



Westminster Presbyterian Church

*"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new
creation—everything old has passed away;
see, everything has become new!"*

II Corinthians 5:17

MCMLIV



115 N. 25th Ave. Hattiesburg, MS 39401
westminster@wpchattiesburg.com
facebook.com/westminsterhattiesburg1954
www.westminster-hattiesburg.com
(601) 584-7574

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 31, 2025

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – *Trumpet Tune in C*

Noel Rawsthorne

Prayer of Preparation (*you may prepare for worship by praying silently*)

Most High God, as in Christ Jesus you took a lowly place among us, let us lay aside pretense and privilege and seek out solidarity with the poor, so that all the world will know that the crucified one is our Lord. In the name above all names, we pray.

Amen.

Chiming of the Hour

Greeting and Announcements

Randall Harris

Call to Worship (responsive)

Do not neglect to show hospitality,

for there may be angels among us.

The exalted will be made humble,

and the humble will be exalted.

Let us worship God.

* Hymn of Praise 65 – *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

* Call to Confession

The prophet Jeremiah once wrote that we are like broken vessels that hold no water, but God is gracious to us. Trusting in **God's** grace, let us confess our sin.

* Prayer of Confession (unison)

Sovereign God, we confess that we have not turned away from sin. We stake out positions of privilege and push aside the oppressed. We seek the favor of the powerful and refuse to welcome the poor. Forgive us, God of grace. Show us your way of mutual love and hospitality to all, so that we may dwell in your house; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (time for silent confession)

* Declaration of Forgiveness (responsive)

The prophet Jeremiah also wrote that as a potter holds a piece of clay, so God holds and graciously reshapes our lives. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

* The Congregation's Response: *Gloria Patri* Hymn 581

**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.**

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Time with Children

Tommy Suttle

Prayer for Illumination

Eternal God, from generation to generation you teach your people the way to live.

Through words that are ancient you speak your living Word. Speak to us now with all that we need to know to honor you and walk in your way with honesty and humbleness of heart. Amen.

First Reading – Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

pew Bible pg. 979

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem – *Bless Us with Your Love*

arr. Douglas E. Wagner

(words are in announcements)

Second Reading – Luke 14:1, 7-14

pew Bible pg. 849

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon – *A Meal On the Sabbath*

Rev. Dr. Christopher Crotwell

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

* Hymn of Thanksgiving 529 – *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*

* Affirmation of Faith: selections from A Brief Statement of Faith 1983 (unison)

In life and in 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 God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers of the People (responsive)

Trusting in the power of God to deliver us, let us make our prayers of intercession for all, saying: God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the church . . . Let our life together be a song of praise and an offering of

great thanksgiving, bearing witness to Jesus Christ our Lord. God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the world . . . Show your faithfulness and love for nations and leaders that

deal generously and conduct their affairs with justice. God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this community . . . Help us to love one another, show hospitality to strangers, and visit those who are in prison. God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for loved ones . . . Strengthen those who are weak, deliver those who are in trouble, and fill the hungry with good things. God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful and mighty God, as you are one, make us one with you through Jesus Christ, whom you have sent to redeem us, and in whose holy name we pray.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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.

Invitation to Offering

God has called us to do good, to be rich in good works, generous and ready to share. With gratitude to the giver of life, let us offer our lives to the Lord.

Offertory – *Have No Fear, Little Flock*

Mark Sedio

* The Doxology – Hymn 606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him,
all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

* Prayer of Dedication (unison)

God of all good gifts, you bless us with so much to share. Use the gift of our money and the gifts of our lives to bring your healing and hope, your justice and peace to our neighbors, near and far. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn of Consecration 803 – *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

* Blessing and Charge (responsive)

The Lord bless and keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore. **Alleluia!**

Proclaim the message, be persistent in prayer, do the work of the gospel, and carry out the ministry of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH

(new added prayers)*

**Dalton Aldridge – healing from motorcycle accident*

**Terri Banks, friend of Pam Love – health issues*

Linda Basden, neighbor of Janeil Harris – Alzheimer's

Jan Bozeman – constant pain

**Franklin Bryant – recovering from broken pelvis*

**Larry & Margaret Burge of Poplarville, friend of Michael Yore – Larry has cancer*

Laura Pearce Cureton, Nancy Johnson's goddaughter – nerve block therapy continues

**Kelsey Curtis, Janet Baldwin's son, friend of Ruthie Davis – prayers of comfort following accident*

Vida Davis, sister of Ruthie Davis – dementia

**Deidra Dickenson, Kathy Cain's sister – onset dementia*

Cathy Dudley – Bedford Care (Medical Blvd)

