

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, April 25, 2010
9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.
Fourth Sunday of Easter

THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

In this place where Your Name, O God, is above every name, where Your truth is sought and Your faith cherished, grant Your blessing upon all who worship You in sincerity and truth. Here may the weary find rest; the lonely, friendship; the saddened, comfort; the fearful, courage; the discouraged, hope; the weak, strength; the strong, discipline; and all of us the reassurance of Your forgiving and empowering mercy, and the desire and opportunity to invest our lives for the good of all people and the glory of God.

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE Prelude on HYFRYDOL Willan
 ** CHORAL INTROIT "Be Still" Bell
 CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God.

People: This is our spiritual worship

Leader: Let us worship God.

* HYMN No. 151 DIADEMATA
 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, your face is hidden from us by our sins, and we forget your mercy in the blindness of our hearts. Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires. With lowliness and meekness may we draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON
 Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal, No. 579)
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.

** BAPTISM OF **PARKER BRADLEY EADS** and **WILLIAM FISHER HIGGINS**

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP, COMMON CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH
 ** CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER "Forever In My Thought" Day
 MORNING PRAYERS
 THE LORD'S PRAYER

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

SOLO "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" arr. Harris
 K5 and first grade children leave for Children's Church after the solo.
 OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – Psalm 16:5-11(Page 496) *Dave Sems*
 NEW TESTAMENT LESSON – John 20:24-29 (Page 115)
 PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
 SERMON *Ludwig Weaver*

"Where In the World Is Jesus?"

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

* 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; 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.

** WELCOMING OF NEW MEMBERS
 SERVICE OF GIVING
 Solo (9:00 a.m.) "My Heart Ever Faithful" J.S. Bach
 ** Anthem "Let Not Your Heart be Troubled" Powell
 * Doxology (Hymnal, No. 592)
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* HYMN No. 399 DUNLAP'S CREEK
 "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"

* BENEDICTION
 ** CHORAL RESPONSE "Amen" Biery
 * POSTLUDE "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" arr. Hustad

* *All who are able may stand* ** *11:15 a.m. service only*

HEAD USHERS: 9:00 a.m. Scott Broderick
 11:15 a.m. Dick Stewart
SPONSORS: Lydia Kellett, David Massey
GREETERS: 9:00 a.m. Anne Nuttall, Charlie Warth
 Ben Rigby
 11:15 a.m. Amanda Sanders, Chris Beard
 Carroll Farmer
LITURGIST: Barbara Stoop

Visitors and members are invited to the Sanctuary Atrium following the 11:15 a.m. worship service for an opportunity to welcome our new members and for a time of fellowship and refreshments.

PARKING

We have permission to use the parking lots at the Uniform Shop and Augusta Commons Mall.

TRAFFIC POLICE OFFICER

A Greenville city police officer will be on duty from 9:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. to help people cross the street from the other side of Augusta Road.

STREAMING

The 11:15 a.m. Worship Service is broadcast via live video streaming. Navigate to the home page of the church website at www.wpc-online.org and click the link under Worship called "Watch the 11:15 a.m. Service on Sunday Live."

CHURCH NOTES

The leaders for Children's Church this **Sunday, April 25** are:
 9:00 a.m. *Lee & Harriett Gray*
 11:15 a.m. *Paul & Janet Schultz*

Musicians leading in worship this Sunday are:
Nancy Smith, organist
Julie Poston, clarinetist
11:15 a.m.
Sanctuary Choir

NURSERY

Childcare is available for infants through four-year kindergarten. Our childcare program provides safe, secure nurseries for our babies and toddlers during worship services. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment to all children.

BAPTISM

This morning, we welcome into our fellowship:
Parker Bradley Eads, son of Ruston & Beth Anne Eades and brother of Ava and Ellis.
William Fisher Higgins, son of Brian & Joda Higgins.

SYMPATHY

We extend sincere sympathy to *Mary Jo Franks* on the death of her father, Billy Joe Mekan, on Tuesday, March 30, 2010, in Fisk, Missouri.

INTERESTED IN JOINING WESTMINSTER?

