



Westminster Presbyterian Church

We are called to be and to make disciples who love God and who love our neighbors.

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023

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 AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ SONG OF PREPARATION God Welcomes All

**God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong, and it never ends.**

◆ WORDS OF PRAISE

FROM PSALM 145

One: I will worship you, my God the King; I will praise your name forever.

All: Every day I will praise you and exalt your name.

One: Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom.

All: One generation tells your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.

One: They speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty and meditate on your wonderful works.

All: They tell of the power of your awesome works and proclaim your great deeds.

Today we celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

◆ 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.

◆ HYMN NO. 263

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

CORONATION

CONFESSION

◆ CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS

Dear Heavenly Father, help us to be still and know that you are God. We find ourselves distracted, following our own desires. Forgive us for letting those things take first place in our lives. We pray that you would turn our hearts back to You. Have mercy on us, O Lord, according to Your unfailing love, according to your great love and compassion! Wash us and cleanse us from all our iniquity. Create in us pure hearts, O God, and renew our spirits within us. O Lord, open our lips and our mouths to declare your praise. In our wonderful Savior's name we pray. Amen.

◆ SILENT PRAYERS

◆DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS AND HEALING

◆SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 441

Hear the Good News of Salvation

NETTLETON

Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God's love.
Such great kindness! Such great mercy! Come to us from heaven above.
Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin!
How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.

◆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

Unbelief
Natasha Akery

NATASHA AKERY

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 9:1-34

PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 8

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Clues about the Kingdom

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

◆SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 310

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

ST. THOMAS

◆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.

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

◆ PRAYER SONG NO. 82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

SENDING OUT

◆ BLESSING

◆ *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)

Acolytes are Eleanor Akery and Jahrell Jones.
Ushers are Nancy Dixon, Mary McAbee, Jim Drennan.

"Unbelief" by Natasha Akery

*What kind of faith will it take / For you to answer me?
I come to you, Son of Man; / Heal me if you can.
You say all things are possible / For those who believe.
I believe; help my unbelief.
Lord, have mercy. / Mountains don't move for me.
Your eyes reflect my doubt; / Why can't I cast it out?
You say all things are possible / For those who believe.
I believe; help my unbelief.
I pray despite the silence / When I call your name.
I praise you despite the splinter / In my faith.
I know your spirit speaks / When mine is weakest;
Why can't I hear you now?
I believe; help my unbelief.*

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 2-5k (Wee Church and 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

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.

SOMEONE'S PRAYING, LORD. COME BY HERE.

During the Sundays of Lent, we hope you'll share your prayer joys and concerns during the worship service so our pastors can include them in the Prayers of the People. Write down your prayers of confession, adoration, thanksgiving, joy, or petition on the index cards in the pew rack and put them in the baskets on the outer aisles. You can put them in the baskets before worship, during the Passing of the Peace or Children's Time, or during a hymn. We'll collect them from the baskets before we pray near the end of the service, and the pastor will pray through the cards during the Prayers of the People. We'll conclude with a Prayer Hymn. All prayers are welcome, but it is best to have a person's consent before writing his/her name on the card. (It's OK to pray for "a friend" because God knows who they are.)

A Word about Lent

Today is the Fifth Sunday in LENT. The word *lent* is from the Anglo-Saxon *lencten* which means *spring* or the *springtime*. Literally, it means the time of the year when the days *lengthen*. In the church, Lent is the 40 day period during which Christians rededicate themselves to follow Jesus Christ as His faithful disciples, and prepare to celebrate the Lord's resurrection at Easter. Many Christians vow to give up things (like desserts or TV) during Lent so that when they desire those things, they are reminded of their relationship with the Lord. Other Christians choose to take up something (like daily prayer or acts of kindness) during Lent to strengthen their faith.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY AND BACKPACK BUDDIES

Please join us Wednesday, March 29, at 6:00 pm in Covenant Hall and enjoy a delicious supper for adults and children. Nursery is available. Menu is spaghetti, vegetable, salad, garlic bread, dessert. Join us for fun, food, and fellowship with your church family. We will pack weekend food kits for local elementary school students following Wonderful Wednesday Supper.

