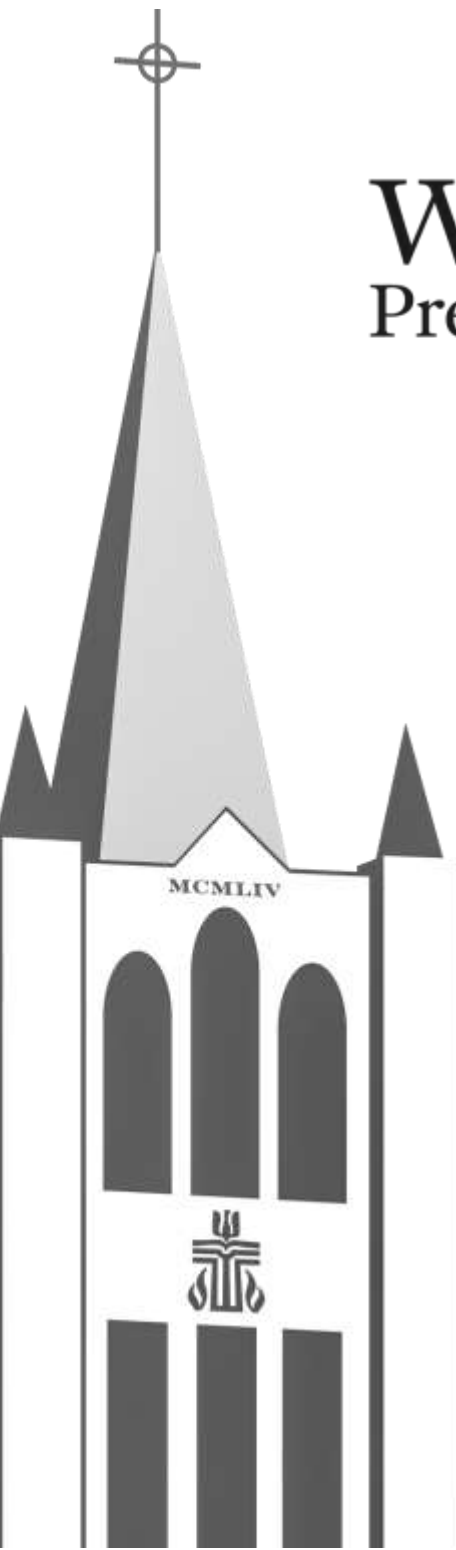




Westminster Presbyterian Church

*"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

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2026

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – *Toccata in Seven*

John Rutter

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

God of goodness, when we gather, we are with you. Bind us together in your promise, that our dark nights will soon be over, and the brightness of day will be near. The hour has come. Salvation is here. Let us be your light. Let us be your love. Amen.

Chiming of the Hour

Greeting and Announcements

Tommy Suttle

Call to Worship – *(responsive)*

Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful.

Let Israel be glad in its Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.

For the LORD takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with victory.

Let us worship God.

* Hymn of Praise 307 – *God of Grace and God of Glory*

* Call to Confession

Let us lay aside the works of evil and put on the armor of goodness. Let us live honorably, putting on the Lord Jesus Christ, to whom we confess now.

* Prayer of Confession – *(unison)*

Beautiful Savior, you have made your law clear: Love. Love one another. Owe one another nothing but love. Do no wrong to a neighbor. But we have not mastered what it is to love. We have fallen short, causing harm to others through careless action and thoughtless lack of action. Forgive us. Teach us how to love more fully, more perfectly, as generously as you love, following your law and fulfilling your will.

(time for silent confession)

* Declaration of Forgiveness *(responsive)*

Christ does not judge us harshly, but forgives all our sin and leads us into new life.
We will not take this forgiveness for granted, but will let it transform how we live and love!

* 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

Michael Ginn

Prayer for Illumination

Faithful God, how blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness.
Sanctify us by your Word and Spirit so that we may glorify you in the company of
the faithful; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading – Romans 13:8-14

pew Bible pg. 923

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem – *The Master's Table*

Joseph Fletcher

1. Savior when we gather, at Thy table spread. With the sacred tokens;
waiting to be fed; May we be forgetful of all else but Thee,
When we hear say softly, "Come and watch with me".
2. May these Holy Symbols of thine agony, dim our eyes with heartfelt
tears of sympathy; As in full surrender, prostrate at Thy feet,
We, although unworthy, dare to "Take and Eat".
3. When the feast is over, by Thy grace imbued.
May we leave Thy presence reverently subdued. Lest some luring pleasure,
turn our steps aside, from that mystic pathway, where Thy footsteps guide.
Amen.

