



# Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

January 21, 2024

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 NO. 413      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 111

One: Praise the LORD!  
All: I will thank the LORD with all my heart  
as I meet with his godly people.  
One: How amazing are the deeds of the LORD!  
All who delight in him should ponder them.  
All: Everything he does reveals his glory and majesty.  
His righteousness never fails.  
He causes us to remember his wonderful works.  
How gracious and merciful is our LORD!

◆ PRAYER

◆ SONG OF PRAISE NO. 667

When Morning Gilds the Skies

## CONFESSION

### ◆ CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS

One: Lord, we have sinned against you, in thought (*silence*);  
in word (*silence*); and in deed. (*silence*)

All: **Hear our prayer and forgive our sin.  
Renew within us a right spirit,  
O God. Through Christ we pray, Amen.**

### ◆ DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS AND HEALING

One: Hear the Good News!  
Anyone in Christ is a new creation.  
The old has passed away; behold, the new has come!

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
Alleluia! Amen!**

### ◆ 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: Since God has forgiven us in Christ,  
Let us forgive one another.  
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

Claire Winkles

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 19:1-15

PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 21

SERMON

On Divorce

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### ◆ SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

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

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 NO. 81

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

Sending Out

◆ BLESSING

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◆ *Please stand, if able*

**LEADING THE SERVICE TODAY:** Daniel Smoak; Pastor, Lissa Long, Pastor; Nancy Parrish, Music.

Acolyte: Eleanor Akery

Ushers: George McAbee\*, Mary McAbee, Graham Wade

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

You may also listen to the weekly sermon by utilizing *Sermon By Phone* and calling 843-252-0146.

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from CCLI License #2778901

## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP! LET US KNOW YOU'RE HERE.**

Please take a moment to sign and pass the Friendship Register in the pews. There is a virtual option for those who are worshipping online. Simply scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to open or find on our website under the Quick Links, Virtual Friendship Register. Want to get involved? Fill out and return a "Using Your Gifts" form in the Friendship Register.



## **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.

## **IS GOD CALLING YOU TO JOIN THE WESTMINSTER FAMILY?**

Here's how you can do it.

1. Fill out a New Member Form and put it in the offering plate in the narthex. Forms are available at the Hospitality Table in the narthex, or you may fill one out online under the visitor tab at [wpccharleston.org](http://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.



## **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 [wpccharleston.org](http://wpccharleston.org).

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

## **CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING: AFTER THE 11:00 SERVICE TODAY**

As a caring Christian community, we at Westminster are committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment for all children and for all those working with children involved in the congregational life of Westminster Presbyterian Church and its affiliated organizations. Please stay in the sanctuary following the 11:00 service to participate in a brief 10-minute training on the guidelines we have in place to protect Westminster's children. Diaconate and Session will also be participating in this training at their meeting tonight. Please reach out to Ms. Claire if you have any questions or concerns about our Child Protection Policy!

## **PRAYER REQUEST?**

Leave your written requests in the basket next to the main sanctuary doors. WPC staff will pray for your request at our weekly meeting and throughout the week.

## **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 February 4. 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 February 4 Connections class by emailing [office@wpccharleston.org](mailto:office@wpccharleston.org).

## **WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY**

Gather with friends and family of all ages for food and fellowship January 24! Our dinner menu will be Shrimp and Grits. See you at 6:00 p.m. Adults \$7, children \$4, and a family cap of \$20 via cash, card or check.

## CHRISTIANITY 101 SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

10:00 - 10:45 a.m. in Covenant Hall, January 14- April 28

Join Pastor Lissa in walking through the highlights of being a Christian Disciple in the Presbyterian Church. We will walk through PCUSA polity, worship, sacraments, discipleship and so much more all to prepare us for writing and sharing our statements of faith with one another.

