



Westminster Presbyterian Church

August 28, 2022

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...
"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia."

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

FROM PSALM 90

One: Lord, you have been our dwelling-place in all generations.

All: Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

One: A thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past,
or like a watch in the night.

All: So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.

One: Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love

All: So that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

◆ PRAYER 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.

◆ SONG OF PRAISE NO. 1

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

NICAEA

CONFESSION

◆CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS

JOAN S. GRAY (PC CLASS OF 1973)*

Saving God, your love is unconditional and unbreakable. We belong to you, and so we come before you in prayer, exactly as we are—our real selves—to repent of our sin. We confess our fearful lack of trust, our unwillingness to yield, and our selfish disposition. Our days are filled with idols that compete for our time and attention. We thrash around in complaint and impatience. We cannot rescue ourselves from the tentacles of sin that wrap around our hearts. Yet we know that our faithlessness does not change your faithfulness to us. Our sin does not erase our relationship with you. Jesus died on the cross so that sin would not have the last word between us. In your mercy, save us, redeem us, heal us, and transform us. Send your Spirit to unbind us and set us free. Draw us in and rekindle the fire of your presence in our lives. Turn us away from contentment with the way things are, and use us to bring good news to a world in need. Amen.

◆SILENT CONFESSION

◆DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS AND HEALING

◆SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 447 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

Laura Patrick

SPECIAL MUSIC

Thy Word
Nancy Parrish, Mary Patrick, Catherine Patrick

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 17:16-34

PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 136

One: The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Faith Seeking Understanding

Dr. Wilcoxon

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 450

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

◆ DECLARATION OF FAITH

FROM *WHAT PRESBYTERIANS BELIEVE* BY JOSEPH M. GETTYS ***

We believe in the sovereign God, the creator and preserver of the universe, who is revealed in scripture as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

We believe in the covenant of grace, fulfilled in Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Lord. He is the mediator who is revealed in the preaching and teaching of the word, and in the faithful administration of the sacraments.

To declare our faith in God is therefore to commit ourselves to discover, to do, and to keep on doing the will of God day by day. To say we believe in God and then to live as though God were neither sovereign nor important is to make a hollow mockery of our faith.

We know that all things will be done for the glory of God. In this confidence, let us find peace and rest for our souls, and let us live expectantly as we await the end of our days or the coming of our Lord. Amen.

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

◆ SONG NO. 687

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

ST. ANNE

SENDING OUT

◆ BLESSING

◆ *Please stand, if able*

Leading the service today: Buz Wilcoxon, Pastor; Daniel Smoak, Pastor; Lissa Long, Pastor;
Sarah Shayban, Music.

11:00 am Livestream at www.wpccharleston.org, YouTube (Westminster Presbyterian Charleston)

Acolyte is Tanner Gentry.
Ushers are Nancy Dixon, Regina Keene, Jim Drennan.

TODAY WE WELCOME THE REV. DR. BUZ WILCOXON TO WESTMINSTER.

Buz was recently called as Presbyterian College's first Marianne and E.G. Lassiter Chaplain and Dean of Spiritual Life. Buz is a graduate of PC and Columbia Seminary and has served churches in Greenville, SC and Mobile, Alabama. Buz is married to wife, Ryann, and they have two children, Lohi Grace and Wilson. He used to love the Crimson Tide before moving to PC, but now the Blue Hose are his favorite team.

WE WELCOME SARAH SHAYBAN AS OUR GUEST MUSICIAN TODAY.

Sarah is a Charleston native who has served churches and schools in the Lowcountry for the past 20 years, most recently, as Director of Music at Johns Island Presbyterian Church. She enjoys her new role as a mother and is on the piano faculty at Ashley Hall school. She loves spending time outdoors with her husband, baby Rafael, and cocker spaniel, Mo.

TODAY'S LITURGY IS DRAWN FROM PEOPLE WITH CONNECTIONS TO PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE.

* Joan S. Gray was the first woman ordained by Atlanta Presbytery (PCUS) in 1978. She has served as pastor of many churches in Atlanta, GA, taught at Columbia Theological Seminary, and was elected Moderator of the 217th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in 2006. She has published books on church leadership, including the one from which this prayer is adapted, *Sailboat Church: Helping Your Church Rethink Its Mission and Practice*.

** William Plumer Jacobs (1842-1917) was pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Clinton, SC. He founded Thornwell Orphanage for children who lost their parents in the Civil War and then founded Presbyterian College to provide a college education for those children.

*** Joseph M. Gettys (1907-2016) was a Presbyterian minister who served as professor of religion and academic dean at Presbyterian College from 1956-1974. He was the interim pastor of 37 churches and the founding pastor of two churches. He was the author of numerous Bible studies and books about the Presbyterian Church, including a summary of the *Westminster Standards*, from which this affirmation of faith is drawn.

