Westminster Presbyterian Church

September 18, 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 84

One: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!
All: Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.
One: For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.
All: O Lord of Hosts, happy is the one who trusts in you.

♦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. 12 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise ST.DENIO

CONFESSION

♦CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS

Lord, we need your forgiveness because the stain of sin is deeply embedded in our souls. We seek after vain things: material wealth, praise from our peers, and self-fulfillment. We always give in to pride– thinking more often and more highly of ourselves than we ought to. Even our best thoughts and actions are darkened by self-interest. Lord, we are wrapped up in ourselves, and we cannot break free unless you change our hearts. Convict us, give us your Word, and lead us into lives of discipleship where we live for you and seek to serve our neighbors. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

♦SILENT PRAYERS

♦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

SCRIPTURE LESSON 1 John 1:1-2:2 PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 238

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

SERMON Growing in Christ: Assurance of Forgiveness

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

♦SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 443 There Is a Redeemer GREEN

♦DECLARATION OF FAITH FROM PCUSA'S A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH (1983)

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.

Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.
Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

♦SONG NO. 435 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy IN BABILONE

SENDING OUT

♦BLESSING

♦RESPONSE OLD HUNDRETH

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.

♦ *Please stand, if able*

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

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

Acolyte is Eleanor Akery.
Ushers are George McAbee, Mary McAbee, Graham Wade.

LET'S GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER!
Name tags are available on the name tag cart in the Narthex. Please find yours and wear it on Sunday mornings, returning it before you leave. We expect many may be missing at first; please use a sticky badge and put your name on the 'I need a name tag' form.

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 October 9. 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 October 9 Connections class by emailing office@wpccharleston.org.

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 in 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 Embler. 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

WELCOME TO SARAH SHAYBAN AS WESTMINSTER'S NEW ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC!

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. Sarah will work with our Director of Music, Robin Zemp, as he continues to recover from his hospitalization over the summer. The one position is essentially divided into two parts, enabling us to resume Handbell and Sanctuary Choirs and providing (along with Nancy Parrish) regular pianist and organists for Sunday worship.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, September 21, 6:00 pm, a delicious supper for adults and children at 6:00 pm in Covenant Hall. Nursery is available. Join us for fun, food, and fellowship with your church family. Menu is: rotisserie chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, vegetable, salad, bread, dessert.

LOOKING FOR WAYS TO HELP OUT AT WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH?

- 2nd Saturdays of the Month at 1:00 pm, table and chair set up for 2nd Sunday Lunch (about 45 minutes)
- Every Wednesday at 3:00 pm, table and chair set up for Wonderful Wednesday Dinner (about 30 minutes)
- Backpack Buddy Days at 2:30 pm, help pickup the food for Backpack Buddies! Next one is October 5.

Please contact Jim Frye, fecr1@yahoo.com, or Nita Rushton, office@wpccharleston.org, if you are available.

WORSHIP PREP CLASSES

Rising 1st Graders, Sundays, September 11- October 23, following Time For Children to Shine at 11:00 am Worship Service. One of the ways we keep the vows we make when our children are baptized is to give thought, effort and prayer to their participation in worship. Good worship experiences don't "just happen". If children feel loved, included and accepted in worship, it is because both the church and you have been faithful to their tasks. To that end, we will talk about where we worship, why we worship, how we worship and about prayer. We will also learn about both sacraments celebrated in the Presbyterian Church, Baptism and Communion.

One parent or grandparent must attend class with your child. If you have any questions or do not receive the letter, please call Dee Bee Wright at 843.729.7005. Thank you! While we are inviting first graders, older elementary aged children are welcome if they have not previously completed this class.

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE LORD!

Our choir, under the direction of Robin Zemp and Sarah Shayban, is resuming their rehearsals and would love to have you join them. If you have a gift for singing or a willingness to learn, then come to rehearsal any Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m. in the choir room. All levels of experience welcomed; childcare can be arranged upon request. Give it a try; Singing with the choir a few times is not a lifetime appointment! Questions? rzemp@wpccharleston.org

ACOLYTE TRAINING

Acolytes - Let YOUR Light Shine! If you are a rising third through rising sixth grader and are interested in serving as an acolyte, please call Miss Dee Bee at 843.729.7005. Training will be Sunday, October 2 from 12:15 -3:30 p.m. We will do our training in the Sanctuary after we have pizza in Covenant Hall. Your parents may leave you after church, or they may stay with us. We will need your parents back by 2:15 so that they may watch you practice and will know how to help you when you serve! The schedule will be distributed to you shortly after training, and you may switch with others as necessary. Please let me know if you are coming to training so I will have enough pizza! Please call me if you have any questions. I look forward to working with each of you. Previously trained acolytes do not need to be present for this training. I will be doing the schedule for November 2022-October 2023 in early October and will email the new schedule to you then.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, September 18

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
11:15 am	Worship Prep Class, Christian Education Building, Room 14
12:15 pm	Mission Committee, Room 4
4:00 pm	Club 3, 4, 5, Covenant Hall
5:00 pm	Middle School Youth Group, dinner provided
5:00 pm	Deacons' Meeting, Zoom
6:00 pm	High School Youth Group, dinner provided
6:00 pm	Stated Session Meeting, Room 4
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Monday, September 19

9:50 am	4's Chapel, Sanctuary
12:00 pm	Preschool Dance, Covenant Hall
7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 79

Tuesday, September 20

6:30 am	Toastmasters, Covenant Hall
9:30 am	3's Chapel Time, Sanctuary
10:00 am	Staff Meeting, Pastor's Office
12:30 pm	Presbytery Ministers' Lunch, Room 4
1:00 pm	Bridge Group, Library
7:00 pm	Handbell Choir, Sanctuary

Wednesday, September 21

9:00 am	Preschool Funnastics, Covenant Hall
6:00 pm	Wonderful Wednesday, Covenant Hall
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall Room 3

Thursday, September 22

9:30 am	3's Music, Sanctuary
10:00 am	4's Music, Sanctuary
2:00 pm	SAM's Montreat Committee, Parlor
7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 79, Covenant Hall

Friday, September 23

3:00 pm	Churchwide Family Retreat, Bethelwoods Camp and Conference Center

Sunday, September 25

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
11:15 am	Worship Prep Class, Christian Education Building, Room 14
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

Westminster Prays

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

Friend of the Week
Fran Morat
1623 Dickens St.
Charleston, SC 29407

Mission of the Week
Back Pack Buddies
1157 Sam Rittenberg Blvd.
Charleston, SC 29407

Student of the Week
Andrew Smoak
9200 University Blvd.
N. Charleston, SC 29406

Church Family
Lesa Grayson
Maury Grayson
Andrew Grayson

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
1157 Sam Rittenberg Boulevard, Charleston, SC 29407
www.wpccharleston.org (843) 766-8311

Rev. Dr. Daniel L. Smoak, Pastor, dsmoak@wpccharleston.org
Rev. Lissa Long, Associate Pastor, mlong@wpccharleston.org
Mrs. Laura Patrick, Interim Director of Children's Ministries, LPatrick@wpccharleston.org
Mr. Robin Zemp, Director of Music, rzemp@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