



# Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

## The Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2026

11:00 a.m.

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

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Minute for Mission

Little Library

### PRELUDE

According to Thy Gracious Word

GILBERT M. MARTIN

### ◆ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Out of the depths I cry to you.

**All: Lord, hear my voice.**

One: Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.

**All: Lord hear my voice.**

One: With you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

**All: Lord hear my voice. In you, I put my hope.**

### ◆ INVOCATION

### ◆ HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 370

This is My Father's World

TERRA BEATA

### ◆ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

From Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

-Silent Personal Confession-

### ◆ ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON

### ◆ 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.

### ◆ SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you!

**All: And also with you!**

*Please share the peace of Christ with your neighbor*

TIME FOR CHILDREN TO SHINE

Claire Winkles

*Following Children's Time, children ages 2-3K (Wee Church) and 4-5 K (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.*

ANTHEM

God So Loved the World  
Sanctuary Choir

BOB CHILCOTT

*God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that who so believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 23:39-43  
Revelation 21:1-5

PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 20  
PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 259

SERMON

The Second Word from the Cross  
*"Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." Luke 23:43*

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

◆ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from the Nicene Creed (381)

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

◆ HYMN NO. 417

Lord Jesus Think on Me

SOUTHWELL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PASTORAL 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.**

◆ *Please stand, if able***LEADING THE SERVICE TODAY:**

Priscilla Holtzclaw, Parish Associate;  
 Janie Bruce, Director of Adult Discipleship;  
 Claire Winkles, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries;  
 Sarah Shayban, Director of Music

Acolytes: Sophia Teitsort, Wyatt Teitsort  
 Children's Church: Catherine Morgan, Caroline Christian  
 Wee Church: Missy Rutter, Leslie Krajewski  
 Ushers: Sandy Pell, Dave Stanton, Tim Fox

11:00 Livestream at [www.wpccharleston.org](http://www.wpccharleston.org), YouTube (Westminster Presbyterian Charleston)  
 Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from CCLI License #2778901

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP! ALL ARE WELCOME.**

We are called to be and to make disciples who love God and who love our neighbors. We are all neighbors no matter our age, race, language, culture, gifts and challenges, gender identity, or sexual orientation. We strive to be a safe and supportive community where all people are included, celebrated, and loved as we grow as disciples together.

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

Please take a moment to sign and pass the Friendship Register in the pews. If you are visiting and wish to learn more about Westminster, leave your contact information. If you are interested in becoming a member, check 'wish to join' and a pastor will be in touch with you.

**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.

**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.

**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.

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

Here's how you can do it. 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. 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. 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. 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.



## TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER

All who profess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to share in the bread and the cup. Elders will serve the congregation seated in the pews; please hold the elements until all are served and we will partake together. WPC is a safe place for those in recovery- we serve grape juice only. Gluten free bread is available in the center of the juice tray. Children are invited to the table provided they've had instruction at home or in Westminster's worship prep class (1<sup>st</sup> grade).

## YOU'RE INVITED! "HOLY GROUNDS" TODAY; 9:45- 10:15AM IN COVENANT HALL

Join us for Holy Grounds, a new monthly gathering during the Sunday School hour, hosted by the deacons! This casual time of coffee, conversation (and pastries!) is designed to welcome new members and invite existing members who want to meet others, get more involved in the life of the church, and build meaningful connections.

## CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2026 SERVES WITH ELDERS:

Our 2026 Confirmation Class has been working hard to learn and grow in our community of faith so that they can be welcomed as members of our congregation on Confirmation Sunday. Some of the ways they have been preparing for this step is to spend time with their elder partners serving the community. Some of the projects that have been done have been redesigning our blessing box with artwork, creating valentine care packages for nursing home staff, wrapping gifts for Camp Happy Days Families, and a brand-new Little Library that has been built next to the Blessing Box. Please take a moment to ask our confirmation students about their service projects, and continue to be in prayer for them as they take their final steps into Confirmation!

## GROUNDING IN PRAYER

If events in your life, our community, our nation, or the world are stirring a desire for a more deeply rooted prayer life, you are not alone. You are invited to join others who feel the same way.

On Sundays from **5:00-5:45 pm**, we gather in the **WPC Sanctuary** for a time of prayer together. Each week will include:

- A brief devotional teaching from a pastor on the nature of prayer.
- Guided prayer shaped by the Psalms and the Lord's Prayer.
- Learning and practicing how biblical prayers can inform both personal and communal prayer.
- Taking steps to allow the Holy Spirit to lead us from prayer into action.