ALL CHURCH BEACH DAY TODAY!

Folly Beach County Park 4:00–6:00 pm. Say farewell to summer and join us for some fun, outdoor fellowship at the beach! Look for the WPC Blue Banner by Folly Beach County Park Beach Access. We will also have access to the Pelican Watch Pavilion at the Folly Beach County Park for restrooms, etc. WPC is providing bottled water and snacks. Families should bring chairs, towels, sunscreen, beach toys, etc.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY KICKOFF

Wednesday, September 7, 6:00 pm. Wonderful Wednesdays are back! Join us for fun, food, and fellowship with your church family. Stay after to help with Backpack Buddies.

BACKPACK BUDDIES

Wednesday, September 7, 6:30 pm. We need your hands! Join us as we pack weekend food kits for local elementary school students. We will pack in Covenant Hall following Wonderful Wednesday Supper.

SECOND SUNDAY SOCIALS ARE COMING BACK!

After more than two years, Second Sunday Socials are coming back in September, and we are so thankful. All are welcome to a fried chicken luncheon, sides and dessert provided, following the 11:00 am worship on the second Sunday of the month starting on September 11. Donations for the meal are welcomed.

NEW HERE? MAKE SOME CONNECTIONS AT WESTMINSTER

Connections: An opportunity for those visiting or new who want to meet others and learn more about LIFE at Westminster. The next Connections Class is September 11. We meet from 10:00 - 10:40 in Pastor Daniel's office at the end of the Admin Hall. Kids are welcome or can go to Sunday School/Nursery. Save your spot at the September 11 Connections class by emailing office@wpccharleston.org.

CHURCHWIDE RETREAT AT BETHELWOODS CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER!

Bethelwoods Churchwide Retreat is just around the corner! Friday, September 23 - Sunday, September 25. All ages are welcome to join us for some fun at camp! There will be canoeing, singing, hiking, fellowship, good food, and s'mores. Please register by using the link in the Tuesday eNews by September 6.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children's classes, age 3–5th grade are located in the classrooms in the Christian Education building. Youth and Adult classes are located in Covenant Hall classrooms.

Nursery - 0-2 Joan Foster, Lesa Grayson, Katie Camburn

Children Sunday School

- 3-5K, Room 14, Sherry Niblock, John and Dee Bee Wright, Growing in Grace and Gratitude
- 1st - 2nd Grades, Room 13, Meredith Boyd, Andrea Gentry, Growing in God's Love
- 3rd - 5th Grades, Room 17, Dale and Karen Norman, Growing in God's Love

Youth Discipleship Classes

- Middle School, 6th - 8th Grades, Room 1, Feasting on the Word
Nathan and Ashley Snider, Shawn and Mary Fulmer, Jonathan and Rebecca Bazzle
- High School, 9th - 12th Grades, Room 3, Feasting on the Word
Paul and Laura Patrick, Pastor Lissa

Adult Classes

- Cary Grayson Class, Room 4. Rotation of facilitators. This faithful group goes through the books of the Bible slowly and purposefully, inspecting the verses and the meaning behind them.
- Anchor Class, Room 15. Tom Whetstone, Rev. Bob Ferguson, Lindy Coleman. This class utilizes Bible Study books and discussion to dig into God's Word as a group. This group also enjoys building community together.
- Parenting Class, Library. Joe and Brenda Clarey, Ruth Marie Emblar. Whether you have children or grandchildren under your wing, this class is for you! Discussions and Bible Study will focus on the ways we can be faithful in our parenting and lean into God's Wisdom for guidance.
- Pause and Refresh, Covenant Hall. Rotation of facilitators. The Pause and Refresh Class will be 1-6 week classes on a variety of topics ranging from liturgical seasons, compassionate care for loved ones in need, prayer, and book studies about conversations around racial injustices.

WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER

- We are delighted you have joined us for worship, and we hope you are encouraged and strengthened in the faith.
- New here? Please fill out a Connect Card and place it in the offering plate.
- The nursery is available for children 2 and under in the Children's 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 age 3-5k (Children's Church) will gather in the narthex with adult leaders and then be led to the Children's Building. 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 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

FROM THE WESTMINSTER PULPIT

Growing in Christ: A sermon series on the basics of the faith, including assurances of and ways we grow in faith.

August 28 - Westminster is excited to welcome Rev. Dr. Buz Wilcoxon.

Buz is the new Chaplain and Dean of Spiritual Life at Presbyterian College. Along with Pastor Daniel (PC '97) and Pastor Lissa (PC '98), Buz (PC '05) will preach and lead worship at the 9:00 and 11:00 worship services.

