



Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Preparation for **Worship**

God of life and love, you are the one who brought light out of darkness, the one who came into the world to dwell among us, full of grace and truth. You are the one we carry with us, as we go out into the world. Shine in our tender hearts this morning, that we might find comfort, good news, and newness of life as we worship together. Renew our spirits to glorify you, prepared for all that lie ahead. Settle our worried minds and restless hearts to be present to the movement of your Spirit. For it is in you, O God, that we find our rest. 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.

Minute for Stewardship Richard & Maggie O'Neal, Lillie & Erin

Prelude *Beautiful Savior* Monsell

Choral Introit, Hymn 412 *11:15a* "God, Reveal Your Presence" ARNSBERG

* Call to Worship

Leader: God is our refuge and strength.
People: A very present help in trouble.
 Leader: Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth should change,
People: though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea.
 Leader: The Lord of Hosts is with us;
People: The God of Jacob is our refuge.
All: Let us worship God!

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

* Prayer of Confession

**God of all hope,
 we confess that we have given in too easily to despair.
 We have turned away from problems that seem too big,
 too challenging, and too overwhelming to solve.
 Our patience grows thin,
 and we choose quick fixes over lasting change.
 We have relied only on our own strengths,
 and ignored the power we have together.
 Forgive us, God.
 Help us to see the life that is at work in ourselves
 and our community,
 so that we might let go of fear,
 and find courage to live as Christ's beloved people.
 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.

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, *Romans 6:1-5* p. 917

Epistle Lesson, *2 Corinthians 4:5-12* p. 939

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon *"Life's a Mess"*

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 "Clair de lune" from *Bergamasque* Gilliam/McCaskill

Offertory 11:15a *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* Distler

* Doxology Hymn 606 OLD HUNDREDETH

**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 822 "When We Are Living" SOMOS DEL SEÑOR

* Charge and Benediction

* Benediction Response, Hymn 549 *11:15a* "May the Love of the Lord" SOON TI

* Postlude *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer* Carlson

**All who are able may stand*

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Nick Carson, *preaching*

Ben Dorr, *liturgist*

Melissa Threatt (9a), McKinley Hyman (11:15a), *scripture readers*

Todd Monsell, *organist/pianist*

Sanctuary Choir

Rosemary Hughes, *flute*

Judy McKenney, *guitar*

Jacob Barker (9a), Rance Bryan (11:15a), *head ushers*

Susan Robbins, Tom Vanderbloemen, Mandy Pruitt,

George Howell, Bill Holt (9a), *greeters*

Zach Freeman, Carrie Marguet, Amy Hawkins,

Nikki Grumbine, Will Edwards (11:15a), *greeters*

Chandler Murphy, Miles Threatt (9a), *acolytes*

WORSHIP NOTES

NURSERY

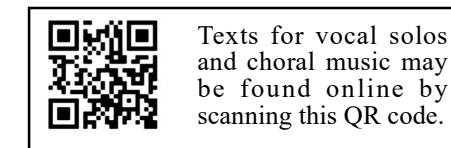
Childcare is available for infants through 4K. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment for children. The Nursery is located on the mezzanine level. The entrance is at Westminster Drive, at the columbarium or near the Westminster Weekday School 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.



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

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 disruption.

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.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

The Session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, October 20, immediately following the 11:15a worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to elect the 2024-25 Nominating Committee (which is responsible for nominating the next class of Elders for the Session).

In Memoriam

Thomas M. "Chip" Simmons (4/27/1952 - 9/8/2024)

*"I am the resurrection and the life."
 - John 11:25*

**BASKETBALL-
REGISTRATION ENDING
OCTOBER 13**

Children and youth ages 5K-Grade 12 are invited to register online for the church basketball season through this 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).

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.

**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.

**TRICK OR TREAT
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30**

Our annual Witness & Service trick-or-treat event at Terra Bella will be on Wednesday, October 30. Our children will bring joy to residents at Terra Bella Retirement Home as they go trick-or-treating in their Halloween costumes. Arrive at the church at 5:30p to walk over together to trick-or-treat with residents. We'll return to the Fellowship Hall for dinner afterwards. There is no cost, but we ask that you sign up so we know how much food to prepare. Sign up at <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/trick-or-treat/>.

LUNCHEON GROUP

The Luncheon Group will meet Wednesday, October 16, at 12:30p in Room 212. Leader: Mary Ann Cox (lmaryanncox@gmail.com).

**WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER
WEEKDAY SOCIAL**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16 AT 6P

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

HIKING GROUP

The Hiking Group will meet on October 17, for a four-mile hike beginning and ending at White Water Falls parking lot. Contact hike leader Bob Vannoy (bobvannoy47@gmail.com) to RSVP or for more information.

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.

MEN OF WESTMINSTER

The Men of Westminster will meet at 5:30p on Thursday, October 24 at Southernside Brewery (25 Delano Dr.) for happy hour and fellowship.

FLU SHOTS AT WPC

The Pickwick Pharmacy will offer flu shots for ages 8+ (under 8 with a written prescription) in the Friendship Court on Wednesday, October 16, from 1-3p. Pickwick accepts insurance and will bill the remaining balance to individuals after filing. Call the church office at (864) 232-2424 to sign up.