Whether you come as an active participant or a quiet observer, you are welcome. Join us any Sunday.

## FROM THE WESTMINSTER PULPIT

What the Church calls "the seven last words" of Jesus are based on the final seven phrases Jesus said on the cross before his death. We study them because his identity, purpose, and depth of love becomes clear as we come to understand the meaning behind his last words. Join us for worship on for the 7 Last Words Sermon series. Listen online at [wpccharleston.org](http://wpccharleston.org)

- March 1      The Second Word: "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."
- March 8      The Third Word: "Woman, behold your son; behold your mother."
- March 15     The Fourth Word: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
- March 22     The Fifth Word: "I thirst."
- March 29     The Sixth Word: "It is finished."
- April 3       The Seventh Word: "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit."
- April 5       Easter: The Resurrection of Jesus

## LENTEN DEVOTIONAL: THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS

As we journey through Lent, we invite you to deepen your worship and discipleship with a Lenten devotional that follows our sermon series, *The Seven Last Words of Jesus*. These final words spoken from the cross-reveal Jesus' identity, purpose, and unfailing love. The devotional, created by WPC staff, is designed for individuals, families, and groups, with weekly prayers, Scripture readings, reflection questions, and suggested practices to use throughout the season. Pick up a copy and follow along each week for a more meaningful Lent.

Consider going deeper in community through the **Life Class**, Sundays from **10:00-10:45 a.m.** in the Church Library, where we'll use this devotional together.

*Devotionals are available in the narthex.*

## WESTMINSTER'S BETHELWOODS WEEK IS JULY 26TH-JULY 1ST. REGISTER YOUR KIDS TODAY!

Did you know? Westminster offers scholarships for children attending Bethelwoods Summer Camps. We'll cover 50% of the Tier 1 price per child. Simply register through the Bethelwoods website, then submit a scholarship request form to Westminster for reimbursement. Forms are available by contacting the church office or Ms. Claire. Children can attend any week of the summer, but Westminster families traditionally register for July 26.

### ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH W.E. PACK!

We have officially kicked off another year of snacks (Weekend Eats) for students! After supper on the first Wednesday of every month, we take about 30-45 minutes to pack snack kits for Goodwin and Mary Ford students who are facing weekend food insecurity. We pack enough for 300 students a week to go home with a bag of nutritious snacks. It is a fun and meaningful mission opportunity for all ages. You can support this important ministry financially. The cost to send snacks home for one child for the month is \$10 or \$90 for the year! Make checks payable to WPC and marked “WePack” or on the WPC website. Click “Give” and choose WEPack on the drop-down menu. Thanks!

### JOIN US FOR WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY!

Gather with friends and family of all ages for food and fellowship at 6:00 p.m. Adults \$8, children \$4 and a family cap of \$25 via cash, card or check.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY/COVENANT HALL HANDS OF CHRIST SITE COORDINATOR

Westminster is seeking a **Covenant Hall Hands of Christ Site Coordinator** to help oversee this year’s distribution. This role is ideal for someone who enjoys organizing alongside a team and helping create a welcoming experience for families. The position is not difficult, and plenty of support is available – including guidance from the current coordinator this year. The primary commitment is availability during the week of August 3–8, with distribution taking place:

- August 7 (4:00–6:00 p.m.)
- August 8 (10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.).

If you are interested in learning more or would like to explore serving in this role, please contact the church office.

### THE CAJM SCHOOL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR INPUT

The Charleston Area Justice Ministry School Governance Committee want to get feedback from all of our congregations on their interests and concerns when it comes to the school board. This is going to help CAJM craft engaging materials, get more people involved, and ultimately hold the school board accountable for ethical and transparent governance of our school district! Use the QR code to take a brief and anonymous survey- helping us know what issues are most important to YOU.



### FROM THE SESSION

Trusting the Spirit’s leading and grateful for the ministry God is doing among us, the Session has approved a faith budget of **\$1,035,805 for 2026**. This budget reflects our shared commitment to worship, care, formation, mission, and outreach in Christ’s name.

