



Second Sunday after Pentecost

Preparation for Worship

“Our sighs are good enough, more than enough. And there are times our sighs and groans are holy, and when offer them up to the Lord. We can trust their efficacy because the Spirit is at work in them, at work deep in us, interceding on our behalf, sharing our sighs and giving expression to what is deeper than words. Even the Spirit cannot find the words to pray for us or maybe the Spirit doesn’t need words. The Spirit sighs and groans and cries and conveys to God what needs to be communicated to God and works on our behalf, working together with “all things” for good, our good, and the good of the world” (Romans 8:28).

- Kenneth Kovacs

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 *Eternal Father, Strong to Save* Monsell

* Call to Worship from Psalm 34

Leader: I will bless the Lord at all times;

People: **Let us exalt God's name together.**

Leader: When we seek God and when we cry out for help,

People: **God answers, delivers, and saves us.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

* Hymn 326 "For All the Saints" SINE NOMINE

* Prayer of Confession

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you by what we have done,

and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart

or our neighbors as ourselves.

We humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us;

that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways. 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

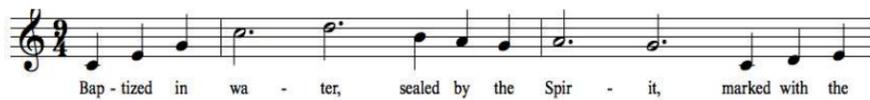
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy

Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen, Amen.

The Sacrament of Baptism *Olivia James Arbra and Callum Andrew Arbra*

Congregational Response *Baptized in Water* BUNESSAN



Children in K5 - first grade are invited to leave for Children’s Church.

Hearing **God’s Word**

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson, *Amos 5:21-24* p. 747

Second Scripture Lesson, *Acts 7:51-8:3* p. 891

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *"When We Get It Wrong"*

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 *At the Name of Jesus* Waters

* 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 839 "Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!" ASSURANCE

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude *Flourish* Wagner

**All who are able may stand*

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Mary Kathleen Duncan, *preaching*

Lauren Slingerland, *liturgist*

Jeff Reynolds, *sponsor*

Gaye Sprague, *scripture reader*

Summer Choir

Brad Hawkins, *head usher*

Betsy Raines, Susan Robbins, Denise Broderick,

Tiffany Williams, Mary Gentry, *greeters*

Ella Heegard, *acolyte*

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

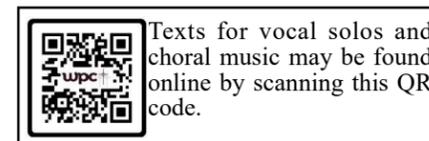
Each Sunday we offer worship bags in the Atrium for children. The worship bags are designed to include reusable items that engage children in open ended play during worship. While children attend worship with their families, they can participate in worship and play to make meaning in faith. Please return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

With Thanksgiving We Celebrate BIRTH

The birth of a daughter, *Kate Treanor Rubin*, to Matt & Molly Rubin, on Friday, June 13, 2025.



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 *Olivia James Arbra* and *Callum Andrew Arbra*, children of Chase & Megan Arbra.

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 violence, discord, and sinfulness in the community of faith.

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.

YOUNG ADULT DIP PARTY

Join the WPC Young Adults this 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.

CONNECTIONS GROUP

Connections, a lunch group for couples and singles, will meet on Sunday, June 29, at Travinia's (105 Beacon Dr) at 11:45a after the 10a worship service. Please RSVP to Ruth Johnston (ruthjohnst51@gmail.com) by Friday, June 27. Newcomers are always welcome!

WORSHIP AND MUSIC CONFERENCE AT MONTREAT

June 22-28, eighteen WPC members and staff are participating in the Worship and Music Conference at Montreat where they will attend worship services, Bible studies, choir and handbell rehearsals and more! The conference has been produced by the Presbyterian Association of Musicians since the early 1970s and is the largest annual gathering of Presbyterians in the United States. If you are interested in attending the conference in 2026, please contact Marlon Hurst, Director of Music.

THE SESSION

The Class of 2026

<i>Ben Bloodworth</i>	<i>Walker Miller</i>
<i>Emily Cole</i>	<i>Stan Pendergrass</i>
<i>Ingrid Erwin</i>	<i>Betsy Raines</i>
<i>Roger Gower</i>	<i>Jeff Reynolds</i>
<i>Amy Hawkins</i>	<i>Susan Robbins</i>
<i>Anne Howson</i>	<i>Zach Weaver</i>
<i>George McLarty</i>	

The Class of 2027

<i>Ben Dillard</i>	<i>Creighton Likes</i>
<i>Will Edwards</i>	<i>Carrie Marguet</i>
<i>Mary Mac Fairey</i>	<i>Trey Morrow</i>
<i>Kathryn Freedman</i>	<i>Mandy Pruitt</i>
<i>Mary Gentry</i>	<i>Elizabeth Timmons</i>
<i>Claire Gilliland</i>	<i>Sam White, Jr</i>
<i>George Howell</i>	

The Class of 2028

<i>Bill Ballinger</i>	<i>Mike Peters</i>
<i>Denise Broderick</i>	<i>Tim Reed</i>
<i>Coleman Dixon</i>	<i>Stephen Ridgeway</i>
<i>Pam Evans</i>	<i>Tony Threatt</i>
<i>Blake Hoffman</i>	<i>Amanda Warren</i>
<i>Nancy Johnson</i>	<i>Tiffany Williams</i>

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.

