



Seventh Sunday of Easter

Preparation for Worship

Most High God, we are witnesses: to the life of Jesus Christ our Lord, promised by the prophets, sung by the psalmists, given in love for the world. You raised him from the dust of death, and lifted him to heavenly glory. Let our lives proclaim Christ's life by following the path he pursued. Move us to the margins, make us a voice for the vulnerable, give us a passion for the poor and the poor in spirit, so that our love would daily be shaped by his love. Amen.

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.**

Leader: Christ is risen!

**People: He is risen indeed!**

Recognition of Lud Weaver as Pastor Emeritus

Zach Weaver

Congregational Response

**We, the members and friends of Westminster Presbyterian Church, rejoice in your acceptance of the title "Pastor Emeritus." We hold in high regard your ministry, your faith, and your leadership for our church. We pledge to you our continuing love, our constant care, and our sustaining prayers in all the days before us. Thanks be to God.**

Prelude

*Prelude and Fugue in B-flat Major*

Bach

\* Call to Worship

Leader: God is ruler over all the earth; the Lord reigns on a holy throne.

**People: God put this power to work in Christ, raising him from the dead.**

Leader: God has highly exalted him, giving him the name above all names.

**People: Jesus Christ is Lord! Glory to God in the highest!**

**All: Let us worship God!**

\* Hymn 12

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

ST. DENIO

\* Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too pervasive to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what we cannot admit to be true about ourselves.**

**Remake us and renew us, so that we would be free from a past we cannot change, and open to a future in which we can be changed.**

**Grant that we would be gracious when we are wounded, humble when we have done harm, and courageous when you call us by name.**

**In Jesus Christ, our risen Lord, we pray. 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.**

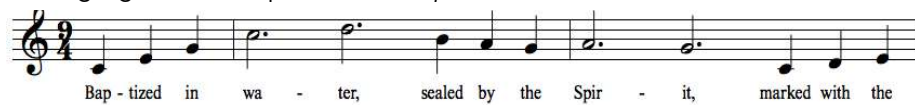
The Sacrament of Baptism

Wilson Scott Lordo

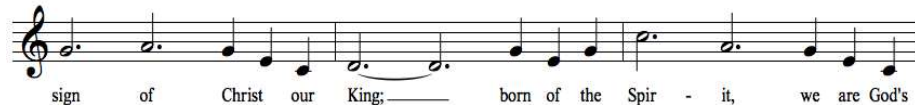
Congregational Response

*Baptized in Water*

BUNESSAN



Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



sign of Christ our King; born of the Spir - it, we are God's



chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.

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

Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson, *Exodus 20:1-17*

p. 58

Second Scripture Lesson, *Matthew 22:35-40*

p. 804

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

*"Is Westminster Presbyterian Church Relevant in Today's World?"*

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

*From All the Earth Send Up the Song!*

Weaver/Pasch

\* 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 307

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

CWM RHONDDA

\* Charge and Benediction

\* Benediction Response "Lead Me, Guide Me"

LEAD ME GUIDE ME

**Lead me, guide me, along the way, for if you lead me, I cannot stray. Lord, let me walk each day with Thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

\* Postlude

Life Everlasting

Smith

\*All who are able may stand

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Lud Weaver, *preaching*

Ben Dorr, *liturgist*

Josh Riley, *sponsor*

Kate Weaver Patterson, *scripture reader*

Summer Choir

Rosemary Hughes, *guest conductor*

Elizabeth Palmer, *head usher*

Josh Riley, Jason Farmer, Chris Carsten, Ben Dillard, Amanda Warren, *greeters*

David 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.

CONNECT WITH WESTMINSTER

Looking for ways to be involved? Please complete a Connection Card from the Ritual of Friendship pad and place it in the offering plate to express interest or sign up for an opportunity.

CHORAL AND VOCAL TEXTS

Choral and vocal texts for worship services may be found via the Harbinger Hub QR code.

Join Us in Welcoming

BAPTISM

This morning we welcome into our fellowship *Wilson Scott Lordo*, son of Ross & Emily Lordo.

YOUTH CHOIR TRIP

Members of the Youth Choir are in Atlanta this weekend celebrating the conclusion of the 2025-2026 choir season. They are singing in worship this morning at Buford Presbyterian Church.

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 by using the new Harbinger Hub QR code.

Spring at Westminster

May 17:

**Worship & Birthday BBQ**

one service at 10a with Lud Weaver preaching followed by a bbq luncheon celebrating WPC's 79th birthday and honoring Lud Weaver, our Pastor Emeritus

**May 24 & 31: Worship at 10a**

**followed by donuts**

mark your calendars, donuts are back for the summer!

**June 7: Worship at 10a**

Low Country Boil from 5-7p at Double Stamp Brewery

*Our two service schedule will resume on September 13.*

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ATTENTION GRADUATES

We would like to list the names of our high school and college graduates. If you have a student graduating, please fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate or call the church office at 232-2424. The names will be listed in the May 31 Harbinger - deadline for this info is **May 24**.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduating from: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUMMER CHOIR IS FOR EVERYONE!**

After Music Sunday, the Sanctuary Choir transforms into the Summer Choir. Summer Choir is for everyone who would like to give choir a try, cannot commit to a weekly rehearsal during the regular choir season, and simply enjoys singing. All levels of experience and all voice types are welcome. Youth are invited to join, as well! Two optional Wednesday rehearsals are offered from 7-8p on June 3 and August 5 to rehearse pieces for the Sundays in the month that follow. If you are unable to join for a Wednesday rehearsal, you are still invited to participate on any Sunday that the Summer Choir sings. Look for the schedule in the Harbinger or on the Web site. Contact Marlon Hurst with additional questions or for more information.

