

# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, February 8, 2026 | On Demand on YouTube | 9a & 11:15a



## Fifth Sunday after Epiphany Youth Sunday

### Preparation for Worship

Because God has bound us together in one body with other Christians in Jesus Christ...we enter into that common life not as demanders but as thankful recipients. We thank God for giving us brethren...We do not complain of what God does not give us; we rather thank God for what he does give us daily. And is not what has been given us enough?

- from *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

### 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 Mission Little Free Pantry

Prelude *Shimmering Prelude* Bober

Introit *Bwana Asifiwe (Praise the Lord)* arr. Burrows

Call to Worship

**Leader:** Be still and know that God is here.  
**People:** **The God of refuge and strength is our help in times of trouble.**

**Leader:** God's light meets us on the path, even in the shadows.  
**People:** **Let us worship the One who guides us through every moment.**

**Leader:** This is the day that the Lord has made.  
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

**All:** **And let us worship God!**

\* Hymn 475 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" NETTLETON

\* Prayer of Confession

**God of love, we confess that when we feel anxious or uncertain, when we are grieving and weary, we often forget the divine spark that connects us to you and one another. Instead, we retreat into patterns of animosity, exclusion, and cruelty. We harm one another, and in doing so, we break your heart. In these moments of uncertainty, remind us of who we are: your beloved children called to the good, hard work of seeking connection in a world prone to division. God of mercy, forgive us and help us to live into the hope we have through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.

# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reflections (9a)

Acts 2:43-47 Reading: *Cooper Dorr*  
Reflection: *Ben DuBose*

Ephesians 4:14-15, 32 Reading: *Parker Godwin*  
Reflection: *Peyton Godwin*

Psalms 119:101-105 Reading: *Lucy Cole*  
Reflection: *Rollins Beck*

Philippians 4:11-13 Reading: *Patrick Bamhardt*  
Reflection: *Alex Woodhouse*

John 6:10-15 Reading: *Louise Lowe*  
Reflection: *Ellis Farmer*

Mark 12:28-31 Reading: *Henry Kent*  
Reflection: *Amelia Kent*

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 Reading: *James Smith*  
Reflection: *Cole Kirven & Langley Smith*

Scripture Reflections (11:15a)

Joshua 1:7-9 Reading: *Kate Tiller*  
Reflection: *Sarah-Katheine White*

Romans 5:2-5 Reading: *Laney Lucas*  
Reflection: *Bradley Lucas*

Ephesians 4:1-3, 31-32 Reading: *Caroline Thomasson*  
Reflection: *Sarah Sanders*

Mark 12:28-31 Reading: *Ben Morrow*  
Reflection: *John Gettys*

Philippians 4:6-9 Reading: *Louisa Palmer*  
Reflection: *Laney Palmer*

Romans 8:38-39 Reading: *Spencer Cox*  
Reflection: *Katy Cox*

John 15:12-17 Reading: *Sadie Mattice*  
Reflection: *McCrae Mattice*

John 15:17-19 Reading: *Mary Mac Fairey*  
Reflection: *Ben Bloodworth*

## Responding to **God's Word**

\*Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in a loving, understanding, and accepting God. We believe that God is good all the time. We believe that God the Father is everlasting and the creator of all life. The Father protects and guides us. We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and was sent down to earth to spread the word of God. We believe Jesus was sent to seek and save us from all sin. We believe that he lived and died for all of us. Jesus is our Lord and Savior; he defeated the powers of sin and guilt through his death. We believe he rose from the dead and ascended into heaven. We believe that the Holy Spirit is our Advocate. The Spirit enables our prayers and brings us together as one. We believe that the world is only a fraction of what it could be if we followed the word of the Lord. The world is flawed and in need of God's guidance in times of darkness. We believe that God's Church should be a light so bright that it can brighten a world ever so constantly being suppressed by the darkness of sin. We believe the Church is a place where we feel worthy and accepted. It is filled with people that we can lean on to help us through our journeys of faith. We believe that all human beings are created in God's image and worthy of love.**

# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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 *Christ Has Broken Down the Wall* Miller

\* 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 14 "For the Beauty of the Earth" Dix

\* Charge and Benediction *The Class of 2026*

\* Postlude *Fanfare* Lemmens

*\*All who are able may stand*

Additional Youth Leading *in Worship* (listed in order of appearance)

Anne Wells Lowery, Brigham Simon, Caroline Walker, Anna Patry, Amelia Hughes, Natalie Dixon, Eliza Barker, Madeline Barker, Anna Puntch, Lilly Coker, Julian Monsell, Zach Warren, Mary Helen Bryan, Charlotte Hicklin, Creighton Likes, Owen McFadden, Winn Bouton, Max Dennis.

