

The Harbinger

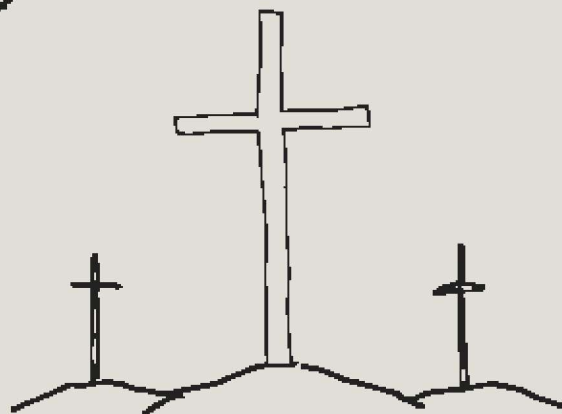
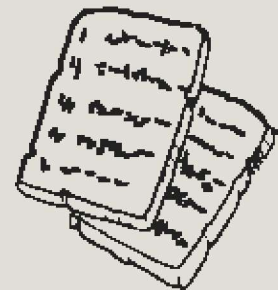
YOUTH SUNDAY
February 9, 2020
9:00 & 11:15am

Westminster Presbyterian Church
Open hearts open minds.



Can
questions and
faith coexist?

- of course
- hmm maybe
- no way





— THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP —

Any questions and doubts are welcome in worship. God is not biting fingernails, nervous about tough questions. God is also not going to be angry or annoyed by doubt. We have a big God. By being willing to entertain questions, you present both yourself and Jesus as safe and trustworthy. Our prayer is that the Holy Spirit will move deeply among us as we wrestle with faith's deep and challenging questions.

— Adapted from "Can I ask That? A Sticky Faith Curriculum"

— GATHERING —

Welcome and Announcements

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

People: **And also with you.**

— PREPARING FOR GOD'S WORD —

Opening

"One Voice"

Moody

Call to Worship

Hughes Clark

One: God is good. All the time.

Many: **All the time. God is good.**

One: We come as we are —

All: **broken and burdened, gifted and beloved,
questioning and full of faith.**

One: We come seeking —

Many: **healing in God's goodness, purpose in God's calling
comfort in God's embrace.**

All: **Let us worship the God whose goodness never fails!**

Hymn of Praise no. 664

"Morning Has Broken"

BUNESSAN

Call to Confession

Bruce Usher

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and forgiving God, as we reflect on the past week, we realize that we have strayed from the path of discipleship. Our focus on appearance, schedules, and other trivial matters has hindered our ability to devote ourselves to your love and light. Please help us to move past the worries of our own lives and to focus instead on living out your plan for us and making the world a better place for all of your children. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Rush Sheppard

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel
People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

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 with out end, amen, amen.**

Response

“Beautiful Things”

Gungor

K5 & 1st Graders will leave for Children’s Church following the Response.

Children’s Church this morning will be led by

Avery Howard, Sarah Grace Givens, and Mary Lawrence Tiller.

— HEARING GOD’S WORD (9:00AM) —

Prayer for Illumination William Dennis

Scripture, *Jeremiah 29:11-14* Cameron Barnhardt

Reflection “Does God Have a Plan for My Life?” Grace Dunn

Scripture, *1 Samuel 1:7, 3:4-8* Ellison Mallico

Reflection “How Do We Wait on God?” Madeleine Hopkins

Scripture, *1 John 4:7-13* Davis Usher

Reflection “Is God Real?” Emma Skelton

Scripture, *Psalms 121* Thomas Edmondson

Reflection “Does God Still Speak Directly to People?” Kate Edmondson

Scripture, *1 John 5:14-16* Brice Woodhouse

Reflection “How Should We Speak to God?” Cooper Kemp

— HEARING GOD’S WORD (11:15AM) —

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture, *Matthew 6:31-33*

Chloe Draganic

Reflection

“Does God Have a Plan for Me?”

Holly Dumpert

Scripture, *Ephesians 4:31-33*

Molly Morgan

Reflection

“How Do I Forgive Others?”

Morgan Key

Scripture, *Psalms 139:7-12*

Anna Sanders

Reflection

“Where is God?”

Eli Gosnell

Scripture, *Psalms 118:5-9*

Andrew Morrow

Reflection

“What is Trust?”

Kell Runnion

Scripture, *Matthew 22:37-40*

Cara DuBose

Reflection

“How Do We Accept Others?”

Ellie DuBose

Scripture, *John 1:1-5*

Kayla Burrell

Reflection

“How is God Present in My Life?”

