



Pentecost
Preparation for Worship

“The prevailing fantasy of people is to have power over others, to claim the power of self-determination, and to make a world bow to its world. This is the fantasy of nations and clans, peoples and corporations. But the Spirit offers us God’s own fantasy of desire for people, of joining and life together and of shared stories bound to a new destiny in God. This desire for people is not the desire for their utility but for their glory, to draw them into the divine pleasure and joy at the sight of the creature in communion and formed by hope. The disciples are to make evident divine desire, reveal it to be the central gift of the Spirit.”

Willie James Jennings, *Acts*

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 *Spirit of God* Smith

* Call to Worship
Leader: After these things, I will pour out my spirit on all flesh;
People: **Your children shall prophesy, your old shall dream dreams, and your young shall see visions.**
Leader: Even on the male and female servants in your house,
People: **In those days I will pour out my spirit.**
All: **Let us worship God!**

* Hymn 289 "On Pentecost They Gathered" MUNICH

* Prayer of Confession
We confess to you, Renewing Spirit, that we confuse unity with uniformity, and diversity with divisiveness. We speak and behave as if being a part of your family means assimilating others to our way of living. We deny and destroy the beauty you created in each person. We long to change these patterns, O Creator, but we do not know how. Teach us to value challenge. Help us to see strength in difference. And empower us to build your kingdom in creativity and love. 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.
Children in K5 - first grade are invited to leave for Children’s Church.

Hearing **God’s Word**

Prayer for Illumination "Listen to the Word that God Is Speaking" LISTEN
First Scripture Lesson, *Genesis 1:1-2, 31* p. 1
Second Scripture Lesson, *Acts 2:1-21* p. 885

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

Sermon "Shibboleth"

Responding to **God’s Word**

* Affirmation of Faith *The Nicene Creed*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

Invitation

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

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.

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer after Communion

Offering

Offertory *Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us* Hopson
* 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 610 "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" AZMON
* Charge and Benediction
* Postlude *Come, Holy Ghost, God, and Lord* Ore

**All who are able may stand*

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Leigh Stuckey, *preaching*
Lauren Slingerland, *liturgist*
Kayla Burrell, *scripture reader*
Jorge Andres Amo, *charge & benediction*
Summer Choir
Rosemary Hughes, *flute/djembe*
Bill Young, *head usher*
Elizabeth Timmons, Denise Broderick, Ben Dillard,
Kathryn Freedman, Mike Peters, *greeters*

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.

GIVING TO WPC

Did you know that you can fulfill your pledge or give an unpledged gift to Westminster online? Your gift helps our church keep faith with community partners and maintain excellence in our programming. To learn more about online giving, or to make a gift, follow the prompts from the QR code below.

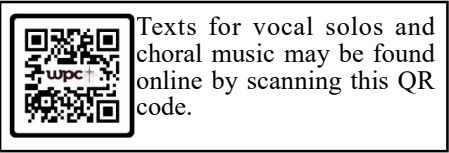


LIVESTREAM WORSHIP

As we search for a new AV Coordinator, we encourage your spiritual gift of patience with any unintended hiccups with sound or cameras that may occur during this time.

MARRIAGE

On Saturday, May 31, 2025, *Emma Quinn* and *Jake Huskamp* were united in marriage in Saluda, NC.



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

CONGREGATIONAL CARE FUND

A special offering for the Congregational Care Fund is received on Communion Sundays. This fund is used to assist members of the congregation in a time of financial need. Please make checks payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church and mark for Congregational Care.

PENTECOST OFFERING

This annual offering taken by Presbyterian Churches goes to aid children, youth, and young adults. The money helps children at risk both here and abroad. Plus, a portion of the gifts strengthens ministries nurturing the faith of our young people and developing leaders of tomorrow. Twenty percent of the offering is retained by the local church. We invite you to participate in this vital ministry. Please make checks payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church and mark for Pentecost Offering.

LOW COUNTRY BOIL - JUNE 8

Kick off the summer with shrimp, and sausage at WPC’s Low Country Boil. Share in the fun at Magnetic South Brewery in Judson Mill (701 Easley Bridge Rd. #4155, Greenville, 29611) this Sunday, June 8, from 5–7p. Families are welcome; childcare will not be provided. This event is free to the WPC community, but space is limited. RSVP on WPC’s website. Volunteers are needed to help make this event a success. Contact Leigh Stuckey or Nick Carson to signup online to help.

ACTS: CHARACTERS AND CONGREGATIONS

The book of Acts was written by the author of Luke, and the themes in both books echo one another. From the story of Pentecost to Paul’s missionary travels, Acts narrates the characters, conflicts, and congregations of the earliest Christian community. Following the success of our Luke series, we will, this summer, preach through the book of Acts, meeting new characters and exploring Paul’s journeys, overhearing conflicts around inclusion and ritual, and mapping the lessons that the first church can teach the modern church. This week’s theme is the freedom of God.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WPCYG MONTREAT
PRE-TRIP MEETING
SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 11A
FELLOWSHIP HALL

Attention all 100 youth and chaperones attending Montreat's Youth Conference (July 20-26) - please attend one session. This is mandatory for first-time participants.

LUNCHEON GROUP
The Luncheon Group will meet Wednesday, June 18, at 12:30p in Room 212. Leader: Mary Ann Cox (lmaryanncox@gmail.com).

YOUNG ADULT DIP PARTY
Join the WPC Young Adults on Sunday, June 22, from 3-5p at the home of Anna & David Hanor (4 Parkins Lake Rd) for a pool party. Children are welcome. Bring a dip to share. Questions? Text Anna at (803) 413-0365.