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

THE HARBINGER
Westminster Presbyterian Church
2310 Augusta Street
Greenville, South Carolina 29605
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Our Vision:
Open Minds
Open Hearts

Our Pillars:
Hospitality
Generosity
Justice
Imagination
Joy

Our Goals:
Connect
Serve
Grow

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS
October 13-20, 2024**

Sunday, October 13
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
Low Country Civil Rights Pilgrimage
9:00a Worship Service
Witness & Service Committee Meeting
10:00 Sunday School
WestConnect (LMiller - 213)
WestConnect Youth (BBloodworth-211)
WestConnect (KReynolds - 309)
WestConnect (CBuchanan - 313)
WestConnect (EStevenson - 312)
10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
11:15 Worship Service
12:45p Connections Group
2:00 Memorial Service for John and Lyn Douglas
4:00 First Steps Music Class 1
4:30 First Steps Music Class 2
6:00 WestConnect (HDorr - lounge)
NO WPCYG OR YOUTH CHOIR REHEARSAL

Monday, October 14
Low Country Civil Rights Pilgrimage
Weekday School Closed
8:00p Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, October 15
12:00p Al-Anon Meeting
6:00 Men of Westminster Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 16
12:30p Luncheon Group Meeting
1:00 Flu Shots in Friendship Court
2:15 It's Elementary
3:30 Cherub Choir
4:30 Junior & Senior Choristers
6:00 Women of Westminster Social
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 17
8:30a Hiking Group
10:00 Thursday Bible Study
8:00p Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday, October 20
Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost
9:00a Worship Service
Library Committee Meeting
10:00 Sunday School
WestConnect (LMiller - 213)
WestConnect Youth (BBloodworth-211)
WestConnect (KReynolds - 309)
WestConnect (CBuchanan - 313)
WestConnect (EStevenson - 312)
10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
11:15 Worship Service
12:15p Congregational Meeting
12:30 Stated Session Meeting
4:00 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
WestConnect (HDorr - lounge)
6:30 Senior High Youth Group
Middler Choir Rehearsal

the
HARBINGER
open minds open hearts

VOLUME LXXVIII | October 13, 2024 | No. 26

From the Pews, Jim Bickelhaupt

As almost anyone that knows me knows, I love to run. Ever since I was an early teenager, I've loved nothing more than to lace up a pair of shoes and, either alone, with friends, or at a race, go enjoy miles on the road or trail. While what that looks like has changed over the years, it has been a consistent part of my life for nearly 40 years.

According to the dictionary, to invest in something is to involve or engage especially emotionally. We all commit our passion and energies in certain areas or endeavors, and one of those things for me has always been running. I have invested myself in running, but running has returned that investment many times over by providing me with many years of healthy activity, community building, and competition.

When I was on a recent work sabbatical, I took the opportunity to join the WPC hiking group for beautiful and adventurous hikes around the mountains just a short drive away from Greenville. It gave me something fun to do and a way to meet new people as I was navigating the change from a day fully occupied with work to the opportunity (and also the challenge) to fill my time with fun and engaging activities. Similarly, when Delane and I first joined Westminster 2 years ago, we took the opportunity to engage with this community by participating in some of the connection opportunities available such as Suppers With Seven and Lightly Seasoned.

Have you ever wondered why charitable organizations, rather than ask for a one-time donation, ask for a recurring gift or pledge? With that certainty of commitment, they are able to plan for the future, provide new services, and make a longer term difference in the community they serve. Westminster so clearly and consistently invests in both the community and congregation through the many opportunities you see each week listed in the Harbinger.

During our stewardship campaign this year, I would encourage each of you to look at the many ways this community of faith invests in both its members and all of God's children and how each of us, through our continued and growing commitments, can enable these gifts.

HURRICANE HELENE RELIEF FUND

Westminster has established a Hurricane Helene Relief Fund. Our Witness & Service Committee will determine the most urgent needs through our partner agencies and decide how best to use the funds. If you would like to give to this fund, you may make a check to Westminster, and write "Hurricane Helene Relief Fund" in the memo line. Or you may give through our website. On the Westminster homepage (wpc-online.org), click the Give Today link. That redirects to the Give webpage. On this page, click the Make a Gift/Give Today link. Fill in the requested information, choosing "Hurricane Helene Relief Fund" from the "I am giving today..." dropdown menu. Continue to fill in the requested information, clicking Submit to finalize the transaction. Thank you for your generosity during this difficult time for so many in our Greenville community and our neighbors in North Carolina!

CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING

Child Protection Training will be offered on Sundays, October 27 and November 10, during the 10a Sunday School hour in Room 114. Training is required by the Session for anyone volunteering with children and youth. Contact Lauren Slingerland (lslingerland@wpc-online.org) for more information.

THIRD GRADE BIBLES

The Third Grade Bible Milestone has been rescheduled for Sunday, October 20. Third graders will meet in Room 123 at 10a for a Bible workshop during the Sunday School hour. Parents can pick them up at 10:45a. During 11:15a worship, third graders will be recognized and join in prayer.

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 through the month of October.



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Adult Sunday School (October 13–November 3)

**The Biblical Roots, Political Realities,
and Presbyterian Response to the Israel–Palestine Conflict**

The crisis that has culminated in yet another war in Gaza and Israel has deep roots, not only in 20th century geopolitics, but throughout the pre-modern era. Questions about Israel and Palestine spill over into American politics, modern college campuses, and the Christian imagination, each requiring knowledge beyond headlines. Join us in this unified adult Sunday School class to consider Biblical questions about statehood, animating theological concerns, and the modern conflict alongside leading scholars and denominational leaders.

In Room 209 and Streaming:

October 13 and 20:

Dr. Bryan Bibb, Professor of Religion with a specialty in Hebrew Bible/Old Testament

October 27 and November 3:

Dr. Jim Guth, Professor of Politics and International Affairs and frequent contributor to national news outlets

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