Ellis McLarty

— RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD —

Hymn of Praise no. 300

“One in the Spirit”

SCHOLTES

Affirmation of Faith

Trey Sanders

**We believe that God is still creating,
making all things new through the living waters of God’s grace.
We believe that God is still loving,
showing us embodied love through the life of Christ,
and the movement of the Spirit.
We believe that God is still calling,
guiding us to follow the lead of God’s love on a path of discipleship.
We believe that God is still forming the body of Christ,
Uniting us all in one family of God, to share our siblings’ joys,
carry our siblings’ burdens,
and strive together for the peaceful world God envisioned.
The love of God is the source of our joy.
The love of God will not let us go.**

-from Montreat Youth Conference 2019

Prayers of Intercession and Thanksgiving

Emma Shurley

The Lord’s Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Service of Offering

Ellie Greer

Offertory

“Requiem”

arr. Hustad

*mother mary, full of grace, awaken
all our homes are gone, our loved ones taken taken by the sea.
mother mary, calm our fears, have mercy
drowning in a sea of tears, have mercy
hear our mournful plea our world has been shaken,
we wander our homelands forsaken*

*in the dark night of the soul bring some comfort to us all,
o mother mary come and carry us in your embrace that our sorrows may be faced*

*mary, fill the glass to overflowing illuminate the path where we are going
have mercy on us all in funeral fires burning each flame to your mystery returning*

*in the dark night of the soul your shattered dreamers, make them whole,
o mother mary find us where we've fallen out of grace, lead us to a higher place*

*in the dark night of the soul our broken hearts you can make whole.
o mother mary come and carry us in your embrace, let us see your gentle face, mary.*

Doxology

**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

Grayson White

Hymn no. 543

“God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me”

GREEN TYLER

Charge & Benediction

The Class of 2020

Postlude

Recessional in C

Young

If you are visiting this morning we extend you a special welcome. Westminster Presbyterian Church (USA) is a community of faith open to all.

We Remember in Prayer

Robert E. McEldowney, IV •

June 29, 1970 – January 31, 2020

Roger O. Hotchkiss •

November 3, 1937 – February 3, 2020

and

The family of Bert McEldowney

The family of Roger Hotchkiss

The family of Betty Rogers

Nursery Care This Morning

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

JOIN US • New Member Class

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 9:00-10:30a on Sunday, February 16th. Those who have been baptized and wish to become members may do so on February 16th during the 11:15a service of worship or on a future New Member Sunday. If you are interested in joining us please contact Jennifer Dillard (jdillard@wpc-online.org) or the Church Office.

Parking for WPC Services

We have permission to use the parking lots at both the Uniform Shop (next to the Fellowship Hall), the Augusta Commons Mall, and the TD Bank parking lot.

Crossing Augusta St.

A Greenville city police officer will be on duty from 9:45a-12:45p to help people crossing the street. Please be mindful of the Officer and pedestrians when leaving the WPC parking lot.

LEADING WORSHIP • This Morning

Musicians leading in worship this morning:

Nancy Smith, organist

The Westminster Youth Choir

Ellis McLarty, cello

Head Ushers this morning:

Pete Sweeny (9:00a), Bryant Puntch (11:15a)

Greeters this morning:

Scott Clark, Catherine Pollock, Grier Mullins (9:00a), Ben Edwards, Rita Barker, Ashley Gettys (11:15a)

OPEN MINDS • Education@WPC

At Westminster we believe that an informed discipleship is critical to faithful living, and we hope that what you learn in this place will transform your living beyond our doors.

Adult Classes meet in the 200 Hall

- *God Save this Honorable Court: What Christians Should Know about the Supreme Court* • Ted Gentry / Room 209
- *Bible Stories We Almost Remember* • Judith Chandler / Room 210
- *Riddles from Long Ago: Unpacking Jesus' Parables for the 21st Century* • Leigh Stuckey / Room 212

Westminster offers Sunday School classes for all ages. Children meet throughout the 100 hall and youth meet on the third floor. To find out more, please ask a greeter.

OPEN HEARTS • Gathering@WPC

ADULT GROUPS MEETING THIS WEEK

- *Connections*, a lunch group for older adults, February 9th, 12:45p, Lieu's Chinese Bistro (1149 Woodruff Rd.). Led by Mary Ann Cox.
- *Men's Group Book Study*, February 10th, 6:00p, Room 209C. Studying *The Bible Jesus Read* (P. Yancey). Led by Rick Carpenter.
- *Luncheon Group*, February 12th, 12:00p, Room 211 at Westminster. Led by Mary Ann Cox.
- *Needle Arts Group*, February 12th, 6:30p, Entrance Pavillion. Led by Terry Gentry.
- *Couples Bible Study for ages 50+*, February 12th, 7:00p, Charter Room. Led by Dick & Mary Sargent.
- *Pride & Presbyterians*, a fellowship group for LGBTQ+ members, February 13th, 6:00p, The Commons (147 Welborn St.). Contact Ellis Bellew for more information.