DONATE CHILDREN'S BELTS AND SHOES

We are collecting children's belts and shoes in various sizes in the month of March. Donations can be placed in the large, labeled box in the Narthex.

WEEKLY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

A group of women has begun a Bible Study called *The Attributes of God*, and you are invited! We meet Thursdays at 10:00 am in the Church Parlor (room beside Pastor Lissa's office). Books are available at the study. For more information, please email Pastor Lissa at mlong@wpccharleston.org.

SAVE THE DATE SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY LUNCH

We had a wonderful time meeting together this month and can't wait until the next SAMS lunch! Save Thursday, May 18 at 1:00 on your calendar. We will have a speaker and a catered lunch. Please bring \$10 to help cover the costs.

SAVE THE DATE CHURCH WORK DAY APRIL 29, 2023.

Please mark your calendar for Church workday projects. Saturday April, 29, 2023 at 9:00 am. Look for details in the eNews and bulletins.

MONTREAT YOUTH CONFERENCES: REGISTER NOW!

The Sr. High (Completed 9th -12th Grade) week is June 11 - 17 in Montreat, NC. The cost is \$200 (can be dropped off anytime), and **the deadline for registration is MARCH 30**. **The Middle School** (Completed 6th - 8th Grade) dates are July 19-23, and the conference is at Maryville College in Maryville, TN. The cost is \$200 (can be dropped off anytime), and **the deadline for registration is APRIL 30**. These are good opportunities for students to grow, learn, and strengthen their faith. Plus, it is A TON of fun. Links to the registration forms have been emailed out, and you may text Pastor Daniel 843.872.1001 for a fresh link.

GREAT IS THEY FAITHFULNESS

OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE YOUR PERSONAL TESTIMONY- 200th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

In September 2023, Westminster Presbyterian Church will celebrate 200 years as a congregation of people loving God and sharing his word! Our plans are to celebrate our past while keeping our eyes and hearts focused on the future and on God's plans for us! During the month of September, each day a personal testimony from a member of our flock will be shared. Your submission may be written and may include video or artwork; we encourage you to be creative and to make your testimony personal! Please sign up to participate by April 30. Your completed submission is due by May 31 and should be submitted electronically to deebeewright@comcast.net. There are several musical phrases from the beloved hymn "Great is Thy Faithfulness," and you will choose one of these phrases to elaborate on in your testimony. Once you choose your phrase, scripture suggestions will be provided to you. They are intended to be helpful, but you may certainly choose any one scripture that speaks to you/your family. Please include your chosen scripture and a prayer in your submission. Contact Dee Bee Wright @ 843.729.7005 if you have any questions.

WE'RE STUDYING MATTHEW!

All through 2023, we'll be engaged in a verse-by-verse study of the Gospel. Here is the Schedule for the next few weeks:

- March 26 Matthew 9:1-34 Clues about the Kingdom.
Jesus continues his Kingdom ministry by healing, calling Matthew, and teaching.
- April 2 Palm Sunday
- April 9 Easter
- April 16 Matthew 9:35-10:42 Workers for the Harvest
Jesus equips and sends out his disciples for Kingdom mission.
- April 23 Matthew 11:1-24 Jesus and John the Baptist
Jesus interprets the ministry of John the Baptist as fulfilled prophecy.
- April 30 Matthew 11:25-30 Rest for Your Soul
Jesus promises rest for those who follow him.

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 April 30, 2023. 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 April 30 Connections class by emailing office@wpccharleston.org

HOLY WEEK & EASTER WORSHIP

- **Palm Sunday Worship, Sunday, April 2, 9:00 and 11:00 am**
Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday and the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.
- **Maundy Thursday Worship, Thursday, April 6, 7:00 pm**
*The darkness falls as we worship- remembering the night Jesus was betrayed and arrested.
Special music by the Westminster Choir and instrumentalists, and we'll share the Lord's Supper.*
- **Good Friday Worship and Lunch, Friday, April 7, 12:00 pm**
*We gather in the sanctuary for worship that focuses on the final hours and final words of Jesus' life.
Lunch follows in Covenant Hall from 12:30 – 1:00.*
- **Easter Sunday, Sunday, April 9, 9:00 and 11:00 am**
*The tomb is empty and death is defeated! Praise God for the victory we have in Jesus,
and hear what difference the resurrection makes for us today. Special music and instrumentalists at both services.*



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.

