

# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, September 8, 2019

9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

### THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

#### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

We pray to you, O God: be our helper and protector. Save the afflicted, have mercy on the lowly, raise up the fallen, help the needy, humble the proud, return the lost, feed the hungry, release the captive, heal the sick, revive the weak, and comfort those in fear. All this we ask for the sake of the world you love, and in the name of the one you sent to save us: Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Based on a prayer of Clement of Rome (1st century)*

#### GATHERING THE COMMUNITY

##### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

#### PREPARING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE Trumpet Voluntary Stanley

\* CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 119*

Leader: Happy are those whose way is blameless,  
who walk in the law of the Lord.

People: **Happy are those who keep God's decrees,  
who seek God with their whole heart.**

Leader: I will meditate on your precepts, and fix my eyes on your ways.

People: **I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

\* HYMN OF PRAISE No. 611 HYMN TO JOY

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty and merciful God, we confess that our fears have guided us more than our faith. We are afraid of failure, we are afraid of losing control, and we worry endlessly about the future. We are short-sighted with our love, and do not trust your Spirit to lead us in new paths. Forgive us, gracious God, and help us to leave our fears with you. Let us become Christ's new creation, so filled with hope that we would be living examples of his love and so filled with courage that we would be constant carriers of his cross. We ask it all in Christ's holy name. Amen.**

\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

\* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal, No. 581)

**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.**

*At 11:15 a.m. children in K5-first grade are invited to leave for Children's Church.*

#### THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

9:00 William Rollins Jones

Presentation  
Questions to the Parents  
Question to the Congregation  
Thanksgiving over the Water  
Baptism  
Prayer

# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## Welcome and Congregational Response

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.

*At 9:00 a.m. children in K5-first grade are invited to leave for Children's Church.*

#### HEARING GOD'S WORD

##### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 61:1-3 O.T., p. 603

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 5:1-12 N.T., p. 785

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON Ben Dorr

"Today"

#### 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.**

CONGREGATIONAL CALL TO PRAYER *Hymn No. 471*

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,**

**When I call, answer me,**

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,**

**Come and listen to me.**

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER *Hymnal page 35, Traditional*

##### OFFERING

Offertory "Rejoice and Be Glad" Haas

\* Doxology (Hymnal, No. 606)

**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.**

\* Prayer of Dedication

\* HYMN No. 757 FOR EVERYONE BORN

"Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples"

\* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

\* CHORAL RESPONSE Ulrich

"Gaelic Benediction"

\* POSTLUDE Rondo Bull

*\*All who are able may stand*

# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HEAD USHERS:	9:00 a.m.	Van McClenaghan
	11:15 a.m.	Tonya Cochran
SPONSOR:	9:00 a.m.	Pete Roe
GREETERS:	9:00 a.m.	Parks McLeod, Michael Dixon Ben Alexander
	11:15 a.m.	Brandon Coker, Ashley Gettys Steve Johnson
LITURGIST:		Lauren Slingerland
LAY READERS:	9:00 a.m.	Sam White, Jr.
	11:15 a.m.	Philip Land
ACOLYTES:	9:00 a.m.	Ellie Coker, Ellie Parrott
	11:15 a.m.	Louisa Palmer, Cam Warren

#### 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

All worship services at Westminster are broadcast via live video streaming. Navigate to the home page of the church website at [www.wpc-online.org](http://www.wpc-online.org) and click the link "Worship via Live Streaming."

#### CHURCH NOTES

Musicians leading in worship this Sunday are:

*Nancy Smith, organist*

**9:00 a.m.**

*Derek Pitman, soloist*

**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.

During worship, children in rising K5–1st grade follow one of our ministers out for Children's Church in Room 206.

#### GRAB A NAMETAG THIS SUNDAY!

We will continue to wear nametags each Sunday. Please find them near entrances and gathering areas and share your name with others. You'll be glad you did!

#### LET US PRAY FOR:

*Gretchen Reed & family  
The Family of Helen Pickelsimer*

#### FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**This Sunday, September 8, we will kick off our new Sunday School year with worship at 9:00 a.m., Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. and worship at 11:15 a.m.**

#### MARRIAGE

On Saturday, August 31, 2019, *Laura Williams* and *Corey Sanders* were united in marriage at Westminster.

#### BAPTISM

This morning at the 9:00 a.m. worship service, we welcome into our fellowship *William Rollins Jones*, son of Will & Molly Jones.

