



Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

Preparation for **Worship**

O God, full of compassion, I commit and commend myself to you, in whom I am, and live, and know. Be the goal of my pilgrimage, and my rest by the way. Let my soul take refuge from the crowding turmoil of worldly thought beneath the shadow of your wings. Let my heart, this sea of restless waves, find peace in you. Amen.

Augustine of Hippo

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		Stephen Woods
Prelude 9a	<i>Récit de Nazard</i>	Beauvaret-Charpentier
Prelude 11:15a	<i>Prelude on THAXTED</i>	Petit
Choral Introit, Hymn 412 11:15a	"God, Reveal Your Presence"	ARNSBERG

* Call to Worship

Leader: Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances.

People: **For this is the will of God in Christ.**

Leader: May the God of peace sanctify you entirely.

People: **May our spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us worship God!**

* Hymn 4 "Holy God, We Praise Your Name" GROSSER GOTT, WIR LOBEN DICH

* Prayer of Confession

Gracious and holy God, forgive us for our narcissism, our idolatry, and our insistence on having control. We look to the future and ask what will make it best for us. We look back on the past and refuse to release old wounds. We look at our lives at this moment, but fail to see so many of the gifts you have bestowed upon us. Let your grace wash over us, and let your compassion cleanse our souls. Grant that we would share generously from our abundance, walk gently with the sorrowful, work tirelessly for the vulnerable, trusting at all times that our lives belong to you. 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.

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

First Scripture Reading, Acts 1:6-11 p. 884

Second Scripture Reading, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 p. 960

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "What the Future Holds"

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 *You May Bury Me in the East* Spiritual, arr. Burleigh

Offertory 11:15a *The Morning Trumpet* Larson

* 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 353 "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" SOLID ROCK

* Charge and Benediction

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

* Postlude *Festive Trumpet Tune* German

*All who are able may stand

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*

Leigh Stuckey, *liturgist*

David Golladay, *scripture reader*

Todd Monsell, *organist/pianist*

Sanctuary Choir

Marlon Hurst (9a), *soloist*

Allison McSwain (11:15a), *trumpet*

Rosemary Hughes (11:15a), *flute*

Jacob Barker (9a), Michael Riner (11:15a), *head ushers*

Claire Gilliland, Bill Holt, Jeff Reynolds,

Susan Robbins, George McLarty (9a), *greeters*

Ben Bloodworth, Sam White, Carrie Marguet,

Susan Grier, Walker Miller (11:15a), *greeters*

Elle Maness (9a), Manning Dailey, Ella Heegard (11:15a), *acolytes*

WORSHIP NOTES

NURSERY

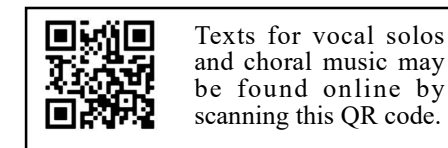
Childcare is available for infants through 4K. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment for children. The Nursery is located on the mezzanine level. The entrance is at Westminster Drive, at the columbarium or near the Westminster Weekday School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

COMMITMENT SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 10!

Our stewardship campaign theme this year is Invest. We are asking the congregation, if possible, to increase its investment in Westminster. If you do not currently give to Westminster, please consider making a gift. If you do currently give or pledge, please consider raising your investment. If everyone increases their giving by 8%, we will reach our goal. Thank you for your generosity, and for all the ways that you invest in Westminster!



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 the Day of the Lord.

2024 PLEDGE UPDATE

At the end of September, we were 3/4 of the way through the year, and had received 58% of anticipated pledge income. Please check your quarterly giving statement to see where you stand with your 2024 giving. Thank you for your generosity with Westminster!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

The Session has called a congregational meeting for this Sunday, October 20, immediately following the 11:15a worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to elect the 2024-25 Nominating Committee. The nominees for the Nominating Committee are Parks Workman (chair), Mary Gentry, Amy Hawkins, Trey Morrow, Elizabeth Campbell, Trey DuBose, Nancy Giguere, Allen Reid, and Joanne Sweeny. The Nominating Committee is responsible for nominating members of Westminster to serve as the next class of Elders on the Session.

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.

CHANCEL CHOIR

The Chancel Choir is a part time adult choir that meets periodically to rehearse a single choral anthem for presentation in a 9a Sunday worship service. They will next gather on Tuesdays, October 22 and 29 from 7-7:45p to rehearse a piece to be presented in worship on Sunday, November 3. All are welcome to participate. For further information, contact Marlon Hurst, Director of Music.

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.

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.

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/>.

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.

