



Westminster Presbyterian Church

Order of Worship for May 16, 2021

In-Person and Online at 11:00 am

Facebook Live | YouTube | www.wpccharleston.org

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Processional in C

HAL HOPSON

◆CALL TO WORSHIP

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!

◆INVOCATION

◆HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 744

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

FESTAL SONG

◆PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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 Personal Confession

◆ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE

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 without end.
Amen, amen.

◆ SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.
All: And also with you.

TIME FOR CHILDREN TO SHINE

Following Children's Time, 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.

ANTHEM

The First Song of Isaiah:
Surely It Is God Who Saves Me
Sanctuary Choir

JACK NOBLE WHITE

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Nehemiah 4:1-23

SERMON

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

◆ HYMN NO. 463

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

◆ 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.

OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

◆ BENEDICTION AND SENDING SONG

Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

We Sing Together:

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Him above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

◆ POSTLUDE

Jerusalem

C. HUBERT H. PARRY

◆ *Please stand, if able*

Leading the service today: Daniel Smoak, Pastor; Lissa Long, Pastor; Janie Bruce, Director of Youth and Children; Robin Zemp, Music; Meg Dorsel, Livestream.

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“The First Song of Isaiah” Music by Jack Noble White © 1976 HW Gray Publications
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“Arise, Your Light Has Come!” Words by Ruth Duck © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.
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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.

Acolyte is Sumner Long.

Ushers are Janie Daniels, Howard Fulwiler, Carole Russell and Nathan Snider.

Children’s Church Volunteers are Kendall and Greg Ramsay.

NEHEMIAH 4:1-23

¹ Now when Sanballat heard that we were building the wall, he was angry and greatly enraged, and he jeered at the Jews. ² 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?" ³ 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!" ⁴ 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. ⁵ 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. ⁶ So we built the wall. And all the wall was joined together to half its height, for the people had a mind to work.

⁷ 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. ⁸ And they all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and to cause confusion in it. ⁹ And we prayed to our God and set a guard as a protection against them day and night.

¹⁰ 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." ¹¹ And our enemies said, "They will not know or see till we come among them and kill them and stop the work." ¹² At that time the Jews who lived near them came from all directions and said to us ten times, "You must return to us." ¹³ 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. ¹⁴ 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."

¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ 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, ¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ And each of the builders had his sword strapped at his side while he built. The man who sounded the trumpet was beside me. ¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ In the place where you hear the sound of the trumpet, rally to us there. Our God will fight for us."

²¹ So we labored at the work, and half of them held the spears from the break of dawn until the stars came out. ²² 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." ²³ 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.

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. 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.



744 Arise, Your Light Is Come!

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
 2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
 3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
 4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God, which shines on you to - day.
 pro - claim the cap - tives' lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.
 bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

Echoing imagery from Isaiah 61:1-2 and other passages, this text was created as an inclusive-language alternative to an older hymn using this late 19th-century tune. Because it is a song of encouragement rather than a song of praise, it is not directed to God but to people.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1974
 MUSIC: William H. Walter, 1894
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FESTAL SONG
 SM
 (this tune in a lower key, 815)

463 How Firm a Foundation



1 How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
 3 "When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
 4 "When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
 is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
 my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
 I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
 What more can be said than to you God hath said,
 I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
 that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
 to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
 upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.
 and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.
 thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.
 I'll never, no, never, no, never for sake."

It seems odd now to think of singing this text to ADESTE FIDELES, but mainline churches did so well into the 20th century because of a cultural bias against shape note music. The vigor of the present tune seems especially right for the final line's reference to Hebrews 13:5.

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.

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

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 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

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

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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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
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