#### BAPTISM CLASS

If you are interested in having your child or children baptized at Westminster, you are invited to attend a brief class on baptism taught by Ben Dorr. The next class will be **Sunday, September 15, at 4:00 p.m.** in the **Charter Room**. Please email Michelle in the church office at [michelle@wpc-online.org](mailto:michelle@wpc-online.org) if you are planning to attend. Save the date!

#### 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. on Sunday, September 22**. Those who have been baptized and who wish to become members may do so on **Sunday, September 22**, during the **11:15 a.m.** worship service or on a future new member Sunday. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Jennifer Dillard ([jdillard@wpc-online.org](mailto:jdillard@wpc-online.org)) at 232-2424.

#### In Memoriam

*Helen Wilson Pickelsimer  
8/24/1930 - 9/1/2019*

*"I am the resurrection  
and the life."*

CONNECTIONS GROUP

Connections will meet at **Stella's Southern Brasserie** (340 Rocky Slope Rd.) this **Sunday, September 8** at **12:45 p.m.** All are welcome! Call or email *Ruth Johnston* (ruthjohnst@aol.com or 201-6117) with questions.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Get your day started right with the *"It's Never Too Early to Talk About Jesus"* study and discussion group, meeting again **Tuesday, September 10**, at **6:00 a.m.** in the **Women's Lounge**. This semester we are studying Tish Harrison Warren's book, *The Liturgy of the Ordinary*. Questions? Contact *Kathleen Reynolds* (kathleenmreynolds@yahoo.com or 346-3155).

ADULT GROUPS

- **Needle Arts Group:** Will resume **Wednesday, September 11**, at **6:30 p.m.** in the **Entrance Pavilion**. This is a small group that enjoys working on any needle art such as sewing, knitting, smocking, crochet, needlepoint and other projects. We would love to have you join us while you work on your project or just join us for the companionship of this small group. Group Leader: *Terry Gentry* (tmgentry@charter.net).
- **Hiking Group:** Will hike Burnt Mountain Trail on **Friday, September 27**. Hike Leader: *Buffie Taylor* (ehtaylor87@gmail.com or 640-4554).

THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet at **7:00 p.m.** in the **Charter Room** on **Monday, September 16**. *Jan Haubenreich* will lead the discussion of *Benediction*, a novel by Kent Haruf. Read the book and join us for an interesting evening. All are invited.

YOUNGISH ADULTS

Mark your calendars for the kick off of our Youngish Fellowship & Discussion series on **Wednesday, September 18** at Birds Fly South (1320 Hampton Ave.) from 6:30-8:00ish. Please note that childcare will be available beginning at 6:15p.m. at Westminster. Youngish Adults, which is open to folks 20ish-45ish, meets every first and third Wednesday.

MEN'S GROUP BOOK STUDY

The Men's Group will begin their fall book study on **Monday, September 9**, at **6:00 p.m.** in **Room 209-C**, studying the book, *Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference* by Philip Yancey. All WPC men are invited to participate and newcomers are welcome. For more information, contact *Rick Carpenter* (608-1881).

**SENIOR ADULT LUNCHEON**  
Senior Adults are invited to wear your school colors and join together for the 2nd Annual Fan Appreciation Day. Join us **Tuesday, September 17**, at **12:30 p.m.** in **Room 209**. Lunch is \$7 per person. Reservations must be made by **Thursday, September 12**, with the church office.

UNITED MINISTRIES FOOD PANTRY

The food pantry is in need of peanut butter, dry milk, and other non-perishable food items. Donations may be left in the labeled cabinets in the Friendship Court.

SAVE THE DATE!

The Men of the Church will be back up at Camp Thornwell **October 16-20** for our fall mission trip. We'll have indoor and outdoor construction, demolition, and landscaping projects for all skill levels plus evening fellowship. Come up for some or for all - every bit will help the kids at Thornwell to have fun camp experiences. For questions about Camp Thornwell, our involvement, or to find out how to get involved, please contact *Jeff Reynolds* (rjreynocu@yahoo.com or 617-5152).

**WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER**  
Interested in what Women of Westminster are doing? Contact the church office or *LeAnne White* (leannejw@charter.net) to be added to the email distribution list to keep up to date with monthly volunteer opportunities in our community and with special events throughout the year!