Based on anticipated giving, other income, and our 2025 actual receipts, we are currently projecting a **budget shortfall of \$143,609**. That is larger than what we typically face, yet Session approved this budget because we believe deeply in the mission and ministry it supports. While designated funds—essentially our church’s savings—could cover the gap if needed, our hope is not to rely on those funds.

Instead, we want to extend a **simple and prayerful invitation** to our congregation.

- If you have already pledged, we invite you to prayerfully consider whether you might be able to take a small step up—an increase that reflects both your capacity and your care for this church.
- If you have not pledged before, we invite you to consider a pledge not as an obligation, but as a spiritual practice—a way of saying, *“This is my church, and I share responsibility for its life and witness.”*

An additional **\$50–\$60 per month from each family** would bridge the gap and bring us into alignment with our commitments to ministry and mission.

If most of your giving is currently designated for a specific ministry, we also invite you to consider whether a portion of that generosity might support the operating ministry that sustains everything else we do together.

If you feel led to respond to this invitation, you may do so **using the QR code** or an Estimate of Giving Card found in the narthex.



Thank you for your faithfulness, your generosity, and your love for this congregation. We are deeply grateful to be walking this path of ministry together.

## This Is My Father's World 370

1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis - tening ears all  
2 This is my Fa-ther's world. O, let me ne'er for - get that

na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.  
though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul - er yet.

This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of  
This is my Fa-ther's world. The bat - tle is not done: Je -

rocks and trees, of skies and seas, his hand the won - ders wrought.  
sus who died shall be sat - is - fied, and earth and heaven be one.

When pastor of a Presbyterian church in Lockport, New York, the author of this text referred to his morning walks as "going out to see my Father's world." The tune created for these words is based on an English melody the composer learned from his mother when he was a boy.



# God Reigns! Let Earth Rejoice! 365

(Psalm 97)

1 God reigns! Let earth re - joice! Let o - ceans  
 2 God's fire ig - nites the clouds with judg - ment  
 3 False i - dols rise to claim the weak - ness  
 4 The ra - diance of God's light beams joy in -

shout God's might! Borne up by truth and righ - teous - ness, God's  
 swift and just; the e - vil find their deeds in vain; God's  
 of our pride, but can - not touch the faith - ful ones, for  
 to our days; now filled with God's own peace and love, our

*Refrain*

throne is our de - light.  
 foes are brought to dust. Re - joice! Re -  
 God stands at our side.  
 hearts re - sound with praise.

Re - joice!

joyce! God reigns! Let earth re - joice!  
 Re - joice!

The theme of rejoicing that unites Psalm 97 is fittingly emphasized here by the refrain that ties together these four stanzas. Instead of the intimacy with God celebrated in other psalms, the primary concern here is to proclaim God's power over all false gods that tempt us.

## THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

### Sunday, March 1

9:00 am      Worship Service  
10:00 am      Sunday School  
10:00 am      Holy Grounds, Covenant Hall  
11:00 am      Worship Service  
12:10 pm      CE Committee Meeting, Library  
12:15 pm      Worship Committee Meeting, Parlor  
4:00 pm      Club 345  
5:00 pm      Youth Group, Covenant Hall  
5:00 pm      Grounded in Prayer, Sanctuary  
7:00 pm      AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

### Monday, March 2

6:00 pm      Troop 79 Leadership Meeting, Covenant Hall

### Tuesday, March 3

10:00 am      Staff Meeting

### Wednesday, March 4

6:00 pm      Wonderful Wednesday, Covenant Hall  
6:30 pm      WE PACK, Covenant Hall  
6:30 pm      Handbell Choir Rehearsal  
7:15 pm      Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 pm      AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

### Thursday, March 5

### Friday, March 6

WOW Retreat, Edisto Beach (3/6-3/8)

### Saturday, March 7

### Sunday, March 8

9:00 am      Worship Service  
10:00 am      Sunday School  
11:00 am      Worship Service  
12:00 pm      Second Sunday Potluck, Covenant Hall  
5:00 pm      Confirmation Examination  
5:00 pm      Youth Group, Covenant Hall  
5:00 pm      Grounded in Prayer, Sanctuary  
7:00 pm      AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

