr. Sigfried

* Doxology Hymn 606 OLD HUNDRETH

* Prayer of Dedication

* Hymn 291 "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness" SPIRIT

* Charge and Benediction

* Benediction Response, Hymn 742 11:15a "We Will Walk with God" SIZOHAMBA NAYE

The choir and congregation sing together:

**We will walk with God together; we will walk with God.
 We will walk with God together; we will walk with God.
 We will go rejoicing till the Kingdom has come.
 We will go rejoicing till the Kingdom has come.**

* Postlude *Nachspiel* Töpfer

*All who are able may stand

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*
 Lauren Slingerland, *liturgist*
 Marian Carpenter, *sponsor*
 David Golladay, *scripture reader*
 Todd Monsell, *organist/pianist*
 Kristen Blumer, Kathy Jabara, Tina Wood (11:15a), *vocal ensemble*
 Sanctuary Choir, Junior and Senior Chorister Choirs (11:15a)
 Rosemary Hughes, *flute*, Judy McKenney, *guitar*
 Jacob Barker, *head usher*
 Walker Miller, Carroll Farmer, Parks Workman,
 Nikki Grumbine, Bill Holt (9a), *greeters*
 Lindsey Donlan, Roger Gower, Zach Freeman,
 Anne Howson, Claire Gilliland (11:15a), *greeters*
 Elizabeth Land (9a), Chandler Murphy, Lillie O'Neal (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

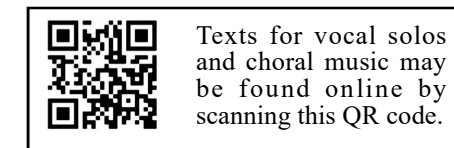
Each Sunday we offer worship bags in the Atrium for children. The worship bags are designed to include reusable items that engage children in open ended play during worship. While children attend worship with their families, they can participate in worship and play to make meaning in faith. Please return 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

BAPTISM

This morning we welcome into our fellowship *Sutton Louise Carraway*, daughter of Adam & Neely Carraway.

We Remember in Prayer

Tony Threath and his family on the death of Tony's grandmother, Kathryn Baker, on Sunday, September 22, 2024.

FALL SERMON SERIES

"Against the Grain: Paul's Radical Message of Love and Hope"

The letters of the Apostle Paul are the earliest documents of the New Testament, written before any of the Gospels. They have shaped Christian theology and thought for centuries, and remain a powerful message of love and hope today. Our fall sermon series will explore Paul's theology and the ways in which his message is good news, particularly in a time of cultural division, religious decline, and an upcoming election season. The topic this Sunday is gentleness.

2024 ADVENT DEVOTIONS

It's that time of year again when we are looking for volunteers to write short devotionals to be included in the 2024 Advent Devotions series. Please contact Abbie Coleman at abbie.garrison3@gmail.com if you would be willing to help with this.

BASKETBALL

Children and youth ages 5K-Grade 12 are invited to register online for the church basketball season through Sunday, October 13. Registration may be accessed on the church's website (wpc-online.org). WPC members interested in being a coach or an assistant coach may contact Bryant Puntch (864-915-5686).

WESTMINSTER BOOK CLUB

The Westminster Book Club will meet Tuesday, October 1, at 6:30p in the church library. Mary Martha Smoak will lead the discussion on *The Caretaker* by Ron Rash. This book is about a family dealing with their mother's romance with a film star before the children were born, provoking various thoughts. Both hopeful and elegiac, it explores what it means to be happy even when the world is falling apart. All are welcome to come.

CHANCEL HANDBELLS

Chancel Handbells is a pilot, part-time music ensemble that will rehearse on select Tuesdays beginning October 1 and present music for occasional 9a worship services. Participation is open to adults and high school students who are proficient music readers. Contact Marlon Hurst to receive a link to register.

LIGHTLY SEASONED

Lightly Seasoned is a Westminster fellowship group for those in (or near) their fifties and sixties. Our next gathering will be Friday, October 11, at 7p at the home of Scott & Melissa Anderson (3 Fairview Ave.). Watch your email for more information or check the church's web site ("Connect" then "Events Registration" tabs) or contact Susan Grier (susan@grierfamily.org) for details. We hope to see you there!