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER Tuesday, September 10

- **Circle #5:** *Ilene Schlacht*, chair (rischlacht@att.net), will meet at **10:00 a.m.** in the **Choir Room**.
- **Circle #3:** *Dee Malone*, chair (dee05m@gmail.com), will meet at the home of *Nancy White* (35 Stillwood Dr.) at **6:00 p.m.**

Wednesday, September 11

- **Circle #6:** *Liz Einstein* (liz.ard.einstein@gmail.com) and *Sherry Tate* (sherrytate63@gmail.com), co-chairs, will meet at **9:00 a.m.** at Liz's home (223 Camille Ave.).

**THE HARBINGER WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
2310 Augusta Road  
Greenville, South Carolina 29605  
(864) 232-2424  
www.wpc-online.org

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CHURCH STAFF

Church 232-2424	Weekday School 232-5766
Pastor	Ben Dorr
	<i>bdorr@wpc-online.org</i>
Associate Pastor	Leigh Stuckey
	<i>lstuckey@wpc-online.org</i>
Associate Pastor	Mary Kathleen Duncan
	<i>mkduncan@wpc-online.org</i>
Associate Pastor	Lauren Slingerland
	<i>lslingerland@wpc-online.org</i>
Parish Associate for Older Adults	Amos Workman
	<i>aworkman@wpc-online.org</i>
Music Director	Mark Kemp
	<i>mkemp@wpc-online.org</i>
Children's Choir Coordinator	Kathryn Knauer
	<i>kknauer@wpc-online.org</i>
Volunteer Coordinator	Jennifer Dillard
	<i>jdillard@wpc-online.org</i>
Organist	Nancy Smith
	<i>nls1949@aol.com</i>
Weekday School Director	Cara Puntch
	<i>cpuntch@wpc-online.org</i>
Financial Secretary	Sherri Owens
	<i>sherri@wpc-online.org</i>
Office Manager	Michelle Little
	<i>michelle@wpc-online.org</i>
Secretary	Wendy Bagley
	<i>wendy@wpc-online.org</i>
Director of Nurseries	Janell Pitman
	<i>jpitman@wpc-online.org</i>
Director of Hospitality	Lisa Ridge
	<i>lisa@wpc-online.org</i>
Building Supervisor	Steve Phillips
	<i>stevp30@bellsouth.net</i>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 8 - 14, 2019

SUNDAY

8:45 a.m.	Witness & Service Committee Meeting
9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	Membership Committee Meeting
10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
11:15 a.m.	Worship Service
12:45 p.m.	Connections Group
5:00 p.m.	Combined Youth Choir
5:30 p.m.	Youth Parent Meeting
6:00 p.m.	Youth Tailgate Party/Trivia
8:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous

MONDAY

6:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study
6:15 p.m.	NAMI
8:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous

TUESDAY

6:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study
10:00 a.m.	Circle #5
11:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
12:00 p.m.	AI-Anon
3:30 p.m.	Heritage Lecture Committee Meeting
6:00 p.m.	Circle #3
7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY

9:30 a.m.	Circle #6
	Weekday Chapel
9:45 a.m.	Weekday Chapel
12:00 p.m.	Worship Committee Meeting
3:00 p.m.	It's Elementary
4:30 p.m.	Junior & Senior Chorister Rehearsal
6:30 p.m.	Needle Arts Group Meeting
7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY

10:00 a.m.	Thursday Bible Study
8:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous

BASKETBALL REGISTRATION BEGINS

Youth ages 5K-12 grade are invited to participate in Christian fellowship and recreational basketball for the upcoming season, which will begin the week of November 16. The 5K-1st grade league will begin Saturday, December 7. WPC members interested in being a coach or assistant coach may contact Bryant Puntch (bryant\_puntch@ucbi.com or 915-5686). **Online player registration opens on Friday, September 6 and will end Thursday, October 10.** Registration and schedules may be accessed on the church's website (<https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/youth-basketball/>).



On Summer Storms, a Poet, Isaiah 61:1-3 and Matthew 5:1-12

After supper a couple of weeks ago, Susan, Hughes and I took the dog out for an evening walk. It had been one of those hot, humid summer days where you knew at some point things were going to boil over and a summer thunderstorm was going to appear. But because it was the three of us, which is rare these days, and because our fourteen-year-old cocker spaniel seemed particularly spry, we went for the long route. At some point the wind came up and the trees began to sway and turn inside out. We were too far from home to get home unscathed. We were at the point where it didn't matter if we turned back or pressed on. If the rains came, either direction was likely to result in our being drenched. It was an uncomfortable place to be.

