



# Westminster Presbyterian Church

## Order of Worship for May 16, 2021

In-Person at 9:00 am

### GATHERING

*Please greet each other warmly as the congregation gathers for worship.  
Take a moment and sign the virtual friendship register.*

### WELCOME

#### ◆ SONG OF PREPARATION                      Come Into God's Presence

Come into God's presence singing "Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lord."

Praise the Lord together singing "Worthy the Lamb, worthy the Lamb, worthy the Lamb."

Praise the Lord together singing "Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God."

#### ◆ WORDS OF PRAISE

PSALM 20

One: Now this I know: The Lord gives victory to his anointed.

**All: He answers him from his heavenly sanctuary  
with the victorious power of his right hand.**

One: Some trust in chariots and some in horses,  
but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

**All: They are brought to their knees and fall,  
but we rise up and stand firm.**

One: Lord, give victory to the king!

**All: Answer us when we call!**

#### ◆ PRAYER

#### ◆ SONG OF PRAISE                      Surely It Is God Who Saves Me

Refrain:

Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and God will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing, from the springs of salvation  
and on that day you shall say, "Give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's name." (Refrain)

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion; ring out your joy,  
for the great one in the midst of you, is the Holy One of Israel. (Refrain)

## CONFESSION

### ◆CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS

Mighty God, we confess to you our fearful hearts. We look around us and see a world that feels dangerous and out of control. There are storms on all sides - waves that are ready to swamp our little boats and drown us and those whom we love. We easily forget you are the Creator God who rules the wind and the waves. We panic and accuse you of leaving us in danger, when all along your sovereign power is at work for good in our lives, even in the most painful and distressing circumstances. You hold in your hands our health, our money, our careers, our relationships, our children - everything we have and everything we are.

### ◆SILENT PRAYERS

### ◆DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS AND HEALING

### ◆SONG OF RESPONSE We are Forgiven

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.  
We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

### ◆PASSING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

*Please share the peace of Christ with your neighbor.*

## THE WORD

TIME FOR CHILDREN TO SHINE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Nehemiah 4:1-23

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Return, Rebuild, and Renew: Nehemiah's Life after Exile  
iv. Life and Persistence

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### ◆SONG OF RESPONSE

When Trials Come

Insert

◆DECLARATION 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 THE PEOPLE

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.

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

SENDING OUT

◆SENDING SONG                      You Shall Go Out with Joy

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;  
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you; there'll be shouts of joy,  
and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands.

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands (clap! clap!)  
the trees of the field will clap their hands; (clap! clap!)  
the trees of the field will clap their hands (clap! clap!) while you go out with joy.

◆BLESSING

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◆*Please stand, if able*

Leading the service today: Daniel Smoak, Pastor; Lissa Long, Pastor; Janie Bruce, Director of Youth and Children; Nancy Parrish, Music;

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory of  
Bob and Nella Peele, with love from their family.

Ushers are Grahame Long, Dee Bee Wright, John Wright, Graham Wade.

### NEHEMIAH 4:1-23

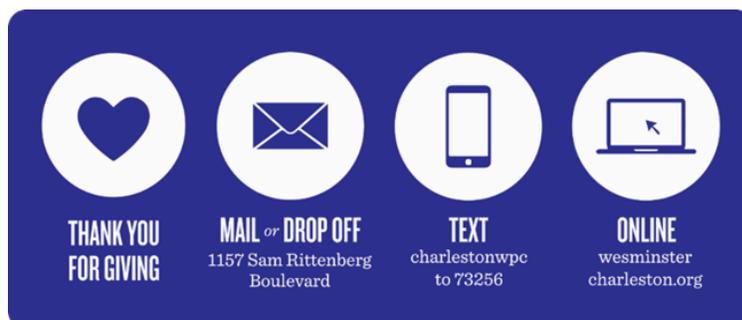
<sup>1</sup> Now when Sanballat heard that we were building the wall, he was angry and greatly enraged, and he jeered at the Jews. <sup>2</sup> And he said in the presence of his brothers and of the army of Samaria, “What are these feeble Jews doing? Will they restore it for themselves? Will they sacrifice? Will they finish up in a day? Will they revive the stones out of the heaps of rubbish, and burned ones at that?” <sup>3</sup> Tobiah the Ammonite was beside him, and he said, “Yes, what they are building—if a fox goes up on it he will break down their stone wall!” <sup>4</sup> Hear, O our God, for we are despised. Turn back their taunt on their own heads and give them up to be plundered in a land where they are captives. <sup>5</sup> Do not cover their guilt, and let not their sin be blotted out from your sight, for they have provoked you to anger in the presence of the builders. <sup>6</sup> So we built the wall. And all the wall was joined together to half its height, for the people had a mind to work.