September 4 - Growing in Christ: Assurance of Salvation

1 John 5:11 And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

September 11- Growing in Christ: Assurance of Answered Prayer

John 16:24 Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

September 18 - Growing in Christ: Assurance of Forgiveness

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

September 25 - Growing in Christ: Assurance of Guidance

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

October 2 - Growing in Christ: Giving Thanks

We are glad to welcome the Rev. Dr. Donnie Woods to Westminster. Donnie is the recently retired General Presbyter of our Presbytery, and he is a cancer survivor. His testimony of thanksgiving is inspiring.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, August 28

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
3:00 pm	Loretta Haskell Recital, Sanctuary
4:00 pm	All Church Beach Day, Folly Beach County Park
5:00 pm	Middle School Youth Group, dinner provided
6:00 pm	High School Youth Group, dinner provided
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Tuesday, August 30

6:30 am	Toastmasters, Covenant Hall
10:00 am	Staff Meeting, Pastor's Office
6:30 pm	Preschool Open House, Sanctuary and Covenant Hall

Wednesday, August 31

7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall
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Sunday, September 4

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
12:15 pm	Worship Committee, Parlor
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO JOIN THE WESTMINSTER FAMILY?

Here's how you can do it.

1. Please fill out a Connect Card and place it in the offering plate or you may fill out an online New Member form under the visitor tab at wpccharleston.org or using the QR code.
2. One of our Pastors 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.



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



WAYS TO GIVE TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Church Pew Envelope: Place cash or check in the Pew Envelope and drop it in the Offering Plate in the Narthex.

Online: Click the "Give Now" button in the top right of our homepage at wpccharleston.org.

Text: Text "charlestonwpc" to 73256. Thank you for giving.

Westminster Prays

Carol Cummings	Meg Powell	Summer Garris	Chrissie Bosworth
Bill Pennekamp	Keith Gordon	Mary Ashley Barbot	Ginger Siefring
Kate Pennekamp	Larry Salley	Joyce Aydlett	Martin Davis
Sara McCoy	Lydia Crosby	Daryn Baker	Kevin Ritzel
Love Moody	David Morris IV	Curtis Sponseller	Gloria Underhill
Lisa Wilcox	Brian Carlow	Sean Fitzgibbon	Barbara Johnston
Harold Fountain	Frances McLean	Thom Penney	Nita Rodemann
Nancy Plowden	David Kerr	Nikolai Fruth	Will Kuenzel
Gary Brooks	Sharon Hutchinson	Mary Martschink	Frank Painter
Steve Buddin	Harper Croft	Allene Buddin	Jackie Epstein
Dick Unger	Branden Preus	Maryalice Vann	Edward Godshall
Anderson Scruggs	Monnie Privette	Jerry Hallman	Towne Family
Pam Smith	Eleanor Woodbury	Christina Miller	Charles Reeves
Chad Waldrop	Ginny Yarborough	Meghan Hatfield	Merrily Burnette
Libba Palmer	Joseph Beckham	Rachel Singletary	John Martschink
Marion Woodbury	Donnie Woods	Caroline Cottingham	Brenda Jonsson
Bryan Thomas	Evan McMillan	Fran Ligon	Judy Tag
Gloria Purcell	Robin James	Molly Griggs	Rose Derrick
Will Edwards	Bruce Hamilton	Lundgrin Family	Robin Zemp

Prayers of Sympathy and Support are extended to

Bill McSweeney and family upon the death of his mother, Ruth McSweeney.

Friend of the Week

Lynn MacPherson
1925 Essex Farms Drive
Charleston, SC 29414

Mission of the Week

Thornwell Home for Children
302 South Broad Street
Clinton, SC 29325

Church Family

John and Mona Gilbert
Jim and Pam Gill
Keith Gordon

Westminster Session Members and Committees

Administration: Tom Whetstone and Matthew Patrick; **Buildings and Grounds:** Earl Frasier and Matt Teitsort; **Christian Education:** Lindy Coleman and Laura Patrick; **Fellowship:** Nathan Ward, Betsy McLaughlin, and Mike Niblock; **Finance:** Norman Hook and David Boyd; **Membership:** Karen Norman and Matthew Akery; **Mission:** Brenda Gibson and Chuck Towne; **Preschool:** Abbie Mobley; **Worship:** Dee Bee Wright and George McAbee; **Clerk:** Carole Russell; **Assistant Clerk:** Lindy Coleman; **Treasurer:** Nancy Dixon; **Assistant Treasurer:** Patty Stokes

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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Rev. Dr. Daniel L. Smoak, Pastor, dsmoak@wpccharleston.org

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Mrs. Laura Patrick, Interim Director of Children's Ministries, LPatrick@wpccharleston.org

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