Youth Choir Leading *in Worship*

Ben Bloodworth, George Blount, Vivienne Cardell, Addy Cizon, Eliot Cizon, Gretchen Cleveland, Braden Cox, Caroline Cox, Natalie Dixon, Cooper Dorr, Ben DuBose, Mary Eliza Duncan, Scarlett Gettys, Amelia Hughes, Louise Lowe, Anne Wells Lowery, Elle Maness, McCrae Mattice, Sadie Mattice, Lily McTyre, Julia Monsell, Anna Patry, Ellen Reynolds, Mary-Frances Reynolds, Brigham Simon, Lillian Threath, Miles Threath, Cam Warren, Zach Warren, Madeline Weaver, Sarah Katherine White, Sawyer Woodard, Compton Woodard, Elizabeth Workman, Mary Wayne Workman.

## Leading Worship **this Morning**

Mary Kathleen Duncan, *liturgist*

Youth Choirs

Amelia Hughes, *pianist*

Madeline Weaver, *soloist*

McCrae Mattice, *soloist*

Bryan Kelley (9a), Coleman Dixon (11:15a), *head ushers*

Grier Clark, Caroline Dixon, Henley Gilreath, Alex Hoffman,

Murray Lucas, ET Mullins, Claire Puntch, *youth ushers*

Ben Dillard, Nancy Johnson, Anne Howson,

Emily Cole, Claire Gilliland (9a), *greeters*

Amy Hawkins, Stan Pendergrass, Susan Robbins,

Tiffany Williams, George McLarty (11:15a), *greeters*

**WORSHIP NOTES**

**SPRING SERMON SERIES  
THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT:  
BUT I SAY TO YOU**

This spring, we will explore the Sermon on the Mount, found in chapters 5-7 of Matthew. These three chapters contain some of Jesus' best-known teachings, such as the Beatitudes, and some of his most difficult teachings, such as his instruction about anger and loving one's enemies. To help you follow along, our scripture passages for the next three weeks are the following:

- Feb 8: Youth Sunday
- Feb 15: Matthew 5:13-16
- Feb 22: Matthew 5:21-26

**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.

**CHERUB CHOIR**

Registration is now open for Cherub Choir! Cherub Choir is a music opportunity for children in K4 and K5. Under the direction of WPC member Diana Dailey, children will learn a variety of musical skills culminating with a Spring Musical in April. Children in Cherubs will meet Wednesday afternoons from 3:30-4p beginning February 11.

**THEOLOGY READING GROUP**

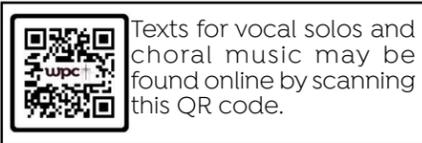
The Theology Reading Group will meet in the Charter Room on Monday, February 16, at 7p. Ann Hicks will lead the discussion of a Kathleen Norris memoir, *Rebecca Sue*. All are welcome. Join us for an interesting evening.

**CONNECTIONS GROUP**

Connections, a luncheon group for singles and couples, will meet on Sunday, February 22, at Travinia's (105 E Beacon Dr) at 1p. Please RSVP to Ruth Johnston (ruthjohnst51@gmail.com) by Friday, February 20. Newcomers are always welcome!

**LUNCHEON GROUP**

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



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

**LIFE AT WPC**

**PANCAKE LUNCH**

The Men of Westminster will be serving a pancake lunch following 11:15a worship on February 8. RSVP on the website, and join us for an afternoon of fellowship and pancakes!

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**

An estimated 124 million people will watch the Super Bowl every year. Imagine what we could do to help end hunger if each person just gave 1 dollar or 1 can. The youth will be collecting donations this Sunday during both services. Please consider bringing the following: canned mixed vegetables, hearty soups, individual tuna packets, canned chicken, saltine crackers, rice, apple juices, ramen noodles, peanut butter. Cash donations will also be accepted. Donations will be divided between United Ministries and the free pantries at Pleasant Valley Connection and WPC.

