



# 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 17, 2024

9:00 a.m.

## GATHERING

*Please greet each other warmly as the congregation gathers for worship.  
Take a moment and sign the friendship register.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ◆ SONG OF PREPARATION

To God Be the Glory

To God be the glory; great things he has done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life an, atonement for sin,  
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

#### Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory: great things he has done!

### ◆ WORDS OF PRAISE

FROM PSALM 97

One: The heavens proclaim your righteousness, O God.  
All: And all people behold your glory.  
One: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous!  
All: We shall give thanks to God's holy name!

### ◆ PRAYER

### ◆ SONG OF PRAISE NO. 667

When Morning Gilds the Skies

## CONFESSION

### ◆ CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS

Lord, in the presence of your holiness, the darkness of our sin is apparent. The light of your face reveals the parts of our lives we prefer to keep in the shadows. You know who we really are, yet your love flows freely. You know the ways we backslide, reject your law, and follow false idols, but you still pursue us. We are so grateful for your redeeming love that forgives us, gives us a new heart, and puts us back on the right path to serving you.

◆ SONG OF CONFESSION

You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!

You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!

You are the Christ, giv-er of mer-cy!

You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!

◆ DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS AND HEALING

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE

The Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

◆ 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

Claire Winkles

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 22:1-14

PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 24

SERMON

On Having the Wrong Clothes

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 353

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

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. 839

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

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: John and Dee Bee Wright

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.

## 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 14. 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 14 Connections class by emailing [office@wpccharleston.org](mailto:office@wpccharleston.org).

## 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. We're reading the bible together during LENT. The reading schedule, also with readings from *The Jesus Storybook Bible* for children is available in the Narthex. This week:

(Adults and Youth)

March 17 *Catch-up on your reading*

March 18 Matthew 6: 19-34, Luke 12

March 19 Mark 4, Matthew 8

March 20 Matthew 14, Mark 6, Luke 9

March 21 Matthew 13

March 22 Matthew 18, 19, Mark 10, Luke 18

March 23 Luke 19

March 24 *Catch-up on your reading*

(The Jesus Storybook Bible)

March 17 *Catch-up on your reading*

March 18 The Singer

March 19 The Captain of the Storm

March 20 Filled Full!

March 21 Treasure Hunt!

March 22 The Friend of Little Children

March 23 The Man Who Didn't Have Any Friends

March 24 *Catch-up on your reading*

## 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.

## 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.

## WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY

Gather with friends and family of all ages for food and fellowship on March 20. Our dinner menu will be Shrimp and Grits, Lima Beans, Salad, and Dessert. 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 good 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 *The Jesus I Never Knew*)

- On April 28<sup>th</sup> we'll discuss Philip Yancey's *The Jesus I Never Knew*. From the manger in Bethlehem to the cross in Jerusalem, Yancey presents a complex character who generates questions as well as answers—a disturbing and exhilarating Jesus who wants to radically transform your life and stretch your faith. We'll cut through some preconceptions and cultural appropriations of the most important person who ever lived.
- 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!*

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

March 17	Matthew 22: 1-14	On Having the Wrong Clothes
March 24	Matthew 22:15-46	Three Attempts to Trick Jesus
March 31	John 20:1-18	The Defeat of Death

## YOUTH SUNDAY: APRIL 14TH AT THE 9:00 AND THE 11:00 SERVICE!

We invite all middle high and senior high youth to participate in our Youth Sunday Service on April 14th! They will be leading worship at both the 9:00 and the 11:00 services. This is a great opportunity for our youth to use their spiritual gifts and talents to write liturgy, sing songs of worship, and lead our congregation in worship. Please email Ms. Claire if your youth would like to participate, and Ms. Claire will reach out with specific ways in which they can be involved on this day. We are asking that participating youth be available at the church on April 7th from 10:00-10:45 a.m. for a final run through of the service, as well as on April 14th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for the day of the service. We are looking forward to having our middle high and senior high youth lead worship!

## PAUSE AND REFRESH FOR CONGO MISSION TODAY AT 10:00 IN COVENANT HALL

We're so glad to welcome PCUSA Mission Workers Jeff and Christi Boyd to Westminster on March 17<sup>th</sup>. They are Presbyterian missionaries in Congo, Africa. They are here in Charleston as part of the Congo Mission Network Conference hosted by our Presbytery, and it is so good for them to join us for Sunday School and worship. The Presbyterian Church in Congo has perhaps 2,250,000 members (roughly 2x the size of the PCUSA) and has thousands of churches, over a thousand elementary schools, medical clinics and hospitals, a seminary and university. They'll be leading an educational experience in Covenant Hall during Sunday School on the 17<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 - 10:45. All are welcome!

## MEN'S BIBLE STUDY MEETS TUESDAY MARCH 19

Men of all ages: Join us for Breakfast and Bible Study from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup>. We are meeting for breakfast at Trotters Restaurant at Town and Country Inn and Suites (2008 Savannah Highway). Pastor Daniel will be leading; join us for the Fellowship and Encouragement!