Bill and Louise Edwards, friends of Charles Brown – strength and endurance

Hudson Elliott, grandson of friends of the Reidenbachs – home after 6 months in NICU

**Doug Everitt, Ben Yelverton's stepfather – recovering from surgery*

Teresa Ginn, Michael Ginn's aunt – dementia

Lee Graham, Pam Love's son-in-law – health issues

**Charles "Rocky" Hartfield, friend of Pam Love – health issues*

Peggy Henry, Karen Reidenbach's sister – continued strength through recovery from addiction

Charlotte Hill

Ann Johnson

Geraldine Jones

Roger Kuyrkendall, Carrie Creel's father – Alzheimer's

B.J. Lambert

Margaret Lochhead – prayers for healing

Peggy McCarthy, friend of Iris Easterling – facing serious health issues

**Ruth McLarnan, Carolyn McLarnan's mother-in-law, passed away on Aug. 16*

Deloris McLaurin, Glenn Nobles' first cousin – dementia

Anita Murphy, friend of Mary Cromartie – lung cancer

**Butch Nobles mother – recovering from broken hip*

Glenn Nobles – endurance and strength

**Renee Parker, friend of Ruthie Davis – macular degeneration*

Carolyn Mitchell Pintard, Bill & Betty Mitchell's daughter – grave health issues

**Shannon Love Roberson, daughter of Pam Love – broken shoulder*

Laura Todd, Grayson Rayborn's cousin – multiple health issues

Louise Traxler, Karen Reidenbach's mom – Bedford Care (Medical Blvd)

Korie Turner, friend of Ruthie Davis – prayers for courage

**Rose Marie Yore – recovering from spinal fusion surgery*



Greeting and Announcements

Welcome to Westminster! We're very glad to see you in worship. We hope you will sense Christ's presence. If you are looking for a place to grow and serve, we'd love to tell you more about us. Please silence cell phones during the worship hour.

The September/October *Today* devotionals are on the narthex table.

PW Coordinating Team meeting will be Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.

Brown Bag Bible Study will meet Tuesday at 11 a.m.

Choir rehearsal will be Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

Men of the Church will meet Thursday at 7 a.m. at Loblolly Bakery.

Growing Spiritually will meet Sunday, Sept. 7 at 11:35 a.m.

Bless Us with Your Love

Father in heaven, hear now Your children, hear and bless us with Your love.

Ever and ever, stronger yet and merciful, is Your love for us, Alleluia, Alleluia, Amen, Alleluia, Amen Alleluia,

Thanks, and praise be to God forevermore.

(Repeat)

Grades 3-5 and Youth

will sell \$10 parking slots

Saturday, Sept. 6 starting at 1 p.m.



The office will be

closed tomorrow
for Labor Day.

If you need something **notarized**, contact Martha in the office. 601-584-7574.



To donate to WPC online, scan the QR code and follow the instructions.

Just as the human body needs eyes, hands, ears, lungs, etc., so does the Body of Christ. We have many small group opportunities for growth, fellowship and service here at Westminster. We encourage members to use their gifts to participate in the mission of this congregation and to invite others to join us in serving Jesus Christ.



The Seal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

A Symbolic Statement of the Church

The Cross – Christianity

The Transept – Bible and Pulpit

The Dove – The Holy Spirit

The Intersection – Baptismal Font or

Communion Cup

Flames – Implied triangle, the Trinity

Class of 2026

Iris Easterling
Jeff Haydel
Rhoda Pickett

THE SESSION

Class of 2027

Tom Estes
Connie Roberts
Karen Reidenbach

Class of 2028

Gwen Combs
Pam Love
Charlie Parkman

Class of 2026

Robert Cummings, Jr.

THE TRUSTEES

Class of 2027

J T Johnson

Class of 2028

Althea Jerome

Class of 2026

Dixie Coats
Christopher Cox
Carrie Creel
Michael Yore

THE DEACONS

Class of 2027

Matthew Boucher
Judy Haydel
Ryan Reid
Sarah Beth Suttle

Class of 2028

Gwen Combs
Brandon Hayes
Carlie Kaeppler
Drew Suttle

Youth Representative

Elisa Suttle

CHURCH STAFF

Christopher Crotwell, Minister
Robert Cummings, Jr., Financial Officer
Kay Guiles, Organist
Katie Ginn, Youth and Children Director

Tommy Suttle, Director of Discipleship
Martha Davis, Church Administrator
Wes Brooks, Communications
Ray Robinson, Sexton

Michael Ginn, Chancel Choir; **Children's Music Director**