INSTRUCTIONS
FOR COMMUNION TODAY

If you are seated in the main section of pews, you will proceed up the center aisle to receive communion. Please wait for an usher to prompt your row. Please take communion from one of the serving stations at the front of the chancel and return to your pew via the side aisle.

When you come to a serving station, take a piece of bread from the plate, dip the bread in the cup, and eat. All cups contain grape juice.

If you are seated in the transept pews at either side of the sanctuary, you will take communion from the servers at the back of the transept. The section of pews closest to the chancel will go first. Please wait to be prompted by the usher. When prompted, please proceed down the center aisle of the transept, take communion at the back of the transept, returning to your pew via the side transept aisle closest to your pew.

Please remain quiet during communion so that those who wish to pray may do so.

If you would like to receive communion but are unable to come forward, or if you would simply prefer to remain seated, there are two rovers to provide you with communion, one on each side aisle. When the rovers approach your pew, simply raise your hand to indicate that you would like to receive communion in your seat.

The bread we are offering at today's communion is labeled by the manufacturer as gluten, nut, egg, and dairy free, and includes the following ingredients: water, sour dough (rice flour, water), rice starch, cornstarch, sugars (rice syrup, caramelized sugar), modified cellulose, psyllium seed husk (vegetable fibre), sunflower oil, pea protein, yeast, millet flour, citrus fibre, rice flour, quinoa flour, salt, guar gum, corn flour. May Contain: Mustard, Sesame.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH
Children's Church is worship education for children in Kindergarten and 1st grade. Children leave worship with a pastor to continue worship and age-appropriate exploration and play. Parent volunteers supervise activities and play after a pastor leads the lesson. You can sign up to volunteer with Children's Church here: (https://signup.com/go/SPYMEVv).

SUMMER CHOIR
Would you like to sing in choir but cannot make a full-time commitment? Are you curious about what it would be like to sing in a choir? Are you seeking ways to connect with others at WPC? If so, then Summer Choir is for you! Adults and youth are invited to participate in Summer Choir each Sunday through June 29, gathering at 9a each Sunday to rehearse a choral piece to be presented as the offertory at the 10a service. For additional information, contact Marlon Hurst, Director of Music.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN

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ONLINE DIRECTORY
Did you know that Westminster Presbyterian Church has an online directory that is accessible to all church members? You can look up addresses, listed phone numbers, and listed emails of other church members. You can see a list of church members who participate in the same groups/activities as you. You can make changes to your address, phone numbers, and emails. Have you recently seen the family or individual photo we have on file for you? You can view it in the online directory and update it with a more up-to-date photo from your own personal collection! Are you ready to become an online user of the WPC directory? Contact the church office (864-232-2424) to set up your user account and then get started exploring all the ways you can benefit from being connected!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
June 8-15, 2025

- Sunday, June 8
Pentecost
- 9:00a Summer Choir Rehearsal
Witness & Service Committee Meeting
 - 9:40 Weekly Session Meeting
 - 10:00 Worship Service with communion
 - 11:00 Fellowship with donuts
 - 5:00p Low Country Boil
- Monday, June 9
- 9:00a Vacation Bible School
Middler Mission Week
 - 8:00p Narcotics Anonymous
- Tuesday, June 10
- 9:00a Vacation Bible School
Middler Mission Week
 - 12:00p AI-Anon Meeting
- Wednesday, June 11
- 9:00a Vacation Bible School
Middler Mission Week
 - 2:00p Ice Cream & Games for Senior Adults/Middler Youth Groups
- Thursday, June 12
- 9:00a Vacation Bible School
Middler Mission Week
 - 8:00p Narcotics Anonymous
- Friday, June 13
- 9:00a Vacation Bible School
Middler Mission Week
- Sunday, June 15
First Sunday after Pentecost
- 9:00a Summer Choir Rehearsal
Education Committee Meeting
 - 9:40 Weekly Session Meeting
 - 10:00 Worship Service
 - 11:00 Fellowship with donuts
WPCYG Montreat Pre-Trip Meeting
- Ben Dorr is on sabbatical
May 19 - August 10.

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, Blake Hoffman

The creation narratives have their complexities. In a context without context, what do these words mean? A whole two verses into The Bible, and my wandering mind is attempting to picture and define something undefinable. In a space without forms, how do you fathom a void? Without the contrast of light, can we even begin to conceive the degree of darkness? Is there a depth to the deep? For those of us who enjoy exactness and visuals (ahem, architects), this is not an ideal beginning. Nonetheless, allow yourself to set the details aside and forge ahead.

As Chapter 1 of Genesis concludes, the reader is rewarded. Yes, creation has continued and more comprehensible elements and concepts have come into being. The record, however, actually closes with something quite incredible. Verse 31 says: “God saw everything... and indeed, it was very good.” This simple statement stands as a testament to the glory of God’s work. It is not a self-congratulatory thought by the Almighty. It is a reminder of his work’s very goodness to those who need to see it most: humanity.

While a lot has happened since the creation of form in the formless, the filling of voids, and the lighting of the darkness, I know for a fact that there is still ‘very good’ in this fallen world. Similar to nature in the wake of a wildfire, green promises of resiliency still burst forth.

Within Greenville, you, I, and Westminster are a part of that resiliency and goodness. Together, we strengthen our community. Together, we fulfill the promises of God to one another and our neighbors. In the week ahead, go out into the world and be the reason for others to proclaim: indeed, it is very good. Let us be the stewards of God’s creation. Let us shine a light in the darkness. Let us each, and as a church body, be the reason that God proclaims: indeed, it is very good. Still.