<sup>7</sup> But when Sanballat and Tobiah and the Arabs and the Ammonites and the Ashdodites heard that the repairing of the walls of Jerusalem was going forward and that the breaches were beginning to be closed, they were very angry. <sup>8</sup> And they all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and to cause confusion in it. <sup>9</sup> And we prayed to our God and set a guard as a protection against them day and night.

<sup>10</sup> In Judah it was said, “The strength of those who bear the burdens is failing. There is too much rubble. By ourselves we will not be able to rebuild the wall.” <sup>11</sup> And our enemies said, “They will not know or see till we come among them and kill them and stop the work.” <sup>12</sup> At that time the Jews who lived near them came from all directions and said to us ten times, “You must return to us.” <sup>13</sup> So in the lowest parts of the space behind the wall, in open places, I stationed the people by their clans, with their swords, their spears, and their bows. <sup>14</sup> And I looked and arose and said to the nobles and to the officials and to the rest of the people, “Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your homes.”

<sup>15</sup> When our enemies heard that it was known to us and that God had frustrated their plan, we all returned to the wall, each to his work. <sup>16</sup> From that day on, half of my servants worked on construction, and half held the spears, shields, bows, and coats of mail. And the leaders stood behind the whole house of Judah, <sup>17</sup> who were building on the wall. Those who carried burdens were loaded in such a way that each labored on the work with one hand and held his weapon with the other. <sup>18</sup> And each of the builders had his sword strapped at his side while he built. The man who sounded the trumpet was beside me. <sup>19</sup> And I said to the nobles and to the officials and to the rest of the people, “The work is great and widely spread, and we are separated on the wall, far from one another. <sup>20</sup> In the place where you hear the sound of the trumpet, rally to us there. Our God will fight for us.”

<sup>21</sup> So we labored at the work, and half of them held the spears from the break of dawn until the stars came out. <sup>22</sup> I also said to the people at that time, “Let every man and his servant pass the night within Jerusalem, that they may be a guard for us by night and may labor by day.” <sup>23</sup> So neither I nor my brothers nor my servants nor the men of the guard who followed me, none of us took off our clothes; each kept his weapon at his right hand.



# When Trials Come

Words and music written by Keith & Kristyn Getty

Moderately, with hope (♩ = 100)

B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>6 E<sup>b</sup>/B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>/G

1. When tri - als come, no long - er fear, for in the pain our God draws near, to  
 2. With in the night I know Your peace; the breath of God brings strength to me, and  
 3. I turn to wis - dom not my own for ev - 'ry bat - tle You have known. My  
 4. When I am wea - ry with the cost, I see the tri - umph of the cross; So  
 5. One day all things will be made new; I'll see the hope You called me to and

A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>/G (N.C.) Cm<sup>7</sup> E<sup>b</sup>/G A<sup>b</sup>maj<sup>7</sup> B<sup>b</sup>

fire a faith worth more than gold; and there His faith - ful - ness is  
 new each morn - ing mer - cy flows, as treas - ures of the dark - ness  
 con - fi - dence will rest in You; Your love en - dures; Your ways are  
 in its shad - ow I shall run, till You com - plete the work be -  
 in Your king - dom paved with gold, I'll praise Your faith - ful - ness of

Cm<sup>7</sup> E<sup>b</sup>/G A<sup>b</sup>maj<sup>7</sup> B<sup>b</sup>7 1. - 4. E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>add<sup>9</sup> A<sup>b</sup>/B<sup>b</sup> 5. E<sup>b</sup>

told; and there His faith - ful - ness is told.  
 grow, as treas - ures of the dark ness grow.  
 good. Your love en - dures; Your ways are good.  
 gun; till You com - plete the work be - gun.  
 old; I'll praise Your faith - ful - ness of old.

## WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER

- We are delighted you have joined us for in-person or online worship, and we hope you are encouraged and strengthened in the faith.
- The nursery is available for children 2 and under in the Preschool Building. We'll gather pertinent information upon check-in and be able to contact you during the service should a need arise.
- Parents who need to step out of the sanctuary for a while to tend to the needs of infants or small children can find privacy down the hall in the church parlor, family restroom, or in the church nursery.
- Worship bags and worship worksheets are available in the narthex for preschool and elementary age children.
- Following Time for Children (11:00 only) children ages 3-5k will gather in the narthex with Mrs. Janie and then be led to the playground (weather permitting) or Covenant Hall for Children's Church with adult leaders. Parents may pick them up following the service.
- Hearing devices, magnifying sheets, and large print hymnals are available in the narthex.
- If you have a prayer request or questions about faith, life, or being part of the Westminster family, we invite you to reach out by call or text to one of our pastors.
  - o Pastor Daniel Smoak: 843-872-1001
  - o Pastor Lissa Long: 843-810-2232
- For more information about Westminster or to subscribe to our weekly ENews and email updates visit [www.wpccharleston.org](http://www.wpccharleston.org)

## VIRTUAL FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

Please let us know you're here by completing the Virtual Friendship Register. Simply scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to open or find on our website under the Quick Links, Virtual Friendship Register.



## COVID PROTOCOLS FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP

*Thank you for following these protocols which enable weekly in-person worship without interruption.*

1. Hand sanitizer is available and should be used upon entering.
2. Everyone is required to wear a mask upon entering and for the duration of the service.
3. Seating is socially distanced starting at the front of the sanctuary. Please allow ushers to seat you and your family.
4. During Time for Children, the children will remain with their family in the pew. Following Time for Children at 11:00, adult leaders will lead children ages 3-5k to the Playground (weather permitting) or Covenant Hall for Children's Church. Parents may pick them up following the service.
5. At the end of the service, the ushers will dismiss the congregation by row from the side aisles, beginning at the rear of the sanctuary.
6. Offering plates are at the entrances/exits to receive your offering.

## FROM THE WESTMINSTER PULPIT

### **Return, Rebuild, and Renew: Nehemiah's Life after Exile**

The Israelites had experienced a terrible time: the destruction of Jerusalem and the sacred temple, deportation to Babylon, and life as exiles among their enemies. But now they were permitted to come back to the ruins of their sacred city. It is time to Return, Rebuild, and Renew, learning about a new life prepared for them by God. Nehemiah is a book about life and rebuilding after exile: perfect for us as we climb back from the Covid pandemic.

Today	Nehemiah 4:1-23	Life and Persistence
May 23	Nehemiah 5:1-19	Life and Justice
May 30	Nehemiah 8:1-18	Life and Rejoicing
June 6	Nehemiah 9:1-31	Life and Confession
June 13	Nehemiah 10	Life and Renewal
June 20	Nehemiah 12 & 13	Life and Patterns

## NEW SUNDAY SCHEDULE

TODAY there is a new Sunday schedule with expanded options as we come back stronger and better from Covid.

9:00 – 9:45	Worship Service in the Sanctuary (nursery available)
10:00 – 10:45	Playground and Prayer for kids; Zoom Sunday School for Adults
11:00 – 11:45	Worship service in the Sanctuary (nursery available; Children’s Church offered)

We’re offering two options for worship, and at the 11:00 service, children ages 3-5k will depart for Children’s Church after the Time for Children. They will go to the playground (weather permitting) or Covenant Hall. The nursery will be provided for children ages 2 and younger during both services. Covid protocols remain in effect for both services. The 11:00 am service will be livestreamed. During the 10:00 hour, children and parents will continue to gather on the playground for Prayer on the Playground. At the same time, a Zoom Sunday School class is offered for adults. (We know you may be early or late in logging on if you’re attending in-person worship.) We’re excited about the changes and are grateful for the volunteers who are in place to enable it to happen. All of it happens prayerfully as the Session seeks ways we can Return, Rebuild, and Renew our faith and commitment to the Lord and the church.

## IS GOD CALLING YOU TO JOIN THE WESTMINSTER FAMILY?

Here’s how you can do it.

1. Fill out the Virtual Friendship Register located at [wpccharleston.org](http://wpccharleston.org) or using the QR code. You may also reach out by call or text to one of our pastors.
2. Pastor Daniel, Pastor Lissa, or someone from the Membership Committee will quickly be in touch, providing an opportunity individually or with a group to learn more about the church.
3. On a Sunday morning, you’ll attend a meeting with the Session for reception into membership. We’ll handle paperwork if you’re transferring from another church or arrange baptism if you’ve never been baptized.
4. That same Sunday morning, you’ll be introduced to the congregation during worship.



Questions? Speak with an usher or one of our pastors following the service.