## WATER MISSIONS WALK FOR WATER

Since 2006, thousands of walkers have raised millions of dollars to fight the global water crisis through Walk for Water events. The Water Mission Walk for Water started in Charleston, SC, and has expanded to Walk events across the United States and in more than 35 countries around the world. Walk for Water is just around the corner on Saturday, March 23, Riverfront Park! Please register with our WPC Team and join in providing clean, safe drinking water for all. <https://walkforwater.rallybound.org/2024-walk-for-water>.



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY FOR BACKPACK BUDDIES!

A few weeks ago, we identified a need for Backpack Buddies funding, and you have responded generously! In the past few weeks \$12,413 has been given to this important ministry. Thank you!!

About Backpack Buddies: WPC provides a weekend backpack of easy-to-prepare food to children at risk for weekend hunger. Westminster's partnership is currently with Goodwin Elementary School. We are packing food for children whose weekend meals are funded by grant partners. All together we pack food once a month for 110 children each weekend...or to look at it from our perspective on Wednesday nights, we are packing about 440 bags each month. We also partner with St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church by providing funding while they provide the labor to pick up, pack and deliver the food to Stono Park Elementary School. It is an outreach needing about \$25,000 a year.

You can help in two ways:

- Come help pack on designated Wednesday nights. The next one is March 27! Dinner is at 6 pm and packing starts about 6:30 pm. We normally finish by 7:00 pm.
- Donate what you can! You can designate Backpack Buddies in the dropdown menu at [wpccharleston.org](http://wpccharleston.org) or on the memo line of your check!

## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER WORSHIP

### **PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP**

**9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday, March 24**

*Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday and the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.*

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP**

**7:00 p.m. Thursday, March 28**

*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**

**12:00 p.m. Friday, March 29**

*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**

**9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday, March 31**

*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.*

## WESTMINSTER'S EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 23rd from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Children ages 0-5th grade are invited to participate in our annual egg hunt and Easter fair. There will be egg hunts, crafts, and story time about the resurrection and a special visit from the Easter Bunny. Don't forget your basket! At this event, we request that grownups stay with their child during their rotation! We hope to see you there!

## EASTER DONATIONS FOR THORNWELL

For Easter Sunday, our tradition at Westminster is to honor and remember loved ones by making donations to the Thornwell Home for Children in lieu of placing lilies in the sanctuary. The names of those honored and those giving will be printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. The forms are available in the narthex. You may place your check (\$15 minimum) in the offering plate or mail to the church office. Deadline is Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024.

## NEXT SUNDAY IS PALM SUNDAY!

All children (and young at heart) are invited to process and wave palm branches during the first hymn. It's a celebration of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem at the beginning of Holy Week! Palms are provided; kids will start in the pew and then be directed to the narthex for the beginning of the processional.

## THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

### Sunday, March 17

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
5:00 pm	All Youth Discipleship
5:00 pm	Diaconate Meeting
5:00 pm	Confirmation Examinations
5:00 pm	Session Meeting
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

### Monday, March 18

6:00 pm	Congregational Nominating Committee Meeting
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### Tuesday, March 19

8:00 am	Men's Bible Study
7:00 pm	Handbell rehearsal

### Wednesday, March 20

1:00 pm	Women's Biblical Book Club CH Room 4
6:00 pm	Wonderful Wednesday
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

### Thursday, March 21

### Friday, March 22

### Saturday, March 23

9:00 am	Walk for Water Riverfront Park
9:30 am	All Youth Volunteers in CH
10:00 am	Easter Egg Hunt

### Sunday, March 24

	Palm Sunday
9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
5:00 pm	All Youth Discipleship
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

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### SAVE THE DATES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH!

Westminster's children and youth have a lot of great opportunities for growing in discipleship and having fun! Please be sure to mark your calendars for the following events!

#### **Children's Ministries Dates to look forward to!**

- 3-23-24 Easter Egg Hunt at Westminster from 10:00-11:30 a.m.

#### **Youth Dates to look forward to!**

- 3-23-24 All Youth Help with Easter Egg Hunt! More details to follow!
- 3-24-24 Confirmation Sunday for 7th and 8th grade youth!

#### **Youth and Children's Ministry Summer Dates to note:**

- 6-23-24 through 6-27-24 Vacation Bible School at WPC!
- 6-9-24 through 6-15-24 Sr. High Montreat Retreat
- July 14-19 Middle School CROSS Mission Trip in Charlotte N.C.
- 7-21-24 through 7-27-24 Westminster's Week at Bethelwoods!

## WESTMINSTER PRAYS

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

### PRAYER LIST UPDATED FEBRUARY 2024

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

#### **College Student of the Week**

Izzy Justice  
PO Box 7207  
2020 Alumni Drive  
Winthrop University  
Rock Hill, SC 29733

#### **Friend of the Week**

Fran Morat  
1623 Dickens Street  
Charleston, SC 29407

#### **Mission of the Week**

Hooks and Needles

#### **Church Family**

Christine Bednarczyk  
- Maggie

### 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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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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