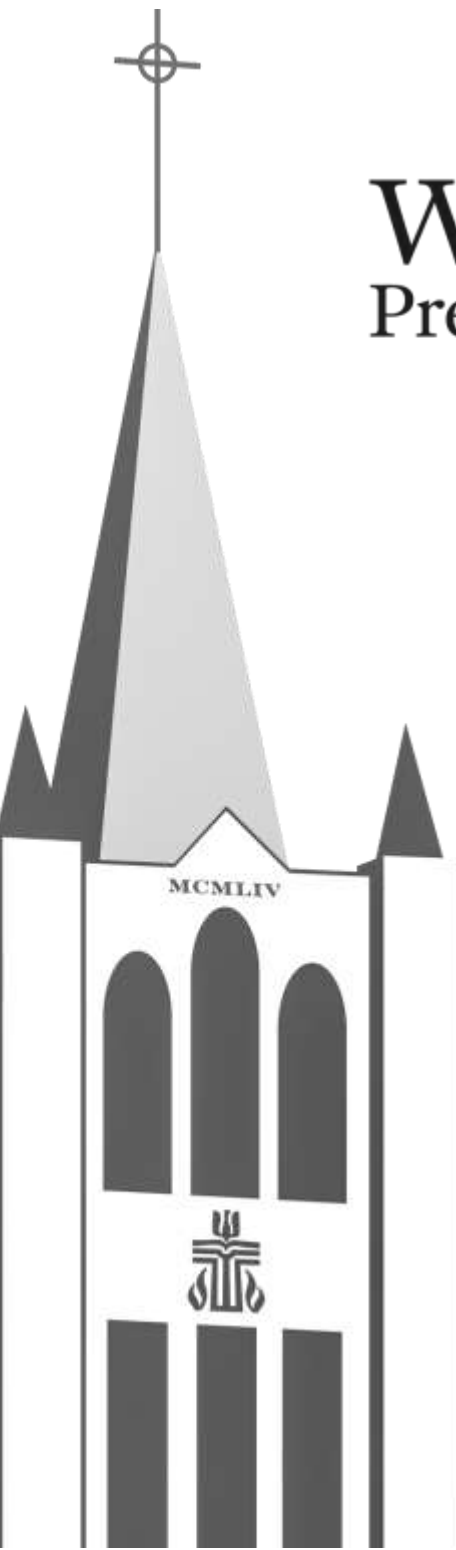




Westminster Presbyterian Church

*"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



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THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 2026

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – "Toccata on 'Old Hundreth'"

Robert Lau

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

Prince of peace, you calm the raging seas and speak in silent stillness. Bring us peace that only you can provide and restore the joy of our salvation, that we might find the wisdom to recognize you in unexpected places and the courage to follow, for your name's sake, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Chiming of the Hour

Greeting and Announcements

Tommy Suttle

Call to Worship – (*responsive*)

Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,

For God will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to the Lord in their hearts.

Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.

The Lord will give what is good. Let us worship the Lord.

* Hymn of Praise 463 – *How Firm a Foundation*

* Call to Confession

We come seeking God's voice, a voice that loves us, cares for us, but also challenges us to do better, to love more fully, and believe more wholeheartedly. Let us be honest with God about where we are on our journey.

* Prayer of Confession – (*unison*)

Holy God, it is easy to confess with our lips that you are Lord, but it is much harder to believe with our hearts, to live in a way that puts you first. We are quick to trust in idols. We depend on what we can see, touch, and control, instead of waiting to hear your still, small voice. Forgive us, Lord, and help our unbelief, so that what we confess with our lips we may truly believe in our hearts. (time for silent confession)

- * Declaration of Forgiveness (*responsive*)
 Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. There are no prerequisites, no disqualifications, no exceptions.
We are saved, we are forgiven, we are freed! Hallelujah!
- * 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

Blessing of Backpacks

Prayer for Illumination

Holy, Holy, Holy One, guide us by the Spirit of truth to hear the Word of life you speak, and to give all glory, honor, and praise to your threefold name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading – Romans 10:5-15 pew Bible pg. 921
 The Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem – *Jesus, The Very Thought of Thee* Eric H. Thiman
 Kassidy Chandler, soloist

Second Reading – Matthew 14:22-33 pew Bible pg. 796
 The Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon – *He Noticed the Strong Wind* Rev. Dr. Christopher Crotwell

- * Communion Hymn 523 – *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*

Invitation to Offering

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God. Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

Offertory – Excerpt from "Arabesque No. 1" Claude Debussy

THE EUCHARIST

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Thanksgiving (*responsive*)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the

Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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.

The Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

Holy God, you have filled us with your life. You have embraced us in your love. You have fed us with your grace. Now send us out into your beloved world to share your life, your love, your grace with all. Blessing and honor and glory to you, holy, holy, holy Lord. Amen.

* Hymn of Consecration 821 – *My Life Flows On*

* Blessing and Charge (*responsive*)

May the blessing of the Trinity—holy, holy, holy Lord—be with you now and always. **Alleluia!**

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" **And I said, "Here I am; send me!" Amen.**

* Postlude – *Trumpet Tune*

Andrew Carter



* Please stand at the * as you are able. Unison readings are **printed in bold**.

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

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

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

Brenda Owens – recovering from a broken ankle

Renee Parker, friend of Ruthie Davis – macular degeneration

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

Michael Raggio

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

Franklin Eugene Roberts, Robin Roberts' brother – health concerns

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.

Today we will observe the **sacrament of communion**. All are welcome to receive God's gifts at the table. So that all may be served, we will use grape juice and gluten-free bread.

Communion Sundays are also **Breadbasket Sundays** – a time when you are encouraged to make contributions to the Breadbasket ministry.

All students aged preschool – college are invited to come forward for the blessing of backpacks during Time with Children. (Please come even if you forgot your backpack.)

Youth will meet today from 5-6:30 p.m. A meal will be provided.

No Brown Bag Bible Study this week.

Choir will meet Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

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

New Beginnings will meet Monday, Aug. 17, at noon. Please let Tommy or Martha know if you are coming.

There will be a joint **deacon/elder meeting** on Aug. 23 following worship.

Breadbasket volunteers are needed to fill applications for Aug. 10-13. Please call the office (601-584-7574) to volunteer.

If you need something **notarized**, contact Martha in the office. No charge for members.

The **furniture warehouse** is in need of donations. Call the office if you have items to donate and we will schedule a pickup.

We are **collecting clothes** (women and children) for the domestic abuse shelter. Call Ann Johnson (601-268-6632) to schedule a drop-off time.

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

Michael Ginn, Chancel Choir; Children's Music Director

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