



Westminster Presbyterian Church

Order of Worship for May 23, 2021

Pentecost

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 Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

◆ WORDS OF PRAISE

One: Lord, we are gathered here to worship you.

All: Pour out your Spirit and renew our hearts.

One: We are gathered here to seek your face.

All: Pour out your Spirit and renew our souls.

One: We are gathered here to discover your will.

All: Pour out your Spirit and renew our minds.

One: We are gathered here to learn how to live for you.

All: Pour out your Spirit and renew our strength.

All for your glory, Amen.

◆ PRAYER

◆ SONG OF PRAISE NO. 366 Love Divine All Loves Excelling HYFRYDOL

CONFESSION

◆ CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS

Wonderful Savior, we thank you for your wondrous grace and love in bearing our sin in your own body on the cross. You are the only source of all our strength. We have died with you, have risen with you, and are even now seated with you in heavenly places. Yet, we find that sin continues to have great power over us and our daily lives. Selfishness is in the very fabric of our flesh, and we struggle to choose love for others over pleasing ourselves. When we do manage to serve others, we often take pride in our own good conduct. Father, forgive us for the self-gratifying and self-exalting lives we lead.

Silent Personal Confession

◆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

SPECIAL MUSIC

Holy Spirit, Come
Natasha Akery

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Nehemiah 5:1-19

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Return, Rebuild, and Renew: Nehemiah's Life after Exile
v. Life and Justice

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

◆SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 765

May the God of Hope Go with Us
(sing twice)

ARGENTINA

◆AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

TAKEN FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH (1983)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, Come, Lord Jesus! With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. 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

Go with Us, Lord

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way
through this and every coming day,
that in your Spirit strong and true
our lives may be our gift to you.

◆ BLESSING

◆ *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 honor of Jim and Joan Frye, with love from Keith and Mary Stansell.

Acolyte is Tanner Gentry.

Ushers are Jairus Schumann, Sarah Schumann, Nancy Dixon and Matt Akery.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND MEETING OF THE CORPORATION

The Session has called a meeting of the congregation on Sunday, May 30 at 11:50 a.m. for the purpose of electing deacons, elders, and a nominating committee. We will meet in person at the end of the 11:00 worship service, and a ZOOM option will be offered for those who choose to participate virtually.

The Nominating Committee will be recommending a slate of six Elders (*Norman Hook, Abbie Mobley, Karen Norman, Laura Patrick, Chuck Towne, and Dee Bee Wright*), eleven Deacons (*Ellen Bollinger, Chris Dorsel, Sara Dwyer, Denise Floyd, Andrea Gentry, Carrie Gentry, David Morris, Sue Smoak, Leigh Throckmorton, Jane Warner, and Mellany Whetstone*), and four people for the Nominating Committee (*David Bednarczyk, John Dounian, Carol Patrick, and LeAnn Teitsort*). Nominee information and the ZOOM link will be available prior to the meeting.

Following the meeting of the congregation, we will also convene for a meeting of the corporation. These meetings, even when there is no business to conduct, are required annually under SC law.

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.
 - Pastor Daniel Smoak: 843-872-1001
 - 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

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. Following the guidance of the CDC and our concern for the most vulnerable, masks are encouraged for all and optional for those who have been vaccinated. We recognize some, especially youth and children, are not yet eligible to be vaccinated and we encourage their continued mask use.
3. Please allow ushers to seat you and your family. Socially distanced seating is available.
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. Offering plates are at the entrances/exits to receive your offering.



“HOLY SPIRIT, COME”

When I don't know what to pray
I say Your name
When I don't know what to do
I turn to You
You know what I need, You know all of me
Inside, Your Spirit shines

Holy Spirit, come!
Holy Spirit, come!

When the world has lost its way
I say Your name
When they know not what they do
I turn to You
You know what we need, every thought and deed
Inside, our spirits cry

Holy Spirit, come!
Holy Spirit, come!

When Your blessings fall like rain
I say Your name
When your mercies rise anew
I turn to You

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 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.



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 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

JOIN US FOR DISCIPLESHIP!

YOUTH - Middle School 5:00 - 6:00 pm and 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

NEW SUNDAY SCHEDULE

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.

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
Brenda DeSmet

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
Jackie Epstein

Friend of the Week

Carol Cummings
4749-B Yardley Dr.
N. Charleston, SC 29405

Mission of the Week

Metanoia
2005 Reynolds Ave.
N. Charleston, SC 29405

College Student

Rachael Stokes
7 Lavington Road
Charleston, SC 29407

Church Family

Ron and Myriam Owens
Nicole, Tyler
Laura Nunn

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. 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