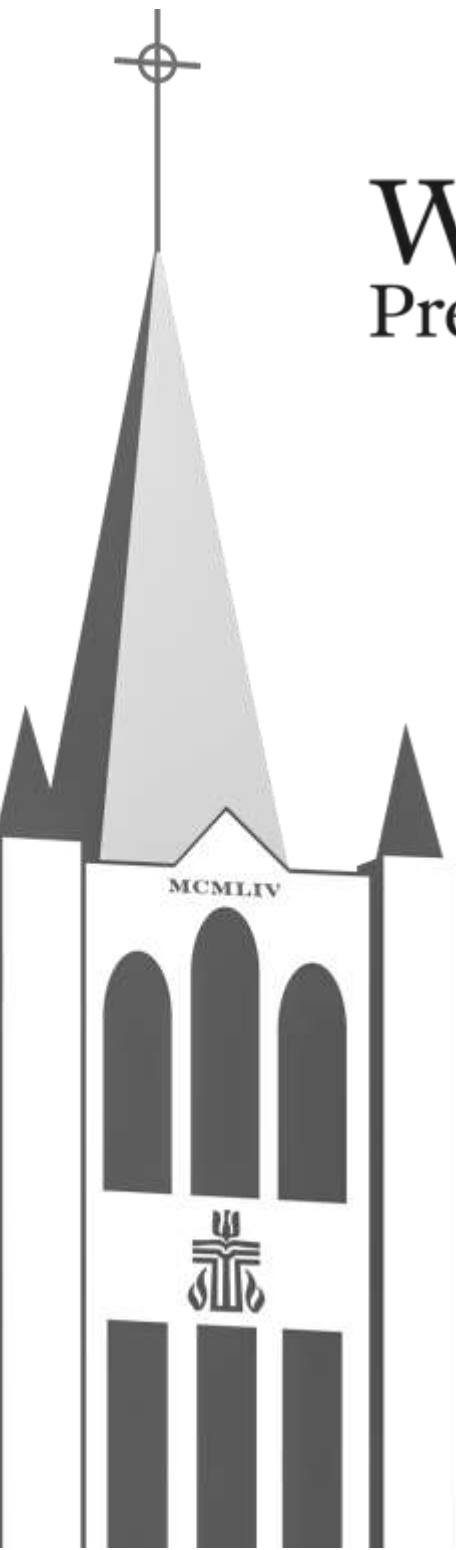




Westminster Presbyterian Church

*"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

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2026

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – *Little Prelude and Fugue in G Major*

J.S. Bach

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

God of living water, we gather, thirsting for you. Your well is deep; your spring ever-flowing. Complete our joy; refine our desires. Fill our cup with love for one another as we travel your paths of salvation. Amen.

Chiming of the Hour

Greeting and Announcements

Ellie Forsyth

Call to Worship (responsive)

Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me again your paths.

Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation.

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love, remember me.

And because you are a God of grace, we will sing your songs, tell your stories and love our neighbors as ourselves.

And on this Sabbath day and forevermore, we will worship the Lord.

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

* Call to Confession

God does not take pleasure in our suffering or delight in our failures but bids us to turn back to God's way and find eternal life. Let us make our confession.

* Prayer of Confession (unison)

Holy God, we confess to you: We are not of the same mind. We do not share the same love. We act in selfish ambition and do not regard others as better than ourselves. We have not looked to the interests of others instead of ourselves. We do not embrace the humility of Jesus Christ. Forgive us. Continue to be at work in us, that we might serve each other as you served us, and reflect your glory in this world. (time for silent confession)

* Declaration of Forgiveness (responsive)

When we lift up our souls to God, God does not put us to shame. God forgives us, leads us in the truth, and leads us in what is right. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

- * 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

Miriam Crotwell

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 – Philippians 2:1-13

pew Bible pg. 954

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem – *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

Issac Watts

(lyrics are in announcements)

Second Reading – Matthew 21:23-32

pew Bible pg. 802

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon – *He Changed His Mind*

Rev. Dr. Christopher Crotwell

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

- * Hymn of Thanksgiving 724 – *Oh Jesus, I Have Promised*
- * Affirmation of Faith: *Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.32–33* (unison)
The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

Prayers of the People (responsive)

With one mind in Christ, and one heart in the Spirit, let us pray to the Lord of heaven and earth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the name of Jesus, we pray for the church . . . Make us faithful laborers in your vineyard, doing your will, seeking your way, and fulfilling the promises of our baptism. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the name of Jesus, we pray for the earth . . . Break open the hardness of our hearts to feel the suffering of your creation; make fresh water flow in desert lands. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the name of Jesus, we pray for all nations . . . Give our leaders the wisdom to seek you; give our people the patience to trust you. Keep us from quarreling, and grant us peace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the name of Jesus, we pray for this community . . . Be mindful of your mercy and steadfast love: teach your wisdom; help the humble; redeem those who have been subjected to shame. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the name of Jesus, we pray for loved ones . . . Encourage those who are suffering; give consolation to those who mourn; satisfy the desires of all who thirst for you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Enable us, O God, by the power of your Spirit, to live our lives in a way that is worthy of the gospel, to the glory of the name that is above all names, Jesus Christ our Lord. **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

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 – *Nearer My God & Deep River*

Arr. Ginn & Sumrall

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)

Merciful and gracious God, you abound in steadfast love and faithfulness. With gratitude, we bring our gifts to you. Bless these gifts and bless our lives that together we may share your mercy and grace for the world you dearly love. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn of Consecration 726 – *Will You Come and Follow Me (The Summons)*

* 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 – *Solid Rock*

David Johnson

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

B.J. Lambert

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

**Pam Love – recovering from fall*

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

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

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

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

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.

Growing Spiritually will meet Oct. 4 after worship.

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: Mae's lasagna, green beans, bread, salad and dessert

Activities: Christopher will continue teaching the book The Meaning of Your Life.

The children and youth will meet separately upstairs.

Chancel Choir will meet at 6:30.

Next Sunday is **World Communion Sunday**.

In your bulletin is a flyer explaining the World Communion Offering.

Please be praying about your gift. Offering envelopes will be in next Sunday's bulletin.

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

My Shepherd will supply my need, Jehovah is his name;

In pastures fresh he makes me feed beside the living stream.

He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake his ways.

And he leads me, his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

I walk through the shades of death, thy presence is my stay;

One word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away.

Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread;

My cup with blessings over flows, thy oil anoints my head.

Breadbasket week is Oct. 5-8.

Volunteers are needed.

Please contact Martha to volunteer. 601-584-7574

My Shepherd will supply my need, attend me all my days;
Oh, may thy house be my abode and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;
No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.

To donate
to WPC
online, scan
the QR code

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