



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

Palm Sunday

March 24, 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

◆ WORDS OF PRAISE

FROM MATTHEW AND LUKE

One: When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And as he rode along, most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying:

All: **Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!**

One: And the crowds that went before him
and that followed him were shouting,

All: **Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest!**

◆ PRAYER

◆ SONG OF PRAISE 196

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Refrain:

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!

Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One. (Refrain)

The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present. (Refrain)

To thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise. (Refrain)

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King! (Refrain)

The company of angels are praising Thee on high;
And we with all creation in chorus make reply. (Refrain)

CONFESSION

◆ CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS

Merciful Lord, we join voices in praise to you, gladly proclaiming you as our King, yet we have not followed your rule. We are more inclined to look for ways to fulfill our desires than to accomplish your will. We strive to extend our influence more than we seek your kingdom. Forgive us for saying one thing while living another. Help us by your Spirit to walk in the way of the cross, loving you with all of our hearts and loving our neighbors as ourselves.

◆ SONG OF CONFESSION

You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!



◆ 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

SPECIAL MUSIC

Palm Sunday Medley
Nancy Parrish and Anna Kerr

SIMPSON

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 22:15-46

PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 24

SERMON

Three Attempts to Trick Jesus

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 63

The Lord Is God

◆ DECLARATION OF FAITH

FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH (1983)

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

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. 198

Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

SENDING OUT

◆ BLESSING

◆ *Please stand, if able*

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

Acolyte: Evan Ford

Ushers: Nancy Dixon, Jim Drennan

11:00 am Livestream at 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

TODAY 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 at the end of the Welcome and Announcements for the beginning of the processional.

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.

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.

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 24 ***Catch-up on your reading***

March 25 Luke 15

March 26 Mark 14, Luke 7, John 12

March 27 Mark 14, John 13-14

March 28 Luke 22, Mark 14, John 18

March 29 Matthew 27, Mark 15, Luke 23, John 19

March 30 Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20

March 31 ***Catch-up on your reading***

(The Jesus Storybook Bible)

March 24 ***Catch-up on your reading***

March 25 Running Away

March 26 Washed With Tears

March 27 The Servant King

March 28 A Dark Night in the Garden

March 29 The Sun Stops Shining

March 30 God's Wonderful Surprise

March 31 ***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 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.

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 Chicken Bog, Sweet Peas and Carrots, Green 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.

10:00 A.M. EASTER FELLOWSHIP FOR ALL

In lieu of Sunday School Classes on Easter, we will be having Easter Fellowship around Westminster! There is an opportunity to place flowers on the cross in the sanctuary as well as take pictures during this time. We will also have the playground open and supervised for children and families to play, and coffee and snacks will be available in Covenant Hall. We hope to see you there!

BRING A FLOWER ON EASTER SUNDAY!

Christ's resurrection brings new life to the whole world- it is the beginning of the restoration of all things! Even the terrible, rugged cross, the instrument of Jesus' death, can become an emblem of new life in Christ. On Easter Sunday, a cross will be located at the front of the sanctuary, and you are invited to bring a flower or use the flowers provided to decorate it.

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 4th Sunday of every other month. Books may be purchased online or at church (\$5 for *The Jesus I Never Knew*)

- On April 28th 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 23rd we'll discuss Elizabeth Speare's *The Bronze Bow*. *This is a great book for readers as young as 6th grade.
- On August 25th 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*.

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!

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 \$13,423 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 this Wednesday, 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 or on the memo line of your check!

SAMS SAVE THE DATE

More details for April 18th trip to Cypress Gardens in Enews!

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!

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

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, March 24

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

Monday, March 25

6:00 pm	Congregational Nominating Committee Meeting
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Tuesday, March 26

7:00 pm	Handbell rehearsal
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Wednesday, March 27

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 28

7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Worship Service
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Friday, March 29

12:00 pm	Good Friday Worship Service
12:30 pm	Lunch

Saturday, March 30

10:00 am	Choir Rehearsal
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Sunday, March 31

	Easter Sunday
9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Easter Fellowship
11:00 am	Worship Service
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

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 MARCH 2024

If you need to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please email Suzann at office@wpccharleston.org

College Student of the Week	Friend of the Week	Mission of the Week	Church Family
Abbie Grace McLaughlin 65 Martin Luther King Avenue Unit 6 St. Augustine, FL 32084	Roy Nickles The Benton House 1445 Bluewater Way Charleston, SC 29414	Thornwell Home for Children 302 South Broad Street Clinton, SC 29325	Tripp & Jennifer Binnicker -George & Eleanor

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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