CONNECT, SERVE, GROW SURVEY

Our long-range planning team, the Connect, Serve, Grow Task Force, needs your input! A survey has been created to gather feedback from all Westminster members, confirmed 10th graders and older. Your participation is essential as we evaluate Westminster's strengths, gifts, and future needs. The survey should take about 10-15 minutes and can be accessed through the QR code. If you prefer a paper copy, please contact the church office. For households with multiple confirmed members, we hope each of you will participate. The survey will remain open until the end of September.



HIKING GROUP

Our first hike of the season is coming up on Thursday, October 10. A moderate 2.5 mi hike at Mt Pisgah followed by lunch at the Mt. Pisgah Inn. Contact Hike Leader, Anne Holleman (holl2759@att.net), for additional details if you are wanting to participate in this hike.

WPC SANCTUARY CHOIR TO PERFORM REQUIEM BY GABRIEL FAURÉ

The WPC Sanctuary Choir will join forces with the Sanctuary Choir of First Baptist, Greenville, and the Columbia Choral Society to present *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré on Thursday, October 10, 7:30p at First Baptist Church (847 Cleveland St). The *Requiem* is a beloved masterpiece of choral/orchestral music. This program is being presented as the preliminary concert of the SC American Choral Directors Association fall conference this year, the 100th anniversary year of Fauré's death. The work will be conducted by Dr. Hugh Floyd and accompanied by chamber orchestra with Charles Tompkins, organist. This is a free concert, open to the public.

CONNECTIONS LUNCH GROUP

The Connections Luncheon Group will meet Sunday, October 13, at 12:45p at The Iron Hill Brewery (741 Haywood Road). Please RSVP to Ruth Johnston (ruthjohnst51@gmail.com) by Friday, October 11. All are welcome!

THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet in the Charter Room on Monday, October 21 at 7p. Lucy Stewart will lead the discussion of *Jabbok*, a novel by Kee Sloan. Read the book and join us for an interesting and informative evening. All are welcome.

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

THE HARBINGER
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS
September 29 - October 6, 2024

- Sunday, September 29**
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
9:00a Worship Service
10:00 Sunday School
Third Grade Bible Workshop
10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
11:15 Worship Service
Third Grade Bible Presentation
5:00p Middler Youth Group
5:15 Senior High Choir Rehearsal
6:00 Youth Dinner
6:30 Senior High Youth Group
Middler Choir Rehearsal
- Monday, September 30**
8:00p Narcotics Anonymous
- Tuesday, October 1**
12:00p Administrative Committee Meeting
Al-Anon Meeting
6:30 Book Club Meeting
- Wednesday, October 2**
2:15p It's Elementary
3:30 Cherub Choir
4:30 Junior & Senior Choristers
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- Thursday, October 3**
10:00a Thursday Bible Study
8:00 Narcotics Anonymous
- Sunday, October 6**
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
9:00a Worship Service
10:00 Sunday School
10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
11:15 Worship Service
4:00p New Members meet with Connect, Serve, Grow Task Force
First Steps Music Class 1
4:30 First Steps Music Class 2
5:00 Middler Youth Group
5:15 Senior High Choir Rehearsal
6:00 Youth Dinner
6:30 Senior High Youth Group
Middler Choir Rehearsal

Our Vision:
Open Minds
Open Hearts

Our Pillars:
Hospitality
Generosity
Justice
Imagination
Joy

Our Goals:
Connect
Serve
Grow

the
HARBINGER
open minds open hearts

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From the Pews, Will Edwards

In William Barclay's book, *The New Daily Study Bible-The Letters to the Galatians and Ephesians*, he writes, "It was Paul's belief and experience that Christians died with Christ and rose again to new life, new and clean, in which the evil things of the old self were gone and the lovely things of the Spirit had come to fruition." What are the lovely things Barclay is speaking about?

Paul says it best in his letter to the Galatians. In Chapter 5 verses 22 & 23, Paul writes that "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. There is no law against such things." These nine virtues are the result of the Spirit's work within and through us. A spirit-filled life is a Christian life. Paul continues in verse 25, "If we live by the Spirit, let us be guided by the Spirit." God gave us the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ, to be our helper and our guide as we navigate life's celebrations and trials. If we live by the Spirit and are guided by the Spirit, we then become bound to one another in a community of faith.