Visitors interested in learning more about Westminster Presbyterian Church, membership here, and what it means to be Presbyterian are invited to attend our New Member Class from **8:30 - 10:30 a.m. this Sunday, April 25, in the Charter Room.** Those who have been baptized and who wish to become members may do so at the 11:15 a.m. worship service or on a future new member Sunday. To RSVP or if you have any questions, please contact Susan McLarty, Mission Outreach Coordinator, (smclarty@wpc-online.org) at 864-232-2424.

In Memoriam

Martha Sims Carpenter

7/7/1922 - 4/19/2010

"He that hears my word, and believes in him that sent me has eternal life."

NEW MEMBERS

Last Sunday, we welcomed the following new members into our fellowship: **Ryan & Lee Anne Montgomery**, 124 Aberdeen Dr., 29605, 235-6733. Ryan joined by profession of faith and Lee Anne joined by reaffirmation of faith. They have three sons: Jack (7), Alex (2) and Chap (10 mos.).

GAIHN - May 23 - 25

Westminster is one of over 30 area congregations that supports the Greenville Area Interfaith Hospitality Network (GAIHN). The mission of GAIHN is to assist local congregations to share hospitality (in the form of emergency lodging and meals) with homeless families, and to help those families achieve self-sufficiency and self-fulfillment. Westminster partners with Trinity United Methodist and our rotation for providing dinners and fellowship is coming up May 23rd through 25th. **Members from our church are needed for each night to provide meals, dine over-night hosts.** Families can volunteer together or individuals can be paired with other church members. For more information or to serve in this ministry, please contact *Jara Jones* (jarajones@charter.net) or *Susan McLarty* (smclarty@wpc-online.org).

JUNIOR HIGHS AND SIXERS

This **Saturday, April 24**, the Junior Highs and Sixers will meet for a Lock-In beginning at **7:00 p.m.** On **Sunday**, we will go to the **9:00 a.m.** worship service and Sunday School, so bring church clothes. We will *not* meet the night of the **25th**. Next **Sunday, May 2**, we will meet at Frankies Fun Park at **5:00 p.m.**

SENIOR HIGHS

Let the games begin. This **Sunday, April 25**, we will meet in the green parking lot at **6:00 p.m.** for a picnic followed by various field games including ultimate frisbee. If you have any questions about the Senior High group, call Steve Phillips at 232-2424 or 380-5269.

SENIOR HIGH INTEREST GROUPS

- **Every Wednesday morning at 7:15 a.m.:** Senior High girls breakfast at Dunkin' Donuts on Laurens Road.
- **Every Friday morning at 7:15 a.m.:** Senior High boys breakfast at Bojangles on Laurens Road.
- **Every other Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m.:** Study and snacks in the Senior High room. Our next meeting is **April 28**.

PW SCHOLARSHIP

Each year the Presbyterian Women of Westminster offer a scholarship to promote financial aid for higher education to a qualified person. Any Westminster member who will be a college student next year is eligible to apply. Application forms and further information may be obtained from the church office. **Sunday, May 16** is the deadline for applications to be received in the church office. All church members are reminded that memorials may be designated to this scholarship fund to aid in its continuation.

MEMORIAL HYMNALS

We have again purchased new hymnals for the Sanctuary. If you would like to dedicate one or more in memory or honor of someone, please fill out this slip and return to the church office. Cost of the hymnals is \$20 each.

Donor _____
 In Memory of _____
 In Honor of _____

CHRISTCARE GATHERINGS

ChristCare Small Groups continue to welcome visitors and new members. For more information, go to www.wpc-online.org and click on *Connect* and then *Small Groups*. This week:

- **Knitting Group: Wednesday, April 28, at 6:30 p.m.,** in the Entrance Pavilion. Leader: *Midge Williams*, momsie10@aol.com or 232-7728.
- **Parenting Group: Wednesday, April 28, at 6:30 p.m.,** in Room 213. Leader: *Ben Rigby*, btrigby@juno.com or 239-0435.

JOIN JUSTFAITH AT WPC!