THIRD GRADE BIBLES

The Third Grade Bible Milestone has been rescheduled for this 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.

HIKING GROUP

Meet at 11a on Thursday, October 24, at the Nature Center in Table Rock State Park to hike the moderately challenging 2-mile Carrick Greek loop. Contact Ralph Bouton with questions (ralphbouton@yahoo.com).

CHURCHWIDE FALL LUNCHEON

The Women of Westminster invite you to a church wide Fall Luncheon. Please join us Sunday, October 27, following the 11:15a service in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a loaded baked potato bar, salad and dessert. Sign up on the church website \$13.00 adults, \$10 children (ages 3-11) and \$45 maximum per family. We hope you will come and enjoy fellowship and fun with your church family. Any questions please contact Jill Fairey, 803-920-2071.

EVENING FALL VESPERS

Evening Fall Vespers, formerly November Nights, will gather for an evening vespers service only at 4:30p in the sanctuary on November 3 and November 10. Join us for a service of singing and praying the Psalms. In lieu of dinner and program following, we encourage groups to gather for dinner and fellowship on their own! WPCYG and Youth Choirs will keep their regular schedule on 11/3 and 11/10. Contact Nick Carson if you have any questions.

**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.

THE HARBINGER
Westminster Presbyterian Church
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Greenville, South Carolina 29605
(864) 232-2424
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.

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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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 20-27, 2024**

Sunday, October 20

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:00a Worship Service
- Library Committee Meeting
- 10:00 Sunday School
- WestConnect (LMiller - 309)
- WestConnect Youth (BBloodworth-211)
- WestConnect (KReynolds - 312)
- WestConnect (CBuchanan - 313)
- WestConnect (EStevenson - 213)
- 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

Monday, October 21

- 7:00p Theology Reading Group
- 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, October 22

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

Wednesday, October 23

- 9:30a Weekday Chapel
- 2:15p It's Elementary
- 3:30 Cherub Choir
- 4:30 Junior & Senior Choristers
- 6:00 WestConnect (PEvans - lounge)
- 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 24

- 10:00a Thursday Bible Study
- 11:00 Hiking Group
- 12:00p Endowment Committee Meeting
- 5:00 Health & Safety Committee Meeting
- 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday, October 27

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:00a Worship Service
- Education Committee Meeting
- 10:00 Sunday School
- WestConnect (LMiller - 309)
- WestConnect Youth (BBloodworth-211)
- WestConnect (KReynolds - 312)
- WestConnect (CBuchanan - 313)
- WestConnect (EStevenson - 213)
- 10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
- 11:15 Worship Service
- 12:15p Churchwide Fall Luncheon
- 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 Open Gym w/snacks
- WestConnect (HDorr - lounge)
- 6:30 Senior High Youth Group
- Middler Choir Rehearsal

the
HARBINGER
open minds open hearts

VOLUME LXXVII | October 20, 2024 | No. 27

From the Pews, Ginny Reed Bernard

I realize I grew up very fortunate. I was fortunate to have two loving parents in a safe home. I was fortunate to be surrounded by the great body of faith and fellowship of Westminster Presbyterian Church from birth. I was also fortunate enough to receive a monthly allowance from my family and was taught how best to plan my spending to maximize my buying power.

My financially savvy parents invested in my financial future by teaching me the value of money from an early age. With my monthly allowance, I could use the funds for clothes or movie candy only after I set aside 10% for savings and 10% to give to the church. They even insisted I pledge annually the 10% I planned to give. After my annual pledge, I would receive the envelopes with my pledge number and save the appropriate amount to drop in the offering plate each month. Even then, I got the giddy feeling that I was doing something good for my church family and community.

Their lessons and my routine followed me into adulthood. As a financial professional, I spend my days making budgets and forecasts for my employer and while I find it somehow more difficult, I also make sure to do the same for my personal finances. I see how letting the church know the amount I plan to give can help them achieve their financial goals and maximize their investment in the church community the same way knowing how much I plan to give can help me continue to make sure I have enough money for new clothes and movie candy.

I continue to save, investing money for a rainy day and retirement and I pledge and give to Westminster as an investment that the church will continue to grow and thrive for years to come. I am fortunate to give, and I am fortunate to have Westminster in my life. I hope you invest in Westminster in 2025. Any gift, whether large or small, can make an impact on Westminster's mission. It is amazing to witness, firsthand, our dollars at work when I walk the halls on Sundays, see photos of our mission groups on their trips, and hear of organizations in the community benefiting from Westminster's devotion. We are a mission and giving-minded people so please consider giving and investing in the work of Westminster in 2025.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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.

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!

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.



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 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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