



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

The Third Sunday in Lent

March 8, 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

PRELUDE

◆ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: How very good and pleasant it is when brothers and sisters live together in unity!

All: **It is like precious oil of blessing, like grace poured out from our Lord.**

One: There is one body and one Spirit, just as we were called to one hope.

All: **One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all.**

One: Though we are many, we are one body in Christ,
and individually members of one another.

All: **We belong to Christ, and we belong to one another.**

One: Let us worship the God who makes us one.

All: **With one heart and one voice, let us worship God!**

◆ INVOCATION

◆ HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 408

There's Sweet, Sweet Spirit in this Place

SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT

◆ 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

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

◆ 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

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 19:26-27

PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 114

POETRY

The Desolation of Mary
Natasha Akery

SERMON

The Third Word from the Cross
"Woman, behold your son; behold your mother."

◆ HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 216

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

ST. CHRISTOPHER

◆ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH (1983)

In life and death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

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.

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.

◆ HYMN NO. 300

We Are One in the Spirit

THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

◆ BENEDICTION

◆ POSTLUDE

◆ *Please stand, if able*

LEADING THE SERVICE TODAY:

Daniel Smoak, Pastor; Priscilla Holtzclaw, Parish Associate;
Claire Winkles, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries;
Sarah Shayban, Director of Music

Acolytes: Zachary Ward, Irene Mills

Children's Church: Alissa Ferguson, Amy Kuenzel

Wee Church: Kendall and Greg Ramsay

Ushers: Henry Shepard, Dana Tumbleston, Dave Stanton, Greg Ramsay, Ben Whitener.

11:00 Livestream at 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. 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 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



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!

SUPPORT YOUR MEXICO MISSION TEAMS

In Mexico, we've returned from sharing in the Cistern Ministry of Todd Luke in the Yucatan. Todd works with local families in building rainwater cisterns so families can have a year-round supply of safe water. The church identifies the needs and works alongside families and mission teams to construct needed cisterns. Team 1 returned from Xpujil on February 28. Team 2 departs the last week of June. You can support the teams:

- You can pray for the ministry.
- You can support the ministry and our teams through financial gifts. There is a "Buckets and Shovels" board in the narthex with giving envelopes ranging from \$2 to \$100. You can give online at wpccharleston.org. (choose 2026 Mission Trips). \$3600 will fund a whole water cistern. \$260 will buy a pile of sand or rocks- a fitting gift since that's what our teams spend the week shoveling.

Thank you for your support!

WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION AND GIVING THANKS FOR LIVES WELL-LIVED

LYNNE MACPHERSON: Because of family and friends spread all over North America, her service will be online via ZOOM, hosted by Westminster. Sunday, March 8 at 2:00. The link to join the service is available by contacting dsmoak@wpccharleston.org

CAROLYN DROSE: A Witness to the Resurrection and Giving Thanks for Her Life will be held at Westminster on Saturday, March 14 at 1:00. Inurnment will follow in the Memorial Garden and then a reception in Covenant Hall.

PATRICIA 'PAT' COGGINS: A Witness to the Resurrection and Giving Thanks for Her Life will be held at the Village (formerly Presbyterian Home) in Summerville at a future date.

GROUNDING IN PRAYER: TODAY AT 4:00PM (Note the change in time)

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 **4:00–4:45 pm**, we gather in the **PARLOR** 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.

SECOND SUNDAY LUNCH TODAY

All are welcome to a fried chicken luncheon in Covenant Hall following 11:00 a.m. worship the 2nd Sunday of each month. Cash donations for fried chicken welcome, bring a potluck side or dessert to the kitchen during the Sunday School hour to share. Be filled with fellowship!

SAVE THE DATE

Bethelwoods Family Retreat October 16 -18, 2026.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY ON MARCH 10

Join us for Breakfast and Bible Study from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. on the Second Tuesday of every month. 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!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: ADULT & YOUTH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sunday, June 21 – Thursday, June 25, 2026. Children ages 3K up to 5th grade are invited to join us for VBS. This year's theme is **Called to Love: God's Mission, Our Hands. "We love because God first loved us." -1 John 4:19.** We are also inviting Youth and Adults to volunteer for this most special and fun week of worship! Scan the QR Code for all details, volunteering forms and registration.



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

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

- Today 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.

JOIN US FOR WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY!

Gather with friends and family of all ages for food and fellowship at 6:00 p.m. This week we will be having Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes with garden salad and dessert. 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 wants 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.



THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

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
2:00 pm Service to Resurrection Lynn MacPherson, ZOOM
4:00 pm Grounded in Prayer, Parlor
5:00 pm Youth Group
5:00 pm Confirmation Examination
7:00 pm AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Monday, March 9

10:00 pm Hooks and Needles, Room 4

Tuesday, March 10

8:00 am Men's Bible Study, Trotter's Restaurant
10:00 am Staff Meeting
10:00 am Circle 4 Meeting, Covenant Hall
10:00 am Circle 5 Meeting, Parlor
1:00 pm Bridge Group, Covenant Hall
5:30 pm Exchange Club of Charleston Meeting, Covenant Hall

Wednesday, March 11

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

Thursday, March 12

10:00 am Lowcountry Smockers Guild, Covenant Hall

Friday, March 13

Saturday, March 14

10:00 am Charleston Area Multiple Myeloma Group, Preschool
1:00 pm Carolyn Drose Funeral Service, Sanctuary

Sunday, March 15

9:00 am Worship Service
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
4:00 pm Grounded in Prayer, Parlor
5:00 pm Deacons Meeting, Room 4
5:00 pm Youth Group Oscar Party
6:00 pm Stated Session Meeting, Room 4
7:00 pm AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

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) | Richard Holtz (WPC) | Paula Ruth (Debbie McQueeney) |
| Diane Byers (Deb Frasier) | Charlie Howell (Debbie Baskin) | Sarah Schumann (WPC) |
| Susie Cashion (WPC) | The Hudson Family (Priscilla Holtzclaw) | Cliff & Liz Shelor (WPC) |
| Lauren Choate (Sara Dwyer) | Huff Family (Gloria Purcell) | Tradd Shepard (WPC) |
| Cherie Couche (Dana Tumbleston) | Emerson Jones (Molly Griggs) | Rachel Singletary (Sara Bobo) |
| Allen Croft (Gwen Croft) | Lynn Koger (WPC) | The Jerry Smoak Family (WPC) |
| Lydia Crosby (WPC) | Mary Laird (Ashley Snider) | Ray Thomas (Sara Dwyer) |
| Martin Davis (Kevin Mikles) | Fran Ligon (WPC) | Towne Family (WPC) |
| Hosanna Eadie (Katie Baturin) | Ray Long (Ellen Bollinger) | Gloria Underhill (Laura Nunn) |
| Roxanne Eadie (Katie Baturin) | John Martschink (WPC) | Kathy Unger (Keith Gordon) |
| Ann & Ellen Farrar (Beth Georgen) | Mary Martschink (WPC) | Jacqueline Vance (Sara Dwyer) |
| Edward Fitzgibbon (Joan Frye) | Jay Massalon (Dana Tumbleston) | Aileen Wiese (WPC) |
| Randleson Floyd/Daniels (Gloria Purcell) | David McEachern (Debra Luhn) | Janet Wilson (Gloria Purcell) |
| Harold Fountain (Henry Shepard) | Gavin McLeod (Dana Tumbleston) | Betty Winter (Dee Bee Wright) |
| Keith Gordon (WPC) | Marley Miller (Dee Bee Wright) | Eleanor Woodbury (Anna Kerr) |
| Margaret Ellen Hamman (Suzanne Fox) | Jennifer Morgan (Susie Cashion) | 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

| Friend of the Week | Mission of the Week | Student of the Week | Church Family |
|--|---|--|-------------------------|
| Kate Pennekamp 8840 Marsh Aire Lane Edisto, SC 29438 | Healing Farms 703 Yew Street Charleston, SC 29407 | Olivia Niblock 12712 Orpington Street Unit 1324 Orlando, FL 32816 | Keith and Mary Stansell |

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 (843) 766-8311

Rev. Dr. Daniel L. Smoak, Pastor, dsmoak@wpccharleston.org
Priscilla Holtzclaw, Parish Associate, pholtzclaw@wpccharleston.org
Janie Bruce, Director of Adult Discipleship, jbruce@wpccharleston.org
Claire Winkles, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries, cwinkles@wpccharleston.org
Sarah Shayban, Director of Music, sshayban@wpccharleston.org
Kate Cowart, Office Administrator, office@wpccharleston.org
Tommye Owen, Financial Administrator finance@wpccharleston.org
Alicia Crosby, Preschool Director, preschool@wpccharleston.org
Meg Dorsel, Communications Coordinator, mdorsel@wpccharleston.org