OPEN HEARTS • Upcoming Events

Circles Meeting this Week

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER

Tuesday, February 11

- *Circle 5* • Ilene Schlact, chair; meeting at 10:00a in the WPC Charter Room.
- *Circle 3* • Dee Malone, chair; meeting at 4:00p at the home of Sallie White.

Wednesday, February 12

- *Circle 6* • Liz Einstein & Sherry Tate, co-chairs; meeting at 9:00a at Sherry's home.

Theology Reading Group

FEBRUARY 17TH, *THE LINE BECOMES A RIVER*

The Theology reading group will meet on Monday, February 17th at 7:00p in Westminster's Charter Room. WPC member Walter Hinton will lead a discussion based on Francisco Cantu's *The Line Becomes a River*. Join us for a thought-provoking discussion. All are welcome.

K5-5th Grade Basketball Banquet

FEBRUARY 19TH, \$5

Celebrate the '19-'20 WPC basketball season at the K5-5th Grade Banquet. Each team will be recognized and trophies will be awarded. A nursery will be available for children under three. Dinner includes pizza, salad, and desert. Please indicate when signing up if you require a gluten-friendly option. Sign up online at wpc-online.org. Serving lines will be open from 5:45p-6:15p. The banquet will conclude by 6:45p.

Senior Adult Luncheon

FEBRUARY 20TH

Who is your favorite former president? Help us celebrate President's Day by joining us for the Senior Adult luncheon at noon on Thursday, February 20th. The meal is \$7/person. RSVP to the church office by Tuesday, February 18th.

This Week at Westminster

Sunday

9:00a Worship
Creation Stewardship
10:00 Sunday School
11:15 Worship
12:30p New Elder Training
12:45 Connections Lunch
4:30 First Steps Music Class
8:00 Alcoholics Anonymous

Monday

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

Tuesday

10:00a Circle #5
11:00 Staff Meeting
12:00p Al-Anon
4:00 Circle #3
7:00 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday

9:00a Circle #6
9:30 Weekday School Chapel
9:45 Weekday School Chapel
12:00p Luncheon Group
3:00 It's Elementary
3:30 Cherub Choir Rehearsal
4:30 Jr. & Sr. Choristers
6:30 Needle Arts Group
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Couples 50+ Bible Study

Thursday

10:00a Thursday Bible Study
6:00p Pride & Presbyterians
8:00 Narcotics Anonymous






Friday

9:00p Mission Team Returns

Please hold the 2020 Adult Construction Mission Team in prayer. They will be in Barahona, Dominican Republic from Sunday, February 9th - Friday, February 14th.

FIND US ONLINE

To learn more about WPC's programming and stay up to date, find WPC online:

 facebook.com/wpcgreenville
 twitter.com/wpcgreenville
 wpcgreenville / wpc_yg / wpc_kids
 youtube.com/wpcgreenville
 wpc-online.org

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Steve Philips,
Building Supervisor

QUESTIONS OF FAITH • Art & Faith

Today's Harbinger Cover is a commission by John Blair Hartman, III

CREATED ESPECIALLY FOR OUR YOUTH GROUP IN 2019 AND 2020.

This year's youth ministry theme is "Questions of Faith." At our back to school retreat at Look Up Lodge in August of 2019, over 100 youth submitted questions they wrestle with as people of faith. These questions have been used to guide our Sunday night youth group discussions and lessons and they have opened our minds and hearts to how God might be speaking to us today. We invite all worshippers into this space of questioning with us today. Be sure to check out our exciting art installations in the Atrium. The posters hanging from the ceiling are original works of art, based on the questions we have studied this year. They were commissioned by Westminster from artist Blair Hartman. The question marks spanning the space were made by both youth groups on Sunday, January 26th as part of a devotion on Jonah. May you feel the Holy Spirit's movement through our senior reflections, adapted and original liturgy, and powerful music choices.

"Requiem" • Notes on the Anthem

A note on today's anthem, Eliza Gilkyson's "Requiem."

Requiem was written by American folk-singer and lyricist Eliza Gilkyson in response to the the devastating Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami of 2004. The tsunami left over 230,000 dead and displaced many more. Moved by immediate and global grief, Gilkyson addressed "Requiem" to Mary, a figure common in many faith communities. Traditional requiems (sung during Catholic masses for the dead) often utilize Mary as a central conversation partner. However Gilkyson sought a more universal "mary," a woman who could stand in as a bearer and transformer of grief, a figure who heard the cries of the living and the dead. Gilkyson's original poetry, as reflected in this text, intentionally does not capitalize "mother mary" to indicate inclusivity for all who turn to their beliefs in times of sorrow. By doing so, Gilkyson acknowledged that a global event such as this tsunami has an effect on all of God's creation, not simply one segment and one religion. This youth Sunday, as we ask questions of faith, this anthem helps us voice strength in community, comfort in grief, and the assurance of divine presence in our sorrow.