



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

The Third Sunday of Easter

April 23, 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

PRELUDE

The Handbell Choir
Jillian Ramsay and Emma Klingshirn

CORNELIUS GURLITT

◆ SONG OF PREPARATION

Oh God, You Are My God

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.

I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in your ways.

And step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.

◆ WORDS OF PRAISE

PSALM 145:8-14

One: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

All: The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

One: All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your saints shall bless you!

All: They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power, to make known to the children your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

One: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

All: The Lord upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.

◆ INVOCATION 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 NO. 157

I Danced in the Morning

LORD OF THE DANCE

CONFESSION

♦CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS

Hear our prayer for the ways we have not sought to care for those poor in the spirit. Hear our prayer for those we have not comforted in their mourning. Hear our prayer for those we have not fed, or shown mercy, or loved as our brothers and sisters. Hear our prayer for we have sinned. Hear our prayer for we are broken. Hear our prayer for mercy. 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

Laura Patrick

SPECIAL MUSIC

Amazing Grace
Jillian Ramsay

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 11:1-24

PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 11

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

SERMON

Jesus and John the Baptist

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

♦SONG NO. 610

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

AZMON

◆DECLARATION OF FAITH

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;
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

◆HYMN NO. 515

I Come With Joy!

DOVE OF PEACE

SENDING OUT

◆BLESSING

◆*Please stand, if able*

Leading the service today: Daniel Smoak, Pastor; Lissa Long, Pastor; Nancy Parrish, Music.

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

“O God, You Are My God” words and music by David (Beaker) Strasser © 1991 Brentwood Benson Publishing/Kid Brothers of St. Frank Publishing (admin. EMICMGPublishing.com). Used by permission CCLI License # 2778901

Acolytes are Tanner Gentry and Jahrell Jones.
Ushers are Nancy Dixon, Regina Keene, Jim Drennan.

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:

- 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.

DONATE CHILDREN'S RAIN GEAR

We are collecting children's rain gear in various sizes in the month of April. Donations can be placed in the large, labeled box in the Narthex.

PAUSE AND REFRESH: OUR IMAGE—DIVERSITY IN ALL OF US

A Special Sunday School Event for Youth and Adults today at 10:00 am in Covenant Hall. Join Natasha Akery as we explore the layered identity of God through the Creation story, biblical metaphors, and Jesus. We will also examine our own multifaceted identities as unique children of God which equips us to serve in the Kingdom.

MONTREAT MID HIGH YOUTH CONFERENCE: REGISTER NOW!

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 THY 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 signup by the link in the eNews or calling the church office, 843-766-8311, 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.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY AND BACKPACK BUDDIES

Please join us Wednesday, April 26, at 6:00 pm in Covenant Hall and enjoy a delicious supper for adults and children. Nursery is available. Menu is pork tenderloin, vegetable, salad, roll, 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.

CHURCH WORK DAY SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023.

Please mark your calendar for Church workday projects. Saturday, April, 29, 2023 at 9:00 am. Projects: window cleaning, re-nail boards between church and Kickin Chicken, light pressure washing, (signs, tables, windows). Yard work projects: memory garden, trim dead from dogwood trees, watering plants. What to bring: yard rakes, heavy rakes to level crushed rock for potholes, work gloves, pressure washers, extension pole saw/cutter, sunscreen, water bottle, appetite. We will provide donuts in the morning and pizza for lunch. Contact Carole Russell, text 843-442-5276, email clsrussell@comcast.net, if you plan to attend or have questions.

SAM'S (SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY) LUNCH

We can't wait to gather again Thursday, May 18 at 1:00 pm. Lunch will be catered, so please bring \$10 to help cover the cost of the meal. Our speaker, Mark Patrick, will be sharing all the options through the Charleston County Parks this summer. There are so many unknown nuggets to learn about. Please RSVP to mlong@wpccharleston.org, or call the church office 843-766-8311.

MISSION PARTNER ENGAGEMENT

Healing Farms—Walk and Roll Event May 6, 11:00 am—2:00 pm at Wannamaker Park. Register by following the link www.healingfarms.com/walkandroll and join some incredible people in caring for one another. In person and virtual walking options available.

HANDS OF CHRIST

Westminster Presbyterian Church is looking for a Volunteer Coordinator for our Hands of Christ distribution. This person would help coordinate all of our fabulous volunteers for the August distribution. Co-Coordinators are also an option. Reach out to Pastor Lissa if interested in hearing more.

NEIGHBORS TOGETHER

Volunteer to help serve one of the hot meals during the week! We have a team who serves on the third Wednesday of the month or you can register at www.neighborstogether.org.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Westminster Presbyterian Church sponsors an AA group Sunday and Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm in Covenant Hall room 3. If you or someone you know is seeking support, please feel free to share this information.

RESPITE CARE CHARLESTON

Respite Care Charleston offers activities, support groups, half-day memory care (respite) and so much more. If you are interested in volunteering or participating, please reach out to Caitlin at 843-647-7405.

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.



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, April 23

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
10:00 am	Pause and Refresh, Covenant Hall
11:00 am	Worship Service
5:00 pm	Mere Christianity Book Study, Room 15
5:00 pm	Middle School Youth Discipleship, Covenant Hall
6:00 pm	High School Youth Discipleship, Covenant Hall
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Monday, April 24

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

Tuesday, April 25

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

Wednesday, April 26

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

Thursday, April 27

9:30 am	3's Music, Sanctuary
10:00 am	4's Music, Sanctuary
6:00 pm	Scout Troop 79, Covenant Hall

Saturday, April 29

9:00 am	Church Workday, Covenant Hall
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Sunday, April 30

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
10:00 am	Connections Class, Pastor's Office
11:00 am	Worship Service
5:00 pm	Middle School Youth Discipleship, Covenant Hall
6:00 pm	High School Youth Discipleship, Covenant Hall
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 Siefring
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
Bruce Hamilton	Maryann Brown	Cary Alexandre	Brad Leon
Jim Hammersmith			

Friend of the Week

Pat Painter
1925 Essex Farms Dr.
Charleston, SC 29414

Mission of the Week

Mary Ford Early Learning
3180 Thomasina McPherson Rd.
N. Charleston, SC 29405

Student of the Week

Andrew Smoak
9200 University Blvd.
N. Charleston, SC 29406

Church Family

Nancy Parrish
Rachel Parrish
Dick and Carol Patrick

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
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
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