In a community of faith we have a sense of belonging. Pastor Ben has challenged the congregation to sit in a different pew each Sunday until Thanksgiving. The reasoning for this is to allow us the opportunity to meet a member or visitor we don't know as well. We are invited to step outside of our comfort zone on Sunday mornings and learn to be comfortable with being uncomfortable. I know many of you have practiced this, as have Beth and I. Doing this gives a different perspective during worship and allows a "newness." Sitting in a different area of the sanctuary with different members of WPC renews our sense of belonging, a belonging to something bigger than one's own self. Being part of a community of faith that is led by the Holy Spirit, I am reminded of the hymn, "We are One in the Spirit". (Some of you are now singing the hymn because I know I am.) This hymn brings it back to Paul's letter to the Galatians, that if we live by the Spirit, guided by the Spirit and as a community of faith we are one in the Spirit. The result will be the fruit that produced will, absolutely, without a doubt be love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

If this is so, then let us share this fruit with others.

**WITNESS AND SERVICE TRIP TO
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO
FEBRUARY 22- MARCH 1, 2025**

Join us as we travel to San Juan, Puerto Rico to partner with the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance response in the Monteflores neighborhood of San Juan. Puerto Rico was severely affected by Tropical Storm Ernesto this past summer, and we'll be joining the ongoing disaster response effort which began in response to Hurricanes Irma and Maria. Contact Nick Carson to learn more or sign-up.

PILGRIMAGE OPPORTUNITY:

**2025 A PILGRIMAGE TO SCOTLAND
MARCH 12-23**

Join us on our inaugural international pilgrimage! The 12-day journey provides a deep dive into the Scottish roots of the Presbyterian Church.

Contact Leigh Stuckey with questions or for more information regarding either, or both, of these pilgrimages.

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR...

Weekday Social

Wednesday, October 16 at 6p

Join us for our monthly Happy Hour Social at the New York Butcher Shop. Come enjoy being with your WOW friends.

Church-Wide Lunch

Sunday, October 27 at 12:15p

Enjoy a yummy meal with WOW members and family. We will have a football themed raffle to support our Scholarship Fund for Fostering Great Ideas.

Weekday Social

Tuesday, November 19 at 6p

Join us for our monthly Happy Hour Social at Hoppin Greenville. Come enjoy being with your WOW friends.

Advent Luncheon

Sunday, December 8 at 12:15p

Join us for an afternoon of lunch and fellowship as we prepare for the Advent season.

New Members@WPC

We welcomed the following new members into our fellowship on September 22, 2024:

- *Lila Berry* comes to us by baptism and profession of faith.
- *Nick & Kelly Ciulla* come to us by reaffirmation of faith. They have one son: Jacob (1).
- *Danette Cogdill* comes to us by reaffirmation of faith. Danette's husband, Michael Cogdill, is a WPC member.
- *Patrick & Becca Dennison* come to us by reaffirmation of faith. They have two sons: Brooks (4) and Jack (2).
- *Marty Herbert* comes to us by transfer from Fourth Presbyterian Church in Greenville, SC.
- *Wes & Peyton Herndon* come to us by reaffirmation of faith. They have one daughter: Amelia (1).
- *Nik & Taylor Papapieris* come to us by reaffirmation of faith. They have a daughter: Porter (9 months).
- *Al & Callie Pressley* come to us by transfer from St. Paul's Anglican Church in Greenville, SC. They have one daughter: Annie (2).
- *Matt & Molly Rubin* come to us by transfer from Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago, IL. They have two children: Violet (2) and Scott (1).
- *Jonathan Torres* comes to us by reaffirmation of faith.
- *Larry and Sue Wagner* come to us by transfer from Gateway Baptist Church in Irmo, SC.
- *Miles & Katie Willis* come to us by reaffirmation of faith. They have two daughters: Scout (4) and Parks (1).
- *Bill Young* comes to us by transfer from First Presbyterian Church in Germantown in Philadelphia, PA.



LIFE@WPC

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PRESENTATION OF BIBLES TO THIRD GRADERS

Leader: What is the church?

All: We are the church: the people who believe the good news about Jesus, who are baptized, who share in the Lord's Supper. Through grace, the Spirit renews us so we may serve God in love.

Leader: How do we know this good news?

All: Through reading the Bible and hearing it taught and preached. The Holy Spirit inspired those who wrote the Bible and helps us rely on its promises today.

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Dear God, as we read and study our Bibles, by your Spirit help us to learn about your love for us in Jesus Christ. Help us to learn how to follow you. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Holy God, when these children were baptized, we promised to guide and nurture them by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging them to know and follow Christ and to be faithful members of his church. We pledge ourselves anew to this promise. Amen.

