

**WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**THE ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Sunday, February 23, 2020**

**9:00 and 11:15 a.m.**

*Transfiguration of the Lord*

**PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

Almighty God, your Son was revealed in majesty before suffering death upon the cross. Grant us faith to perceive his glory, that being strengthened by his grace, we may be changed into his likeness, from glory into glory. Let the voice that the disciples heard long ago guide our feet and gird our way, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. Amen.

**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 “Come, Thou Almighty King” arr. Hustad

\* CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 99:1-3*

Leader: The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble!

People: **God sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!**

Leader: The Lord is great in Zion; God is exalted over all the peoples.

People: **Let us praise God’s great and awesome name.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

\* HYMN OF PRAISE No. 41 LYONS

“O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!”

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of compassion, in Jesus Christ you reveal the light of your glory, but we turn away, distracted by our own plans. We confess that we speak when we should listen, and act when we should wait. Forgive our aimless enthusiasms. Grant us good memories, so that we would recall the breadth and depth and height and length of your love, a love that created the world and sent Jesus Christ to be our light. Give us wisdom to live in that light and follow his holy way. 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.**

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

**WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**HEARING GOD’S WORD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Exodus 24:12-18 O.T., p. 62

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 17:1-9 N.T., p. 798

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON Ben Dorr

“Overshadowed and Overcome”

**RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD**

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *from The Confession of 1967*

**God’s sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God’s love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God’s love.**

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER 11:15 Guimont

“Exalt the Lord Our God”

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING

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

OFFERING

Solo 9:00 “Cry No More” Forrest

Anthem 11:15 “O Nata Lux” Lauridsen

*O Light, born of Light, Jesus, redeemer of the world,*

*mercifully deem worthy and accept the praises and prayers of your supplicants.*

*Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh for the sake of the lost,*

*grant us to be members of your holy body.*

\* 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. 687 ST. ANNE

“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”

\* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

\* CHORAL RESPONSE 11:15 “Amen” Lutkin

\* POSTLUDE “The Heavens Declare the Glory of God” Marcello

*\*All who are able may stand*

**WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

<b>HEAD USHERS:</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Pete Sweeny
	<b>11:15 a.m.</b>	Bryant Puntch
<b>SPONSOR:</b>		Coleman Kirven
<b>GREETERS:</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Mike Hall, Michael Dixon
		Freddie Williams
	<b>11:15 a.m.</b>	Brian Blount, Elizabeth McElveen
		Sarah Beasley
<b>LITURGIST:</b>		Lauren Slingerland
<b>LAY READERS:</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Will Murphy
	<b>11:15 a.m.</b>	Kelly Gillespie
<b>ACOLYTES:</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Woody Bohman, Budd Reynolds
	<b>11:15 a.m.</b>	Anna Puntch, Claire Puntch

**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.**

*Mark Kemp, 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 K5–1st grade follow one of our ministers out for Children’s Church in Room 206.

**ASH WEDNESDAY AT**

**WESTMINSTER:**

Ash Wednesday is February 26 this year and it begins the Lenten season of the Christian year. This year we will hold two nearly identical services – one at **12:15 p.m.** and one at **7:00 p.m.** Both will be held in the sanctuary, will include the imposition of ashes and preaching, and will last approximately 45 minutes. The sanctuary choir will sing at the 7:00 p.m. service.

**WESTMINSTER BOOK CLUB**

On Tuesday, March 3, the Westminster Book Club will read Before We Were Yours by Lisa Wingate. This riveting, wrenching, and ultimately uplifting tale reminds us how, even though the paths we take can lead to many places, the heart never forgets where we belong. The discussion will be led by Kay Payne and Sherry Tate.

**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.

**LET US PRAY FOR:**

*The Family of Bert McEldowney  
The Family of Roger Hotchkiss  
Kimberly DuBose and Family*

NEW MEMBERS

Last Sunday, we welcomed the following new members into our fellowship:

- **Paige Cole** joined by transfer from Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian, Mt. Pleasant, SC.
- **Adam & Abbie Coleman** Adam joined by transfer from Lake City First Baptist, Lake City, SC. Abbie joined by transfer from Welcome Baptist, Anderson.
- **Tyler & Mary Knight Felt** joined by reaffirmation of faith.
- **Justin & Sarah Floyd** joined by reaffirmation of faith. They have a son, Rhodes (1).
- **Eric & Nola Janelle Hardaway** joined by reaffirmation of faith. They have two children, Madeline (7) and Whitley (3).
- **Becky Kaplan** joined by transfer from St. Michael Lutheran, Fort Myers, FL.
- **Reed & Harriett-Graham Kramer** joined by reaffirmation of faith.
- **Margaret Murphy** joined by reaffirmation of faith. She has two children, Penn (6) and Mary Mac (4).
- **Mike & Lisa Potter** joined by transfer from St. Matthew United Methodist, Greenville. They have three children (twins) Shawn and Abigail (19) and Thomas (9).
- **Gram & Ashley Praytor** joined by transfer from Belin United Methodist Church, Murrells Inlet, SC. They have three children, Miles (5), Eloise (2), and Hazel (8 mos).
- **Chase Randolph** joined by reaffirmation of faith.
- **Bryan & Valerie Royal** joined by transfer from Mitchell Road Presbyterian, Greenville. They have two children, Brayden (9) and Drew (6).
- **Aaron & Rebecca Taylor** joined by transfer from First Presbyterian, Greenville. They have two children, Reynolds (8) and Pierson (5).
- **Mark Wilkinson** joined by reaffirmation of faith.