## READ GOOD BOOKS IN 2024!

Join Pastor Daniel in reading any (or all!) of these books in 2024. A variety of topics, authors, and genres, the choices are designed to stimulate the heart and mind and be a catalyst for growth in discipleship. Read each in preparation for the group discussion at 5:00 p.m. on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every other month. Books may be purchased online or at church (\$5 for *Carved in Ebony*)

- On **February 25<sup>th</sup>** we'll discuss Jasmine Holmes's *Carved in Ebony: Lessons from the Black Women Who Shape Us*. This book is about lesser-known Black women who were shining beacons of devotion in a world that did not value their lives. They worked to change laws, built schools, spoke to thousands, shared the Gospel around the world. And while history books may have forgotten them, their stories can teach us so much about what it means to be modern men and women of faith. \*A Young Reader's edition (ages 9-12) is available.
- On **April 28<sup>th</sup>** we'll discuss Philip Yancey's *The Jesus I Never Knew*.
- On **June 23<sup>rd</sup>** we'll discuss Elizabeth Speare's *The Bronze Bow*. \*This is a great book for readers as young as 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
- On **August 25<sup>th</sup>** we'll discuss Kaitlyn Schiess's *The Ballot and the Bible: How Scripture Has Been Used and Abused in American Politics and Where We Go From Here*.
- On **October 27<sup>th</sup>** we'll discuss Skye Jethani's *What if Jesus Was Serious about Heaven*.
- On **December 22<sup>nd</sup>** we'll discuss Keith and Kristyn Getty's *Sing!*

## WORSHIP WITH OUR PRESBYTERY!

The Churches of Charleston Atlantic Presbytery gather for worship regularly. The next opportunity is Sunday, January 21 at 5:00pm. We'll meet in the sanctuary at the Presbytery Office (4701 Park Place W. in Park Circle). The service will be led by the Dr. Brian Henderson and the choir from St. James Presbyterian Church, remembering and giving thanks to God for the life and witness of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

FROM THE WESTMINSTER PULPIT: We're studying the Gospel of Matthew.

January 21	Matthew 19:1-15	On Divorce
January 28	Matthew 19:16-30	The Perils of Being Rich
February 4	Matthew 20:1-28	Striving to Finish Last
February 11	Matthew 20:29-34	Helping Us See Clearly

## NEW TIME(S) FOR YOUTH GROUP!

**5:00 - 5:30 p.m. All Youth Dinner\***

**5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Middle & High School meet in separate spaces**

On Sundays at 5:00 p.m., all Middle and High School youth will arrive at the same time. We will all sit down together to enjoy a meal and catch up before we break off into our separate rooms.

From 5:00-5:30 p.m. we will do dinner and then from 5:30-6:30 p.m. we will break off into separate groups (mid-high and Senior High) with youth leaders to do an age appropriate and fun typical bible study and games setting. Senior High kids will meet in the senior high room and middle high kids will be in either the mid-high Sunday school room or Covenant Hall if room is limited. \*If you have signed up to provide dinner for the youth, please make note that dinner will need to be ready to serve by 4:45 p.m. Thank you!

### **SENIOR HIGHS CHICKEN AFTER CHURCH**

Sunday, January 28, 12:00 p.m. at Kickin' Chicken. High School Youth are invited to walk across the street to Kickin' Chicken for a meal after 11:00 a.m. worship. We will have "Chicken after Church" one Sunday a month. We hope to see our high school youth there!

### **GIFT OF WARMTH**

Our mission partner, Mary Ford Early Childhood Center, is looking to help students keep warm on the playground. Needs include new or VERY gently used outer clothing (coats, sweaters, gloves, caps, and socks) sizes 2T-Children 8. Clothing can be dropped off in baskets located in the narthex. Thank you!

### **COLLECTING CANDLES FOR MIDDLETON PLACE**

Have used candles that you would like to donate to repurpose? There is a box in the Narthex for them! These will go to Middleton Place for their candle making workshops. Contact Carole Russell for questions 843-442-5376.

### **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.neighborstogethersc.org](http://www.neighborstogethersc.org). Email Jim Frye at [fecr1@yahoo.com](mailto:fecr1@yahoo.com) to receive emails about our regular Wednesday group.

### **FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

Soap bars, toothpaste, individually packaged toothbrushes, and deodorant

### **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.

### **COMMUNITY SUPPORT NUMBERS**

Mental Health Crisis Hotline 988

Community Resource and Support Hotline 211

My Sister's House (domestic abuse) (843) 744-3242

Al-Anon (843) 762-6999

Narcotics Anonymous (843) 852-3001

Wake-Up Carolina (support for families and individuals battling substance abuse) (843) 972-8154

## THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

### Sunday, January 21

9:00 am      Worship Service  
10:00 am      Sunday School  
11:00 am      Worship Service  
12:00 pm      Child Protection Training in Sanctuary  
4:00 pm      Club 3,4,5  
5:00 pm      All Youth Discipleship  
5:00 pm      Deacons Meeting  
5:45 pm      Officer Child Protection Training  
6:00 pm      Stated Session Meeting  
7:00 pm      AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