Second Reading – Matthew 18:15-20

pew Bible pg. 799

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon – *Whatever You Loose*

Rev. Dr. Christopher Crotwell

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

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 – *Holy Mana*

arr. Molly Ijames

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 Words of Institution

The Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

God of glory, in this holy feast you have made us one with Christ and with that great multitude of the faithful—those who hunger and thirst no more and worship night and day in your temple. Lead us in the paths of righteousness and guide us to the springs of the water of life, until we join the choir of the redeemed, singing: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb: Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* Hymn of Consecration 306 – *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

* Blessing and Charge (*responsive*)

The blessing of the one God—Spirit, Son, and Father—be with you now and always. **Alleluia!**

Lead a life worthy of your calling, giving glory to God in all things. **Amen.**

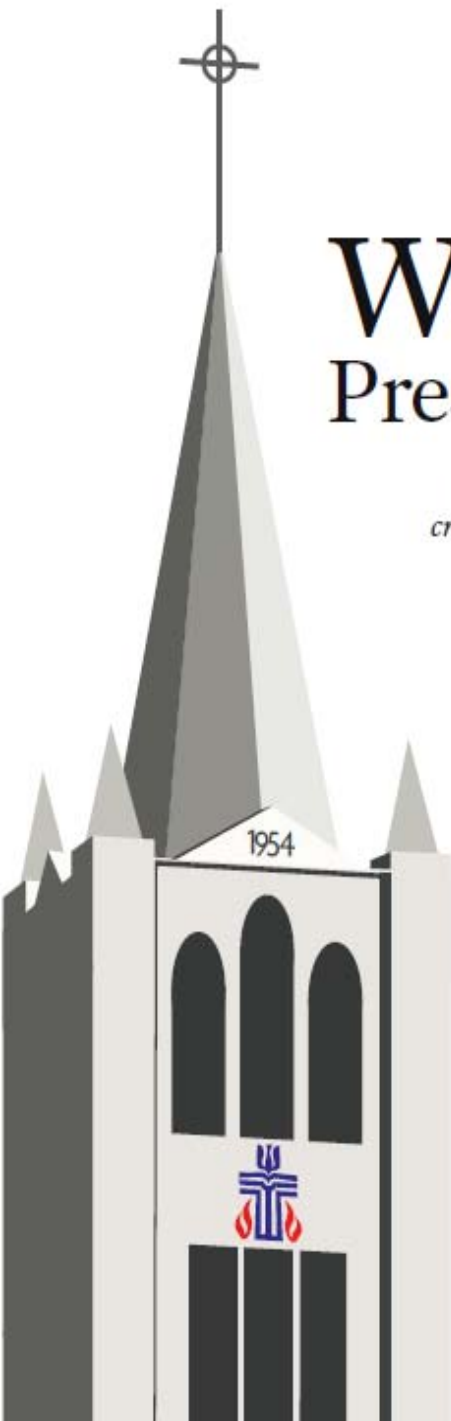
* Postlude – *Trumpet Tune in D Major*

David Johnson



* 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 by the PCUSA's Office of Theology and Worship and the Presbyterian Association of Musicians.



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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

**Rod Kyriakides, friend of Eric Reidenbach - diagnosed with pancreatic cancer*

Please join us for Wednesday night dinner this week at 5:30. There is no charge for the meal, but donations are encouraged. We need a headcount, so please place a reservation slip in the offering plate or call the office.

Menu: smothered pork chops, potatoes, salad and dessert

Activities

Chancel Choir will meet at 6:30.

B.J. Lambert

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

Deloris McLaurin, Glenn Nobles' first cousin – dementia

**Aubree Moore, sister of a teammate of Julia Haydel – battling childhood cancer for years*

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 node issues

Franklin Eugene Roberts, Robin Roberts' brother – health concerns

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

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.

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

Youth will not meet today.

The office will be closed Monday, Sept. 7.

Circle 1 will meet Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. and **Circle 2** will meet Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Both circles will meet at the church. All women are invited to come join for fellowship and Bible study. Study books are available on the table in the narthex. Please sign if you take one.

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

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

Diaper and Gift Card Shower Wednesday, Sept. 9, in Montague Hall during supper, for Rosalina Rosada. Come help us celebrate Rosie and her parents, Rachel and Marcos; her grandparents Janeil and Randall and, of course, Emmy. There is a table in the narthex for gifts.

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