**INTERESTED IN JOINING WESTMINSTER?**

Visitors interested in learning more about Westminster and joining the church are invited to attend our New Member Class from 9-10:30a on Sunday, February 15. Those who attend the class are invited to become members and be introduced during the 11:15a worship service that same day or on a future new member Sunday. Childcare is available. Please contact Nick Carson (ncarson@wpc-online.org) at 232-2424 to learn more and RSVP.

**ACOLYTE TRAINING**

An acolyte training session for children in 3rd-5th grade will be held in the Sanctuary immediately following the 11:15a worship service and Congregational Meeting on Sunday, February 22. The meeting will last about 15 minutes. Children should be accompanied by a parent or guardian. For additional information, please contact Hunter Smith (hsmith@wpc-online.org).

**CIRCLE MEETINGS**

**Tuesday, February 10**

- Circle 3, at Rolling Green Blue Ridge Room C (I Hoke Smith Blvd), hosted by Carole Tinsley at 2p. Circle Chair: Dee Malone (dee05m@gmail.com).

**Tuesday, February 10**

- Circle 7, at the home of Terri LeGrand (16 N Brookwood Dr) at 6p. Circle Contact: Gaye Sprague (gayesprague@cs.com).

**Wednesday, February 11**

- Circle 6, at the home of Liz Einstein (223 Camille Ave) at 9a. Circle Leaders: Liz Einstein (liz.ard.einstein@gmail.com) and Sherry Tate (sherrytate63@gmail.com).

**THE HARBINGER**  
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2310 Augusta Street  
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www.wpc-online.org

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS  
February 8-15, 2026**

**Sunday, February 8**  
*Fifth Sunday after Epiphany*  
**YOUTH SUNDAY**  
*Festival by the Sea*

9:00a	Worship Service
	Witness & Service Committee Meeting
10:00	Sunday School
10:55	Sunday Session Meeting
11:15	Worship Service
12:30p	Pancake Lunch hosted by Men of Westminster
1:30	GOAL Meeting
2:00	Incoming Elder Training (2 of 3)
4:30	First Steps in Music

**NO Evening WPCYG**

**Monday, February 9**

10:00a	Staff Meeting
7:00p	Game Group
8:00	Narcotics Anonymous

**Tuesday, February 10**

12:00p	Al-Anon
2:00	Circle #3
6:00	Circle #7
	Men of Westminster Executive Committee Meeting

**Wednesday, February 11**

9:00a	Circle #6
2:30p	It's Elementary
3:30	Cherub Choir
4:30	Junior & Senior Choristers
7:00	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, February 12**

10:00a	Bible Study
12:00p	Finance Committee Meeting
8:00	Narcotics Anonymous

**Friday, February 13**

*Women of Westminster Retreat*

**Saturday, February 14**

*Women of Westminster Retreat*

**Sunday, February 15**

*Sixth Sunday after Epiphany*

*Women of Westminster Retreat*

9:00a	Worship Service
	New Member Class
10:00	Sunday School
10:55	Sunday Session Meeting
11:15	Worship Service
12:15p	New Member Reception
12:30	Stated Session Meeting
3:00	Campaign Feasibility Focus Group: WPCYG Parents
4:30	First Steps in Music
5:00	Youth Choir Rehearsals
6:00	Youth Dinner
6:30	Midders Youth Group
	Senior High Youth Group

the  
**HARBINGER**  
*open minds open hearts*

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**From the Youth Group**

*We're all in this together  
Once we know that we are  
We're all stars and we see that  
We're all in this together  
And it shows when we stand hand in hand  
Make our dreams come true  
-High School Musical*

The lyrics and tune to the song above became popular in 2006, 1-2 years before this year's senior class was born. But I have a strong feeling that they are familiar with the song because even my own children are. It's part of our collective cultural soundtrack. Almost any time I hear the word, "together," this song begins playing in my head. Sometimes I even sing the lyrics aloud. Yes, it is a little corny and very much an earworm, but the sentiment rings true for me. We truly are stronger together.