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. If yours is missing, please use a sticky badge and put your name on the 'I need a name tag' form.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, March 26

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
10:00 am	Connections Class, Pastor's office
11:00 am	Worship Service
4:00 pm	WoW Bible Study, Room 4
4:00 pm	Club 3,4,5, Covenant Hall
5:00 pm	Children's Choir
5:00 pm	Mere Christianity Book Study, Room 15
5:00 pm	Middle School Discipleship
6:00 pm	High School Discipleship
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Monday, March 27

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

Tuesday, March 28

6:30 am	Toastmasters, Covenant Hall
9:30 am	3's Chapel Time, Sanctuary
10:00 am	Staff Meeting, Pastor's Office
7:00 pm	Handbell Choir, Sanctuary

Wednesday, March 29

9:00 am	Preschool Funnastics, Covenant Hall
6:00 pm	Wonderful Wednesday Dinner, Covenant Hall, spaghetti
6:00 pm	Congregational Nominating Committee, Parlor
6:30 pm	Backpack Buddies, Covenant Hall
7:00 pm	Mere Christianity Book Study, Room 15
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall Room 3

Thursday, March 30

9:30 am	3's Music, Sanctuary
10:00 am	4's Music, Sanctuary
10:00 am	Women's Bible Study, Parlor
6:30 pm	Mere Christianity Book Study, Pastor Daniel's Home in Shadowmoss

Saturday, April 1

11:00 am	Easter Egg Hunt, Covenant Hall
----------	--------------------------------

Sunday, April 2

9:00 am	Worship Service, Palm Sunday
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service, Palm Sunday
5:00 pm	Mere Christianity Book Study, Room 15
5:00 pm	All Youth Discipleship
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Westminster Prays

Carol Cummings	Meg Powell	Summer Garris	Chrissie Bosworth
Bill Pennekamp	Keith Gordon	Mary Ashley Barbot	Ginger Siefing
Kate Pennekamp	Lydia Crosby	Joyce Aydlett	Martin Davis
Love Moody	Brian Carlow	Daryn Baker	Kevin Ritzel
Lisa Wilcox	Frances McLean	Curtis Sponseller	Gloria Underhill
Harold Fountain	David Kerr	Sean Fitzgibbon	Barbara Johnston
Nancy Plowden	Sharon Hutchinson	Nikolai Fruth	Nita Rodemann
Gary Brooks	Harper Croft	Mary Martschink	Jackie Epstein
Steve Buddin	Monnie Privette	Maryalice Vann	Edward Godshall
Dick Unger	Eleanor Woodbury	Christina Miller	Towne Family
Pam Smith	Evan McMillan	Meghan Hatfield	Charles Reeves
Libba Palmer	Don Sumner	Rachel Singletary	Merrily Burnette
Bryan Thomas	Lauren Wilson	Fran Ligon	John Martschink
Gloria Purcell	Reed Family	Molly Griggs	Brenda Jonsson
Will Edwards	Charlotte Griggs	Ann Froneberger	Judy Tag
Bob Ferguson	Elaine Tidwell	Cynthia Ebigwei	Rose Derrick
Allyn Bruce	Colby Turner	Gloria Ricoma	Robin Zemp
Edward Fitzgibbon	Phoebe Keene	Janet Wilson	Pat Skees
Teresa Butts	Damir Morrison	Taffy Tamblyn	Cary Alexandre
Maryann Brown			

Friend of the Week

Mary Martschink
1218 Durham Place
Charleston, SC 29407

Mission of the Week

Water Mission International
1150 Molly Greene Way
Bldg. 1605
N. Charleston, SC 29405

Student of the Week

Matthew Butts
1426 Parkshore Dr.
Charleston, SC 29407

Church Family

Marvin and Catherine Morgan
Whitney Lyle, Easton
Mike and Sherry Niblock
Olivia

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