## THE EMANCIPATION OF EVAN WALLS BOOK GROUP THURSDAY, MAY 20 AT 7:00 P.M.

Many of you read “The Emancipation of Evan Walls” and participated in the Zoom meeting with author Jeffery Blount last month. We are grateful to Reading Partners for setting it all up.

A few Westminster disciples are arranging a follow-up book group for further discussion, and all who read the book are invited. (A couple of copies are still available in the church office) For more information, please contact Pastor Daniel.

Join us on Zoom on Thursday, May 20 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting ID: 802 607 3724

Dial in: 646-558-8656

## JOIN US FOR DISCIPLESHIP!

**YOUTH** - Middle School 5:00- 6:00 pm, High School 6:00 - 7:00 pm.

**ADULTS** - Our study is called “Meeting the Spirit” facilitated by Pastor Daniel, Pastor Lissa, and Lindy Coleman. Join us on Sunday mornings 10:00–10:45 am on Zoom.

- Meeting ID: 856 1961 4490
- Passcode: 12345
- Dial in by phone: 646-558-8656

## Westminster Prays

Carol Cummings  
Bill Myers  
Dart Willer  
Bill Pennekamp  
Kate Pennekamp  
Sara McCoy  
Love Moody  
Karen Dangerfield  
Lisa Wilcox  
Harold Fountain  
Fran Ligon  
Nancy Plowden  
Gary Brooks  
Steve Buddin  
Rosa Oswald  
Rick Unger  
Pam Smith

Meg Powell  
Keith Gordon  
Shirley Seay  
Larry Salley  
John Ligon  
Dot Dangerfield  
Lydia Crosby  
David Morris IV  
Brian Carlow  
Frances McLean  
David Kerr  
Sharon Hutchinson  
Harper Croft  
Deb Sloan  
Bob Ferguson  
Clif Green  
Libba Johnson

Summer Garris  
Mary Ashley Barbot  
Doris Fox  
Joyce Aydlett  
Daryn Baker  
Curtis Sponseller  
Sean Fitzgibbon  
Thom Penney  
Nikolai Fruth  
Allan Scott  
Mary Martschink  
David Wiggins  
Jamie Brooks  
Ginger Greene  
Hanger Family  
Allene Buddin  
Jerry Smoak

Andria Sanchez Freeman  
Chrissie Bosworth  
Ginger Sieftring  
Martin Davis  
Kevin Ritzel  
Gloria Underhill  
Jeff Bryant  
Barbara Johnston  
Michael Morgan  
Lydia Howell  
Nita Rodemann  
Jean Isbell  
Will Kuenzel  
Jack Watson  
Janie Hammersmith  
Frank Painter

### Friend of the Week

Barbara Crumrine  
1319 Brickman Way  
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466

### Mission of the Week

Water Mission International  
P.O. Box 71489  
North Charleston, SC 29415

### College Student

Emmy Stokes  
7 Lavingston Road  
Charleston, SC 29407

### Church Family

Adrian Nida,  
Janet Saunders  
Alyssa, Molly, Emma, Natalie

## WESTMINSTER SESSION

### Class of 2021

Allyn Bruce  
John Dounian  
Norman Hook  
Dale Norman  
Michael Patrick  
Paul Patrick

### Class of 2022

Nancy Dixon  
Sandra Pell  
Kendall Ramsay  
Carole Russell  
Nathan Snider  
Graham Wade

### Class of 2023

Matthew Akery  
David Boyd  
Earl Frasier  
Brenda Gibson  
Tim Platts  
Nathan Ward

Clerk - Priscilla Holtzclaw  
Treasurer - Doug Earnst

Assistant Clerk - Carole Russell  
Assistant Treasurer - Patty Stokes

### Westminster Presbyterian Church

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Rev. Dr. Daniel L. Smoak, Pastor, dsmoak@wpccharleston.org  
Rev. Lissa Long, Associate Pastor, mlong@wpccharleston.org  
Mr. Robin Zemp, Director of Music, rzemp@wpccharleston.org  
Mrs. Janie Bruce, Director of Children and Youth Ministries, jbruce@wpccharleston.org  
Mrs. Nita Rushton, Office Administrator, office@wpccharleston.org  
Mrs. Tommye Owen, Financial Administrator, finance@wpccharleston.org  
Mrs. Alicia Crosby, Preschool Director, preschool@wpccharleston.org  
Mrs. Meg Dorsel, Communications Coordinator, mdorsel@wpccharleston.org