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!

GAME GROUP

Join us Mondays in July at 7p in the Entrance Pavilion for our first series of Mahjong Nights! Open to all who love the game or want to learn it. If you have a game set and would be willing to bring it, please contact Emily Lordo (emilylordo@gmail.com). See you 7/7 at 7p for our first game!

THE HARBINGER
Westminster Presbyterian Church
2310 Augusta Street
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.

Church Staff

Ben Dorr
Pastor & Head of Staff
bdorr@wpc-online.org

Leigh Stuckey
Executive Associate Pastor
lstuckey@wpc-online.org

Mary Kathleen Duncan
Associate Pastor
mkduncan@wpc-online.org

Lauren Slingerland
Associate Pastor
lslingerland@wpc-online.org

Nick Carson
Associate Pastor
ncarson@wpc-online.org

Terri Price
Parish Associate
tprice@wpc-online.org

Marlon Hurst
Director of Music
mhurst@wpc-online.org

Todd Monsell
Organist
tmonsell@wpc-online.org

Cara Puntch
Weekday School Director
cpuntch@wpc-online.org

Lynn Bennett
Financial Manager
lbennett@wpc-online.org

Michelle Little
Office Manager
michelle@wpc-online.org

Wendy Bagley
Secretary
wendy@wpc-online.org

Aly Friend
Director of Nurseries
alyfriend@wpc-online.org

Steve Phillips
Building Supervisor
sphillips@wpc-online.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
June 22-29, 2025

Sunday, June 22
Second Sunday after Pentecost
Montreat Worship & Music Conference
9:00a Summer Choir Rehearsal
Middler Book Club
9:40 Weekly Session Meeting
10:00 Worship Service
11:00 Fellowship with donuts
Senior High Book Club
3:00p Young Adult Dip Party

Monday, June 23
Montreat Worship & Music Conference
8:00p Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, June 24
Montreat Worship & Music Conference
12:00p AI-Anon Meeting

Wednesday, June 25
Montreat Worship & Music Conference

Thursday, June 26
Montreat Worship & Music Conference
8:00p Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, June 27
Montreat Worship & Music Conference

Sunday, June 29
Third Sunday after Pentecost
9:00a Summer Choir Rehearsal
9:40 Weekly Session Meeting
10:00 Worship Service
11:00 Fellowship with donuts
WPCYG Montreat Pre-Trip Meeting
11:30 Connections Group

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

VOLUME LXXVIII | June 22, 2025 | No. 11

From the Pews, Skip Gordon

Stephen made the ultimate sacrifice – his life – in support of his beliefs in Jesus and the Word. So beyond giving one's life, what is a sacrifice?

We recently celebrated Memorial Day where we honored those military people who gave sacrifices to preserve our freedoms. These included those who gave the ultimate sacrifice – death – as well those who gave life changing sacrifices from injuries, exposure to Agent Orange, and PTSD. My personal military sacrifice was to give up two years of my life. In addition, I was rewarded with a free year long trip to Vietnam. Those honored on Memorial Day certainly gave sacrifices.

We constantly talk about sacrifices in our ordinary lives. Taking time to travel across the country to support a friend in medical need could be considered a sacrifice. So could be jumping into the ocean to help save a stranger in apparent swimming difficulty. But is foregoing a Starbucks latte and instead giving that money to a homeless shelter a sacrifice?

As ordinary Christians, what is the meaning of sacrifice? Certainly, we are not expected to give our life as Stephen did. But what are we supposed to do? We are called to live out our lives by acting as living sacrifices to God. This means submitting our desires and actions to God's purpose – living in a way that honors him.

OK, so what does this mean? We can honor God through praise and worship through prayer, music, and other forms of worship. We can give up personal pleasures or desires for the sake of others or for the glory of God. We can do good by sharing our possessions, time, and talents to help those in need and to stand up to injustice. Finally, we can let God guide our way instead of putting our demands first.

Sacrifice does not equal suffering. Yes, Stephen suffered. But anyone who has given of their time, talents, or gifts knows that as the giver you often receive more than what you give. While in Vietnam, I took advantage of a giving opportunity and briefly taught English in a local school. The joy I received from that brief time away from normal activities was incalculable and still warms my heart.

Living in today's fast paced world with social media, influencers, targeted ads, and crisis politics is very difficult. It is also very difficult to live a fully Christian sacrificed life. However, the closer we get to this ideal life, the better centered our lives will be. And we will be better able to honor God and his wishes.