## COMMUNITY SUPPORT NUMBERS

Al-Anon (843) 762-6999

Community Resource and Support Hotline 211

Neighbors Together (843) 747-1788

Narcotics Anonymous (843) 852-3001

Mental Health Crisis Hotline 988

PostPartumsupportchas.org

## WESTMINSTER PRAYS

Cary Alexandre (WPC)	Janie Hammersmith (WPC)	Julie Pell (Sandy & Debbie Pell)
Acker Family (WPC)	Clara Hanger (Gloria Purcell)	Powell Family (WPC)
Daryn Baker (Jane Acker)	Megan Hatfield (Debbie McQueeney)	Pratt Family (WPC Preschool)
Mary Ashley Barbot (Lisa Couch)	Betsy Henson (Ashley Snider)	Donna Purcell (WPC)
Binnicker Family	Anna Hewitt (Dee Bee Wright)	Joyce Reeves (Sue Smoak)
Allyn Bruce (WPC)	Charlie Howell (Debbie Baskin)	Paula Ruth (Debbie McQueeney)
Diane Byers (Deb Frasier)	The Hudson Family (Priscilla Holtzclaw)	Sarah Schumann (WPC)
Susie Cashion (WPC)	Chris Huff (Gloria Purcell)	Cliff & Liz Shelor (WPC)
Lauren Choate (Sara Dwyer)	Emerson Jones (Molly Griggs)	Tradd Shepard (WPC)
Cherie Couche (Dana Tumbleston)	Lynn Koger (WPC)	Rachel Singletary (Sara Bobo)
Allen Croft (Gwen Croft)	Mary Laird (Ashley Snider)	The Jerry Smoak Family (WPC)
Lydia Crosby (WPC)	Fran Ligon (WPC)	Ray Thomas (Sara Dwyer)
Martin Davis (Kevin Mikles)	Ray Long (Ellen Bollinger)	Towne Family (WPC)
Hosanna Eadie (Katie Baturin)	John Martschink (WPC)	Gloria Underhill (Laura Nunn)
Roxanne Eadie (Katie Baturin)	Mary Martschink (WPC)	Kathy Unger (Keith Gordon)
Ann & Ellen Farrar (Beth Georgen)	Jay Massalon (Dana Tumbleston)	Jacqueline Vance (Sara Dwyer)
Edward Fitzgibbon (Joan Frye)	David McEachern (Debra Luhn)	Mark Warner (Kendall Ramsay)
Randleson Floyd/Daniels (Gloria Purcell)	Gavin McLeod (Dana Tumbleston)	Aileen Wiese (WPC)
Harold Fountain (Henry Shepard)	Marley Miller (Dee Bee Wright)	Janet Wilson (Gloria Purcell)
Keith Gordon (WPC)	Jennifer Morgan (Susie Cashion)	Betty Winter (Dee Bee Wright)
Margaret Ellen Hamman (Suzanne Fox)		Eleanor Woodbury (Anna Kerr)
		Robbie Yarnall (WPC)

## PRAYER LIST UPDATED FEBRUARY 2026

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

Friend of the Week	Mission of the Week	Student of the Week	Church Family
Fran Morat	WePack	Skyler Frasier	Anna Spann
1623 Dickens Street		412 Technology Center Way	Lucia, Roman
Charleston, SC 29407		Apt. 306	
		Rock Hill, SC 29730	

## ELDERS AND SESSION COMMITTEES

**Administration:** Michael Patrick and Paul Patrick; **Buildings and Grounds:** Randy Davis and Tim Fox; **Christian Education:** Cathy Grills and Kevin Mikles; **Fellowship:** Jon Bazzle and Michael Scruggs; **Finance:** Sarah Schumann and Joshua Robinson; **Membership:** John Dounian and Cameron Baker; **Missions:** Mary McAbee and Natasha Akery; **Preschool:** Ashley Snider; **Worship:** Allyn Bruce and Deborah-Anne Ferguson; **Clerk:** Carole Russell; **Assistant Clerk:** Cathy Grills **Treasurer:** Tim Fox

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1157 Sam Rittenberg Boulevard  
Charleston, SC 29407  
[www.wpccharleston.org](http://www.wpccharleston.org) (843) 766-8311

Rev. Dr. Daniel L. Smoak, Pastor, [dsmoak@wpccharleston.org](mailto:dsmoak@wpccharleston.org)  
Priscilla Holtzclaw, Parish Associate, [pholtzclaw@wpccharleston.org](mailto:pholtzclaw@wpccharleston.org)  
Janie Bruce, Director of Adult Discipleship, [jbruce@wpccharleston.org](mailto:jbruce@wpccharleston.org)  
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