When was the last time you had an experience that was truly "soul satisfying?" If you would like to encounter your faith in a way that challenges you to live the Gospel call to social justice, then JustFaith may be the program for you. For thirty weeks, a small group of 10-15 individuals will journey together through a weekly program that incorporates books, videos, conversation and encounters with those who live in the margins of society. If you would like to learn more about this transformational study, please call *Susan Stall* (430-0637) or ask one of the following people about their experiences in this past year's group: *Tom and Thayer Brown, Bill Holt, Jamie Inman, Ashley Sherman, Russell Stall, Charlie and Becky Warth, Eleanor Welling, Sallie White, Mary Kate Wilson and Gwen Young.*

THE HARBINGER WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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THE SESSION

The Class of 2011

Vernon Anderson	Tod Hyche
Mary Ashmore	Suzanne Meece
Denise Broderick	Tina Phillips
Christopher Carsten	Charlie Warth
Trey DuBose	David Massey
Anne Holleman	Jim Young

The Class of 2012

Ben Alexander	Amy Grace
Chris Beard	Jennifer Keir
Gayle Blouin	Tim Reed
Howard Boyd	Amanda Sanders
Dorothy Dowe	Paul Schultz
Joe Frasher	Courtenay Williams

The Class of 2013

Will Edwards	Becky Murphy
Carroll Farmer	Anne Nuttall
Lydia Kellett	Ben Rigby
Clara Lawson	Neil Shurley
Stuart Mauney	Russell Stall
Parks McLeod	Bill Wallace

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 25 - May 1, 2010

SUNDAY

- 8:30 a.m. New Member Class
- 9:00 a.m. Worship
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:15 a.m. Worship
- 12:15 p.m. New Member Reception
- 3:30 p.m. Cub Scouts
- 5:00 p.m. Combined Youth Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Senior High Picnic
- 8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous

MONDAY

- 9:00 a.m. Moms In Touch
- 9:15 a.m. Weekday Chapel
- 9:45 a.m. Weekday Chapel
- 5:40 p.m. Westminster Bells
- 5:45 p.m. NAMI
- 6:30 p.m. Men's Softball
- 7:30 p.m. Rose Society
- 8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

TUESDAY

- 12:00 p.m. Al-Anon
 - 6:45 p.m. Boy Scouts
- WEDNESDAY**
- 7:15 a.m. Sr. High Girls Breakfast
 - 11:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
 - 3:00 p.m. "It's Elementary!" & Tweens End of the Year Carnival
 - 5:30 p.m. Dinner
 - 6:15 p.m. ChristCare: Parenting Meeting
 - 6:30 p.m. Divorce Support Group
 - 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY

- 10:00 a.m. Bible Study
- 3:00 p.m. Daisy Troop
- 6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training
- 8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

FRIDAY

- 7:15 a.m. Sr. High Boys Breakfast



- 24 *Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came.*
- 25 *So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it."*
- 26 *A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"*
- 27 *Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."*
- 28 *Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"*
- 29 *Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."*

Our Scripture lesson today is a famous one - that of Thomas and his doubting of Jesus' bodily resurrection. His fame has even made it into our lexicon such that anyone who demands proof of a particular fact may be referred to (usually unflatteringly) as a "doubting Thomas."

I've always thought Thomas got a bit of a raw deal. Let's face it -- the disciples didn't believe Mary Magdalene when she told them of the empty tomb, and Jesus actually appeared first to the other disciples - so Thomas gets the opportunity to doubt and consequently gets stuck with the moniker. Also, Thomas was merely being logical. He had seen hundreds of Jews crucified by the Romans, and all of those dead stayed in their graves.

Given that Jesus has already ascended, we are all essentially in Thomas's shoes. We confront daily the question of whether we should believe without having seen. And as Christians, we face two extremes. On the one hand, there is faith without doubt, an impatient faith that would castigate Thomas merely for asking questions. On the other, there is criticism without faith - the person who is blind to the mysteries of faith and fails to acknowledge the existence of things beyond human understanding.

What then makes us believers? To be fair, it probably differs from person to person. But to my mind, I see the love of God. I see the changes that God makes in the lives of everyday people. I as a Christian understand God and feel his presence through Jesus. Also, it seems highly improbable to me that this whole thing is made up; that essentially a fraud has been perpetrated on intelligent humanity for 2000 years. (Remember C.S. Lewis's comment - Jesus could not merely be a wise prophet. Jesus announced himself as God, and having done so, was either God or a madman.) In the end, it is our faith, informed by study, prayer and an openness to receive God, which makes us decide which way we believe.