On that walk, naturally, I was thinking about my family's safety and the rain and the trees and the lightning. But I also had been thinking about a sermon Ben had given a week earlier. The sermon was about blind spots, but it was the sermon's phrase 'spiritually uncomfortable' that I had in mind at that point. On our walk, we had put ourselves in a position where we were not in full control of our fate. We had turned over our fate to other forces. We had left our comfort zone. Maybe I am doing it wrong, but I don't think I leave my comfort zone nearly enough - spiritually, meteorologically, or otherwise.

I count among my friends someone who does push me out of my comfort zone - spiritually, socially, emotionally. She is a poet. To see her perform is to see the very same power that we witnessed on our evening walk. Not the power to sway the trees, but the power to change the hearts, minds and actions of those she encounters. She is a force of nature. As a poet, she is an artist and her medium is her words, but her subject matter is love and oppression and family and mourning and righteousness. And as a poet and an artist her job is to see and feel and shine it back to us so we can see and feel it too. When she says 'I wish you black sons' she shows me my blind spots and shows me what a real hunger and thirst for righteousness sound like. It's uncomfortable - spiritually, socially, emotionally.

The verses in Isaiah 61 and the Beatitudes shine back at us too. Maybe I am doing it wrong, but when I read those verses it's uncomfortable. I don't see all the qualities and actions that I seem to strive for in my life. Maybe I am just doing what's comfortable and safe. Maybe I should strive to be spiritually uncomfortable. Maybe that's just a good start. Maybe there are also spots throughout my life that are too comfortable - socially, emotionally.

Maybe I don't get too far from home often enough.

Scott Clark

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

We at Westminster believe that education is essential for discipleship, and hope that what you learn in this place will transform your living beyond our doors. Each quarter we offer three classes, covering topics that range from theology and Biblical literacy to culture. This quarter kicks off on **Sunday, September 8**, and will run each Sunday **through October 27**. You are welcome to join any class at any point!

#### 1. Rabble-Rousers, Protesters, and Priests: Ancient Heresies and their Modern Manifestations

The first centuries after that very first Easter were filled with lively debate, drunken monks, and pedantic scholars all attempting to understand how to coherently articulate the radical faith they found in Jesus. In *Rabble-Rousers, Protesters, and Priests* we will explore the long-forgotten characters who formed our faith and the early debates that shaped orthodoxy and still crop up today. For instance: is Jesus fully God?, must priests be “holy” to be effective in their ministry?, was Jesus more “spirit” than flesh?, and are works necessary to salvation? Join us for an immersive jaunt in early church history, and learn something about living faith in the 21st century.

**Teacher:** Leigh Stuckey, an Associate Pastor at Westminster, with occasional guest spots by Pastors Ben Dorr, Mary Kathleen Duncan, and Lauren Slingerland.

**Room:** 209

#### 2. Moral Leadership for a Divided Age

Great moral leaders inspire and unite us. In the midst of our increasingly divided age, examining remarkable leaders can help us understand the central qualities of moral leadership and discover lessons for our own lives and times. Using David Gushee and Colin Holtz’s recent compilation *Moral Leadership for a Divided Age: Fourteen People who Dared to Change our World*, this discussion-based class will explore the lives and messages of 14 brilliant, flawed leaders who have helped shape our world.

**Teacher:** Judith Chandler, a member of Westminster, has taught at Furman's Lifelong Learning Institute since its inception. She is also a recognized local artist.

**Room:** 210

#### 3. Bless this Mess: Parenting in the 21st Century

Raising children is hard work, and “perfect” parenting is an alluring myth. Using *Bless This Mess: A Modern Guide to Faith and Parenting in a Chaotic World* by the Reverend Molly Baskette and Ellen O’Donnell, a child psychologist, this biblically based class will explore what it means to be a parent and maintain your sanity.

**Teacher:** Cara Puntch is a certified educator with experience in classrooms and at the Greenville School District, is the Director of the Westminster Weekday School, and a mother of three.

**Room:** 213

Sunday School for children and youth will begin this Sunday, September 8, at 10:00 a.m., and classes will be combined differently this year. 2K will meet in Room 108, on our lowest floor, 3K in Room 109 and 4K in Room 110. 5K and 1st grade will meet together in Room 123. Grades 2 and 3 will meet together in Room 119. Grades 4 and 5 will meet together in Room 116.

Grades 6, 7, and 8 will meet together as a class in Room 301A and Grades 9–12 will meet in the Youth Suite. Confirmation Class will meet in 300B&C.

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