Children Sunday School Class Locations

Shine Curriculum

*5K/1st (Room 109)
2nd/3rd (Movie Room)*

Illustrated Ministry Mini-Revolutions

4th/5th (Room 112A)

Youth on Sunday Mornings

On Sunday mornings, our **Middlers** are invited to meet in the Entrance Pavilion at 10a. Each week they will alternate between a devotion & hang-out time in the Entrance Pavilion/Gym and service projects (*Sunday Servants*). This time will be supported by our Youth Intern, Samantha Hornung and parent volunteers.

Senior Highs are invited to join our Senior High West Connect that will begin meeting in October and is facilitated by youth elder, Ben Bloodworth. Sign-ups are online now. Senior Highs are also welcome to join the Middlers for *Sunday Servants* days.

Adult Sunday School (September 8-29)

Sola What? Exploring Capital "R" Reformed Faith for the 21st Century
led by Leigh Stuckey
Room 209

In the 16th Century Martin Luther revolutionized the Western world with his Ninety-Five Theses. Through his protests a new church movement began. Yet even then questions about how one comes to know God, how one is reconciled to God, and how one experiences God in worship were hotly contested. In opposition to Lutheranism and Episcopalianism a new "Reformed" theology began to be developed—one focused on God's absolute sovereignty, the revelation of God in the Word, and the glory of God in creation. From Reformed theology came Presbyterianism. "Sola What?" will explore classical Reformed theology—from the shape of worship to the much dreaded "predestination"—and its application to our life at Westminster.

A Prophet Has No Home: Understanding the Housing Crisis and What We Can Do About It
Room 212

Hear from a series of speakers as we explore one of the most critical issues facing our community: housing and homelessness.

September 29: Hear from **Susan McLarty, Executive Director of Greenville Homeless Alliance**, about best practice in caring for our neighbors experiencing homelessness and what we can learn from other cities.

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All: We are the church: the people who believe the good news about Jesus, who are baptized, who share in the Lord's Supper. Through grace, the Spirit renews us so we may serve God in love.

Leader: How do we know this good news?

All: Through reading the Bible and hearing it taught and preached. The Holy Spirit inspired those who wrote the Bible and helps us rely on its promises today.

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Dear God, as we read and study our Bibles, by your Spirit help us to learn about your love for us in Jesus Christ. Help us to learn how to follow you. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Holy God, when these children were baptized, we promised to guide and nurture them by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging them to know and follow Christ and to be faithful members of his church. We pledge ourselves anew to this promise. Amen.

Children Sunday School Class Locations

Shine Curriculum

*5K/1st (Room 109)
2nd/3rd (Movie Room)*

Illustrated Ministry Mini-Revolutions

4th/5th (Room 112A)

Youth on Sunday Mornings

On Sunday mornings, our **Middlers** are invited to meet in the Entrance Pavilion at 10a. Each week they will alternate between a devotion & hang-out time in the Entrance Pavilion/Gym and service projects (*Sunday Servants*). This time will be supported by our Youth Intern, Samantha Hornung and parent volunteers.

Senior Highs are invited to join our Senior High West Connect that will begin meeting in October and is facilitated by youth elder, Ben Bloodworth. Sign-ups are online now. Senior Highs are also welcome to join the Middlers for *Sunday Servants* days.

Adult Sunday School (September 8-29)

Sola What? Exploring Capital "R" Reformed Faith for the 21st Century
led by Leigh Stuckey
Room 209

In the 16th Century Martin Luther revolutionized the Western world with his Ninety-Five Theses. Through his protests a new church movement began. Yet even then questions about how one comes to know God, how one is reconciled to God, and how one experiences God in worship were hotly contested. In opposition to Lutheranism and Episcopalianism a new "Reformed" theology began to be developed—one focused on God's absolute sovereignty, the revelation of God in the Word, and the glory of God in creation. From Reformed theology came Presbyterianism. "Sola What?" will explore classical Reformed theology—from the shape of worship to the much dreaded "predestination"—and its application to our life at Westminster.

A Prophet Has No Home: Understanding the Housing Crisis and What We Can Do About It
Room 212

Hear from a series of speakers as we explore one of the most critical issues facing our community: housing and homelessness.

September 29: Hear from **Susan McLarty, Executive Director of Greenville Homeless Alliance**, about best practice in caring for our neighbors experiencing homelessness and what we can learn from other cities.

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES TO THIRD GRADERS

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