**WELCOME OUR SUMMER NURSERY CO-DIRECTORS!**

This summer, Emma Bolton and Anna Whitmer will be our Summer Nursery Co-Directors. Emma is a WPC member who currently teaches 1st grade in Greenville County. She and her husband, Kyle, have one son, David, who was born in March. Anna is a Furman University senior double major in Business Administration and Politics and International Affairs, graduating in December. Anna has been part of the WPC Kids team since 2024 in the Nursery and It's Elementary. Emma and Anna bring a wealth of knowledge and skills to lead the Nursery this summer and continue to provide a safe and welcoming environment for our young disciples!

**Our Vision:**  
*Open minds open hearts.*

**Our Pillars:**  
*Hospitality  
Generosity  
Justice  
Imagination  
Joy*

**Our Goals:**  
*Connect  
Serve  
Grow*

**THEOLOGY READING GROUP**

The Theology Reading Group will meet in the Charter Room on Monday, May 18, at 7p. Lucy Stewart will lead the discussion of *The Tears of Things* by Richard Rohr. All are welcome. Join us for an interesting evening.

**LOW COUNTRY BOIL - JUNE 7**

Kick off the summer with shrimp, and sausage at WPC's Low Country Boil. Share in the fun at Double Stamp Brewery in Holland Park (819 Laurens Rd) on Sunday, June 7, 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 Harbinger Hub. Volunteers are needed to help make this event a success. Contact Leigh Stuckey or Nick Carson to sign up online to help.

**LUNCHEON GROUP**

The Luncheon Group will meet Wednesday, May 20, at 12:30p in Room 212. Leader: Mary Ann Cox (lmaryanncox@gmail.com).

**Rescheduled  
HERITAGE LECTURE**  
Dr. Yolanda Pierce  
Sunday, August 9  
Education Lecture at 9a  
Preaching Hour 10a

**THE SESSION**

**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>Judy O'Neal</i>
<i>Mary Gentry</i>	<i>Mandy Pruitt</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>Mason Donlan</i>	<i>Tony Threatt</i>
<i>Pam Evans</i>	<i>Amanda Warren</i>
<i>Blake Hoffman</i>	<i>Tiffany Williams</i>
<i>Nancy Johnson</i>	

**The Class of 2029**

<i>Christopher Carsten</i>	<i>Jennifer McDavid</i>
<i>Brooke Culclasure</i>	<i>Josh Riley</i>
<i>Trey DuBose</i>	<i>Jennifer Shurley</i>
<i>Jason Farmer</i>	<i>Clay Smoak</i>
<i>Nancy Giguere</i>	<i>Whit Walker</i>
<i>Ragan Kirven</i>	<i>Josie Williams</i>

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**THE HARBINGER**

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

May 17-24, 2026

**Sunday, May 17**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

*Youth Choir Spring Trip*

9:00a Summer Choir Rehearsal  
9:40 Weekly Session Meeting  
10:00 Worship Service  
11:00 BBQ Lunch  
11:45 Stated Session Meeting

**Monday, May 18**

10:00a Staff Meeting  
4:30p Game Night  
7:00 Theology Reading Group  
8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

**Tuesday, May 19**

12:00p AI-Anon  
5:00 Health & Safety Committee Meeting

**Wednesday, May 20**

12:30p Luncheon Group Meeting

**Thursday, May 21**

10:00a Bible Study  
8:00p Narcotics Anonymous

**Sunday, May 24**

**Pentecost**

9:00a Summer Choir Rehearsal  
9:40 Weekly Session Meeting  
10:00 Worship Service w/communion  
11:15 Donut Reception

**HARBINGER HUB:**

**ALL THE LINKS FROM TODAY'S HARBINGER IN ONE PLACE.**

Scan the QR code to explore and engage with this week's bulletin. You'll find links to events, registrations, ministries, and opportunities to grow and connect within Westminster.



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

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**From the Pews, Amanda Warren**

In today's New Testament scripture, Jesus is tested with a question about which commandment is the greatest. Jesus replies, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment." Jesus then follows with, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

With this answer, Jesus provides a summary of all Biblical law that constitutes the foundation and heart upon which all moral law depends. He distills all past teachings into 1) love God, and 2) love your neighbor. And while Jesus refers to one as the greatest commandment, both commandments are intertwined and inseparable because we cannot demonstrate love for God if we are not demonstrating love for our neighbor.

The challenging nature of these commandments and their implication in our lives makes me think of the Charge and Benediction sometimes given by former Westminster Associate Pastor Steve Phillips. As he spoke words of instruction and encouragement before sending the congregation on its way at the end of a service, he often said, "It's all that easy, and it's all that hard."

These two commandments that Jesus presents in the New Testament call us to actionable love and compassion at every turn, but living this way and making the decisions Jesus wants us to make on a daily basis is immensely difficult. I think we all like to think that we do a good job of loving our neighbor. But do we only do what we think is enough and then assume that we've checked the "love our neighbor box" for at least the next few weeks or months? Do we give of our time and funds only out of our abundance, or do we ever sacrifice something to make sure that others without much have more? Do we stand up for justice, especially when doing so is unpopular and may cost us something?

Steve was right. Truly loving God and our neighbor is really hard, but at least Jesus's instructions are clear. And if we can remember to use these commandments as our compass, we can better align our decisions and actions with his will and honor him in all we do.