



Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Preparation for Worship

We are gathered here because we believe that we are called together into a work we cannot yet know the fullness of. Still, we trust the voice of the One who has called us. You alone,O God, by your gracious and life-giving Spirit, have power to knit our imperfect hearts, our weaknesses, our strengths, our stories, and our gifts one to another. May our acts of service and creation be met and multiplied by the mysterious workings of your Spirit who weaves all things together toward a redemption more good and glorious than we yet have eyes to see, or courage to hope for. Amen.

A Liturgy for the Labors of Community,
from *Every Moment Holy, Volume 1*

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 Gavotte with Variations Depuis

* Call to Worship
Leader: Thanks be to you, O God, maker of heaven and earth-
People: **Giver of justice, lover of righteousness, hope of the afflicted, friend of the poor.**
Leader: Our hope is in you, O Lord our God, who keeps faith with us forever. Your mercy is everlasting!
People: **You set the prisoners free, watch over the stranger, care for widows and orphans.**
All: **The Lord will reign forever. Praise the Lord. Let us worship God!**

* Hymn 644 Es FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN
"Give Thanks, O Christian People"

* Prayer of Confession
Generous God, when we set our tables, we imagine who belongs. We are satisfied to welcome those in our own view. We draw boundaries from our own perspective of community- our own family, our own congregation, our own neighborhood. But your community has no boundary. Before our birth you have known, loved, and claimed each and every one. Forgive us, God of grace when we are hesitant to see the depth of your abundant mercy and love. Restore us to your vision of who belongs at your table. Help us claim our gifts, embolden us to put them to good use, and move us to new life. 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
Glorify 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.

Hearing **God’s Word**

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson, *Deuteronomy 10:12-22* p. 147

Second Scripture Lesson, *Acts 6:1-7* p. 889

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "The Overlook"

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 Eternal Life Dungan

* Doxology, Hymn 606 OLD HUNDREDTH

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 203 "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love" CHEREPONI

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude Toccatina Simone

*All who are able may stand

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Lauren Slingerland, *preaching*

Mary Kathleen Duncan, *liturgist*

Emily Lordo, *scripture reader*

Kathryn Knauer, *soloist*

Rosemary Hughes, *flute*

Pam Evans, *head usher*

George Howell, Bill Ballinger, Tiffany Williams,

Kathryn Freedman, Sam White, *greeters*

Manning Dailey, *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.

We Remember in Prayer

John Walker and his family on the death of John's mother, Pamela Lominac, on Sunday, June 29, 2025.



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

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 finding our place 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.

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 (emilydlordo@gmail.com). See you 7/7 at 7p for our first game!

CUBA WITNESS AND SERVICE TRIP
DEADLINE EXTENDED TO JULY 15

Join us as we visit our Witness and Service partners at the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Matanzas, Cuba November 8-15, 2025. During our time together we will learn about the cultural, social, and economic realities of living in Cuba, engage theology with seminary students and professors, and join the seminary in their ongoing library renovation. Contact Nick Carson (ncarson@wpc-online.org) with any questions and to sign up.

LUNCHEON GROUP

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

THE SESSION
The Class of 2026

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

The Class of 2027

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

The Class of 2028

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

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!

LIGHTLY SEASONED

Lightly Seasoned is a Westminster fellowship group for those in (or near) their fifties and sixties. We will next meet Friday, July 18, at 6:30p at the home of Mary & Ted Gentry (26 Quail Hill Dr). Watch your e-mail 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!

SOTERIA WOMEN'S HOUSE

We are looking for women to bring dinner to the residents of Soteria Women's House (includes participating in a fellowship hour during dinner with the ladies). Fellowship dinners take place on the second Monday of each month. Please email Brooke Culclasure (bculclasure@mac.com) if you are interested in being added to the informational list.

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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.

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 6 - 13, 2025

Sunday, July 6

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

No Children's Church

No Summer Choir

9:40	Weekly Session Meeting
10:00	Worship Service
11:00	Fellowship with donuts

Monday, July 7

7:00p	Mondays in July Game Group
8:00	Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, July 8

12:00p AI-Anon Meeting

Thursday, July 10

8:00p Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday, July 13

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

No Summer Choir

9:00a	Middler Book Club
	Montreat Pre-Trip Meeting
	Witness & Service
	Committee Meeting
9:40	Weekly Session Meeting
10:00	Worship Service
11:00	Fellowship with donuts
	Senior High Book Club

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 | July 6, 2025 | No. 13

From the Pews, Parks Workman

Often, it’s just easier to do things ourselves. If we do it, we know it will be done the right way. We can control the outcome. We can ensure it meets the highest quality standards. There will be no mistakes. No one else could possibly do the task as well—or as fast or as efficiently—as we can.

How often have you fallen prey to such arrogance? I know I struggle with it daily. It often seems easier to take matters into my own hands instead of taking a leap of faith to trust others. Unfortunately, this approach leads to isolation, missed opportunities, and stagnation. We can surely see how detrimental this is in our personal and work lives—but it is even more damaging in our spiritual lives.

I am amazed by the wisdom provided by the Spirit to the early church leaders. The disciples recognized that they couldn’t do everything themselves and that if they tried, not all needs would be served. Rather than taking control, the disciples entrusted seven others to help advance the Kingdom so they could focus on their own spiritual gifts.

It is this approach that has allowed the church to blossom and grow. Indeed, Acts 6:7 hammers the point home: “So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.”

The church grew not through the arrogance or need for control of its leaders. Rather, the church grew through humility, recognizing limitations, and trusting others. As we reflect on our own tendencies toward self-reliance, perhaps we can see opportunities to move away from this safety net and lean more toward humility, trusting others, and trusting God.

I know there are many tasks laid out before us. The next time you are feeling overwhelmed, trust that God will find a path forward for you—and that path may involve relying on others for support. When we follow the example of Jesus and his disciples—walking in humility and trusting others—we strengthen our church, deepen our relationships, and grow in our faithfulness.