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!

MEN'S GROUP BOOK STUDY

The Men's Group will meet again on **Monday, February 24, at 6:00 p.m. in Room 209-C.** We are studying the book, *The Bible Jesus Read*, by Philip Yancey. All WPC men are invited to participate and newcomers are welcome. For more information, contact *Rick Carpenter* (608-1881).

ADULT GROUPS

**Hiking Group:** Will leave **Friday, February 28**, and drive to Georgetown for lunch and exploring. Saturday will be an 8-mile kayak paddle to Bull Island, followed by a 6-mile hike on the island. Arrival back in Greenville should be Sunday by mid-afternoon. Leader: *Durden Collins* (durden.collins@gmail.com).

CONNECTIONS GROUP

Connections, a couples and singles lunch/brunch group, will meet at **The Lazy Goat** (170 Riverplace) on **Sunday, March 8 at 12:45 p.m.** Make your reservation *by Friday, March 6* with *Ruth Johnston* (ruthjohnst51@gmail.com or 201-6117). Newcomers are welcome!

**Save the dates for  
Vacation Bible School  
this summer!**

**August 3 - August 7  
9 a.m. - 12 noon**

**Classes for ages in rising  
K5-5th grades and  
volunteer opportunities  
for all ages.**

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






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FIND WPC ONLINE

Visit us online to find up-to-date photos, videos and information about our programming:  
<http://www.wpc-online.org>.

-  facebook.com/wpcgreenville
-  twitter.com/wpcgreenville
-  instagram.com/wpcgreenville
-  youtube.com/wpcgreenville
-  gplus.to/wpc

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 23 - 29, 2020

SUNDAY

- Women of Westminster Retreat*
- 9:00 a.m. Worship Service
  - Confirmation Class Meeting
  - 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
  - 11:15 a.m. Worship Service
  - 4:30 p.m. First Steps Music Class
  - 5:00 p.m. APNC Meeting
  - Middler Group Meeting
  - 5:15 p.m. Senior High Choir Rehearsal
  - 6:00 p.m. Youth Dinner
  - 6:30 p.m. Middler Choir Rehearsal
  - Senior High Group Meeting
  - 8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

- 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 12:00 p.m. AI-Anon
- 4:30 p.m. Gifts & Gratitude Committee Meeting

WEDNESDAY

- 9:30 a.m. Weekday Chapel
- 9:45 a.m. Weekday Chapel
- 12:15 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service
- 3:00 p.m. It's Elementary!
- 3:30 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal
- 4:30 p.m. Junior & Senior Choristers
- 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Evening Service
- 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

*Hiking Group to Low Country*

SATURDAY

*Hiking Group to Low Country*



TRANSFIGURATION

In our passage for today the Lord travels with three of his closest disciples to a secluded place on the mountain, high up and away from the group. He has just told His followers that "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me" and he knows what God has in his plan for our salvation. We hear dramatic and meaningful elements, such as the appearance of Moses and Elijah, figures that some see as representing the law and the prophets, as well as the terrifying and unexpected voice from the cloud speaking for all to hear claiming Jesus as his own. This passage describing the Transfiguration of Christ bears witness to the true divinity of Jesus and to the power that he has been given, but I think that it may have something to say more directly to each of us.

I hear in these words a map or template for how we all should view our own worship experience. In Jesus's words and actions, as he acknowledges and demonstrates his relationship with God, we all may see a model of how we can better approach Christ in prayer and build each other towards the Kingdom of Heaven.

Firstly, Jesus did not approach the mountain alone. He invited those closest to him to join in the journey with him. I believe that he recognized that the work of God cannot best be accomplished in isolation and that it requires a community to allow its fullest expression. Following in the footsteps of Moses who approached the mountain of God with Joshua, Jesus felt compelled to bring witnesses and supporters to join him on his path. I believe that he was demonstrating that our faith is best fostered within relationship to one another in worship.

This passage also is clear about the sense of power and might that the disciples felt as they witnessed the spectacle being shown to them. The fire and light that radiated through Christ is unambiguous and the bright cloud that descended on the group was overwhelming to them all. This feeling of awe and reverence that Peter, James, and John demonstrated is an experience that I try to foster in my life and I think is key to bringing meaning to why I worship.

There is also an undeniable theme of change in this passage. Christ, though he begged to keep it secret, was physically changed in his appearance and in his relationships while on the mountain. In the same way, we are truly changed in our baptism and in our profession of faith and belief in the risen Christ. He felt that his change must remain secret for a while, while ours may and should be proclaimed always in worship and in the living of our life.

Lastly, Christ offered his terrified followers a release from the fear that the awesome power of God had caused in them. He came and touched them, saying "Don't be afraid." In this personal and intimate gesture Christ demonstrates how we are to accept our life in worship and support one another. Despite his glorification he immediately chose to stoop and raise up the people for whom he cared. I pray that we all may be freed from fear to lift up those who are in need, with Christ's help.