This school year's theme for WPCYG is "Together". Through this theme we explore the different relationships we have in our lives. Thus far we have explored relationships with peers, friends, parents, neighbors, strangers, and those with whom we share the community of Greenville. As we continue this semester, we will study the different words found in the Bible for love, relationships with chosen family, and relationships with those who practice other religions.

As another example of what it means to be "together," this winter I have been reading Dietrich Bonhoeffer's "Life Together" written in 1939. Published during a trying time in world history, Bonhoeffer explores the importance of being connected as the body of Christ. He writes, "The more genuine and the deeper our community becomes, the more will everything else between us recede, and the more clearly and purely will Jesus Christ and his work become the one and only thing that is vital between us." This is the goal of ministry through WPCYG. That we might be united in Christ. Together. As brothers and sisters. And that we might extend those deep and genuine connections to the various relationships of our lives. I hope you enjoy being led by our youth in worship this week. I know I will.

*Mary Kathleen Duncan*

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL:

#### A MEDITERRANEAN PILGRIMAGE, APRIL 2027

Scripture comes alive in the places where it originated. The oils and wines of the Old Testament taste more robust on the arid soil of Athens. The "love" passages in Corinthians take on more meaning when you stand in front of a shrine to Aphrodite. In April 2027, Westminster will visit key Ancient Near Eastern sites associated with the Letters of Paul in the New Testament. We will also travel by cruise to the Greek Islands, including Ephesus and Patmos in Turkey. Because of the complexity of travel, we ask that those who may be interested join us for an informational meeting at 12:30p on Sunday, February 22, in Room 213. A Zoom link will be provided for those who cannot attend in person. For more information, or to receive Zoom instructions, please contact Leigh Stuckey.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Have you ever wondered what Sunday School is like for our youngest disciples? Come to our Sunday School Open House on February 22 to learn about Sunday School for children K5-5th grade. Bill Ballinger and Lauren Slingerland will give an overview of Sunday School and a tour of the WPC Kids spaces used on Sunday mornings. It's a great time to ask questions, explore getting involved, or scope it out to see if your child would like to try it! Contact Bill Ballinger with any questions at drwhb3@hotmail.com.

### CHANCEL CHOIR

The Chancel Choir will next sing in worship on Sunday, February 22, at the 9a worship service. Rehearsals will be held on Tuesdays, February 10 and 17 from 7-7:45p in the Choir Room. The Chancel Choir is a part-time choir that provides opportunities for those who would like to give choir a try or who enjoy singing in choir but cannot make a full-time commitment. All are welcomed, regardless of skill level. For more information, contact Marlon Hurst, Director of Music.

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**JUNE 8-12, 2026**

FOR RISING KINDERGARTENERS THROUGH RISING 5TH GRADERS

MORE INFORMATION & SIGN-UPS COMING SOON!

### Adult Sunday School

***Books We Never Read: The Epistle of James. Straw or a Way of Life?***  
***Led by Leigh Stuckey - 2/8***  
***Room 209 and Streaming***

Martin Luther famously called James "the Epistle of Straw," lamenting that it undermined a theology of salvation by grace through faith in favor of a works-oriented word. Modern interpreters have quibbled with Luther's assessment, insisting instead that all Christ-oriented faith finds an outlet in Christian living. In this two-week class, we will read and consider James' most famous passages and will interrogate the place of Christian living in a Christ-centered life.

***Discussion Sunday School Class:***  
***Led by Kathleen Reynolds - 2/8***  
***Room 211***

Join us each week for a discussion-based Sunday School class to dive into a weekly topic and scripture passage. All are welcome to join us on a journey of faith and fellowship - come every week or come when you can. Topics change every week, and the class is facilitated by rotating members.

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**Our Vision:**

*Open minds open hearts.*

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**Our Pillars:**

*Hospitality*

*Generosity*

*Justice*

*Imagination*

*Joy*

**Our Pillars:**

*Hospitality*

*Generosity*

*Justice*

*Imagination*

*Joy*

**Our Pillars:**

*Hospitality*

*Generosity*

*Justice*

*Imagination*

*Joy*

**Our Goals:**

*Connect*

*Serve*

*Grow*

**Our Goals:**

*Connect*

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*Connect*

*Serve*

*Grow*