### Monday, January 22

3:00 pm      Membership Committee

### Tuesday, January 23

10:00 am      Staff Meeting  
7:00 pm      Handbell rehearsal

### Wednesday, January 24

6:00 pm      Wonderful Wednesday  
6:45 pm      Endowment Committee, Parlor  
7:00 pm      Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 pm      AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

### Thursday, January 25

### Friday, January 26

### Saturday, January 27

### Sunday, January 28

9:00 am      Worship Service  
10:00 am      Sunday School  
11:00 am      Worship Service  
12:00 pm      Chicken After Church Senior High  
5:00 pm      All Youth Discipleship  
7:00 pm      AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

## WESTMINSTER PRAYS

Cary Alexandre	Nikolai Fruth	Mary Martschink	Mark Stender
Joyce Aydlette	Harold Fountain	Christina Miller	Ginger Stoke
Daryn Barker	Bruce Hamilton	Love Moody	Rachel Singletary
Mary Ashley Barbot	Judy Hatch	Roy Nickles	Judy Tag
Gary Brooks	Megan Hatfield	Joe Nuchols	Bryan Thomas
Maryann Brown	Jennifer Holladay	Gary Payne	Towne Family
Brian Carolow	Rev. Chris Huff	Nancy Plowden	Gloria Underhill
Susie Cashion	Maurice Jackman	Suzy Pitsey	Maryalice Vann
Lydia Crosby	Brenda Jonsson	Brayden Preus	Nancy Waller
Harper Croft	Mildred Kennerly	Monnie Privette	Lisa Wilcox
Sandi Daniels	David Kerr	Reed Family	Rob Wilcox
Martin Davis	Adam Kozel	Charles Reeves	Laura Wilson
Rose Derrick	Fran Ligon	Lee Robertson	Robbie Yarnall
Cynthia Ebigwei	Jane Livingston	Nita Rodemann	Robin Zemp
Will Edwards	Walker Lundy	Gloria Ricoma	
Pat Finn	Evan McMillian	Kevin Ritzel	
Edward Fitzgibbon	John Martschink	Jim Seay	

### PRAYER LIST UPDATED JANUARY 2024

If you need to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please email Suzann at [office@wpccharleston.org](mailto:office@wpccharleston.org)

<b>College Student of the Week</b>	<b>Friend of the Week</b>	<b>Mission of the Week</b>	<b>Church Family</b>
Noelle Whitener 203 Kelly Road Unit#434 Clemson, SC 29631	Keith Gordon 1759 River Front Road Charleston, SC 29407	Neighbors Together 2105 Cosgrove Avenue North Charleston, SC 29405	Jodie Almeida -Sammy

### WESTMINSTER SESSION MEMBERS AND COMMITTEES

**Administration:** Tom Whetstone and Matthew Patrick; **Buildings and Grounds:** Matt Teitsort and Randy Davis; **Christian Education:** Lindy Coleman and Laura Patrick; **Fellowship:** Jonathan Bazzle, Betsy McLaughlin, and Mike Niblock; **Finance:** Norman Hook and Chuck Towne; **Membership:** Beth Georgen and John Dounian; **Missions:** Dee Bee Wright and Mary McAbee; **Preschool:** Abbie Mobley; **Worship:** Allyn Bruce and Ashley Snider; **Clerk:** Carole Russell; **Assistant Clerk:** Lindy Coleman; **Treasurer:** Nancy Dixon; **Assistant Treasurer:** Patty Stokes

#### **Westminster Presbyterian Church**

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Charleston, SC 29407

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Rev. Dr. Daniel L. Smoak, Pastor, [dsmoak@wpccharleston.org](mailto:dsmoak@wpccharleston.org)

Rev. Lissa Long, Associate Pastor, [mlong@wpccharleston.org](mailto:mlong@wpccharleston.org)

Claire Winkles, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries, [cwinkles@wpccharleston.org](mailto:cwinkles@wpccharleston.org)

Robin Zemp, Director of Music, [rzemp@wpccharleston.org](mailto:rzemp@wpccharleston.org)

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Alicia Crosby, Preschool Director, [preschool@wpccharleston.org](mailto:preschool@wpccharleston.org)

Meg Dorsel, Communications Coordinator, [mdorsel@wpccharleston.org](mailto:mdorsel@wpccharleston.org)