



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

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

Day of Pentecost

May 24, 2026

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – *Tongues of Fire*

Alfred Fedak

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

God of all creation, we come at last to be united in the Spirit, your gleaming fire among us, setting our hearts ablaze. We praise you with our whole being. Live in us, that we may love with your love, speak with your truth, and serve with your mercy. Keep us faithful until the very end, through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Chiming of the Hour

Choral Call to Worship – *The Lone, Wild Bird*

arr. David N. Johnson

Greeting and Announcements

Bob Lockhead

Call to Worship (responsive)

God sent forth the Spirit, and all creation rejoiced. God's breath filled the skies, the sea, the land, and all creatures.

May the glory of the Lord endure forever!

Let us sing to the Lord as long as we have breath.

Bless the Lord, O my soul. Praise the Lord!

Let us worship God.

* Hymn of Praise 289 – *On Pentecost They Gathered*

* Call to Confession

God pours out the Spirit upon us, but we do not always welcome **God's** gifts. Let us confess our doubts and fears, that we might find forgiveness and newness of life.

* Prayer of Confession (unison)

Infinite God, you come to us in many colors, shapes, and languages. You speak to each of us in the way we can understand. You reach out to us and meet us where we are. But we are quick to limit you to what we can understand and control. Forgive us, and set your Spirit loose among us. Challenge us, surprise us, and open us to your power, that we might know you more deeply, follow you more faithfully, and love more fully.

(time for silent confession)

* Declaration of Forgiveness (responsive)

Scripture is clear: everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. God draws us together, offering salvation, forgiveness, and new life to all.

Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

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

**Glorify 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

Drew Suttle

Prayer for Illumination

God of power and grace, fill us with the wisdom of your Word and the understanding of your Spirit so that we may be your church: a people with dreams and visions at work in all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading – Acts 2:1-21

pew Bible pg. 885

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem – *Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me*

arr. K. Lee Scott

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be: Help me now thy grace to see,
I would be like thee; and, with words that help and heal, thy life would mine reveal;
And, with actions bold and meek, for Christ, my Savior, speak.

Truthful Spirit, dwell with me, I would truthful be; help me now thy truth to see,
I would be like thee; and, with wisdom kind and clear, thy life in mine appear;

And, with actions brotherly, speak Christ's sincerity.

Holy Spirit, dwell with me, I would holy be; show thy mercy tenderly,
make me more like thee; separate from sin, I would and cherish all things good,
and whatever I can be give him who gave me thee.

Mighty Spirit, dwell with me, I would mighty be; help me now thy power to see,
I would be like thee; against all weapons hell can wield, be thou my strength and shield;

Let thy word my weapon be, Lord, Thine the victory.

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would be like thee!

Second Reading – John 20:19-23

pew Bible pg. 883

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon – *Our Community*

Tommy Suttle, Director of Discipleship

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

- * Hymn of Thanksgiving 292 – *As the Wind Song*

- * Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed (unison)

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 life everlasting. Amen

Litany for Pentecost (responsive)

Maker of all things, in the beginning, you created heaven and earth. In the fullness of time, you restored all things in Christ. Renew our world, in this day, with your grace and mercy. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Life of the world, you breathed life into the flesh you created. Now, by your Spirit, breathe new life into the children of earth. Turn hatred into love, sorrow into joy, and war into peace. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lover of concord, you desire unity of all Christians. Set aflame the whole church with the fire of your Spirit. Unite us to stand in the world as a sign of your love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

God of compassion, through your Spirit you supply every human need. Heal the sick, and comfort the distressed. Befriend the friendless, and help the helpless.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Source of peace, your Spirit restores our anxious spirits. In our labor, give us rest; in our temptation, strength; in our sadness, consolation. Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Come, Holy Spirit! Rain upon our dry and dusty lives. Wash away our sin and heal our wounded spirits. Kindle within us the fire of your love to burn away apathy.

With your warmth bend our rigidity, and guide our wandering feet; through Christ our Lord 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

How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods yet refuses to help a sister or brother in need? Remembering God's great love for the world, let us offer our lives to the Lord.

Offertory – *Come Down, O Love Divine*

Alfred Fedak

* The Doxology – Hymn 606

* Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Eternal God, take and use these gifts for your purpose in the world—giving food to the hungry, hope to the despairing, and new life to the dead. Teach us to live each day for you, so that future generations will know your goodness and praise your glory; in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn of Consecration 280 – *Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us*

* Blessing and Charge (responsive)

Beloved children, may the love of the holy triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—abide with you forever. **Alleluia! Now go forth in Jesus' name,** remembering his new commandment to love one another, just as he has loved us.

Amen.

Postlude – *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*

A. D. Miller

PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH

(new added prayers)*

Janet Baldwin – family issues

Linda Basden, neighbor of Janeil Harris – Alzheimer's

Jan Bozeman – constant pain

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

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

Malcolm Curtis, Janet Baldwin's co-worker – health issues

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

Erica Gilmore, friend of Janet Baldwin – family issues

Teresa Ginn, Michael Ginn's aunt – dementia

Mckenna Hawkins, daughter of Michael Yore's friend – cancer

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

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

Charlotte Hill

Ann Johnson

Geraldine Jones

B.J. Lambert

Rebecca Lawrence, friend of Karen Reidenbach – recovering from injuries from a car accident.

Deloris McLaurin, Glenn Nobles' first cousin – dementia

Anita Murphy, friend of Mary Cromartie – lung cancer

Glenn Nobles – endurance and strength

Lola Norris – recovery from a fall

Renee Parker, friend of Ruthie Davis – macular degeneration

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

Sheema Reid, Carolyn McLarnan's sister-in-law – lymph nodes issues

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

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

Jerry Spann, friend of Ruthie Davis – cancer

Korie Turner, friend of Ruthie Davis – prayers for courage

Ella Young, sister of Janet Baldwin – struggling with dementia

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 May/June *Today* devotionals are on the narthex cabinet.

The Youth will not meet today.

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

Chancel Choir will not meet until August.

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

The office will be closed Monday for Memorial Day.

Articles for the June newsletter are due to

Wes by noon Thursday, May 28.

(wes@breadproject.com)

Children's bulletins are available on the narthex table or ask an usher.

RISE is currently searching for an Executive Director. Please call 601-544-4855 or email (info@risenonprofit.com) for more information or check the bulletin board by the double doors.

Today's liturgy is in part adapted from the Call to Worship website, a resource created by the PCUSA's Office of Theology and Worship and the Presbyterian Association of Musicians.

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**