THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2026

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – Prelude on "The King of Love My Sheperd Is" arr. Raymond Haan

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

Faithful One, you are near; assure us. In our joy and in our need, help us to seek you, for we know that we will find peace and gladness with you. Today and always, we say again and again, "God is great!" Amen.

Chiming of the Hour

Greeting and Announcements Carlie Kaeppler

Minute for Stewardship

Call to Worship – ***(responsive)***

The Lord is coming. Whom will you serve?

As for me and my family, we will serve the Lord.

What has God done for you?

Wondrous works. Unforgettable deeds. Strength in the wilderness; paths of liberation!

Say more.

We'll never stop telling our story. The next generation will hear it. Children not yet born will know it.

Hope in God, whose story will never end.

Forever we will praise our faithful helper and deliverer!

Let us worship God.

* Hymn of Praise 362 – ***Rejoice, Rejoice Believers***

* Call to Confession

Our God is a God of glorious deeds, of wondrous works. Our hope is in God. But we do not always keep God's commandments. Let us confess our sins before our merciful and mighty God.

* Prayer of Confession – ***(unison)***

Everlasting God, we say we want to see you, we say we want to know you, we say we want to serve you, but we also do not want to put in the work. We do not want to prepare for your coming by working for your kingdom on this earth. We do not keep alert for signs of you among us, so we schedule you in for an hour or so on Sundays. Forgive us. Inspire us to put our faith to action. Surprise us with your presence so we might learn to always be ready for you to arrive. (time for silent confession)

* Declaration of Forgiveness ***(responsive)***

All who seek God will rejoice and be glad. We proclaim that God is great because of this good news: we are forgiven! Be at peace. **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 Alicia Westbrook

Prayer for Illumination

Sovereign God, let your Word rule in our hearts and your Spirit govern our lives until at last we see the fulfillment of your realm of justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading – Psalm 78:1-7 pew Bible pg. 468

The Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem – ***Keep Your Lamps!*** Arr. by Andre Thomas

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning (repeat) the time is drawing nigh.
Keep your children, don't get weary (repeat) ' til your work is done.
Christian journey soon be over (repeat) the time is drawing nigh.
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning (repeat) the time is drawing nigh.

Second Reading – Matthew 25:1-12 pew Bible pg. 806

The Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon **– *They Took No Oil with Them***

* Communion Hymn 529 – ***Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*** Rev. Dr. Christopher Crotwell

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 – ***Day by Day*** arr. Bruce Greer

THE EUCHARIST

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Thanksgiving *and The Words of Institution (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.

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion *(unison)*

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe, for you have satisfied our souls with this feast of your grace. Keep us faithful in your service until your realm of glory comes; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

* Hymn of Consecration 352 – ***My Lord! What a Morning***

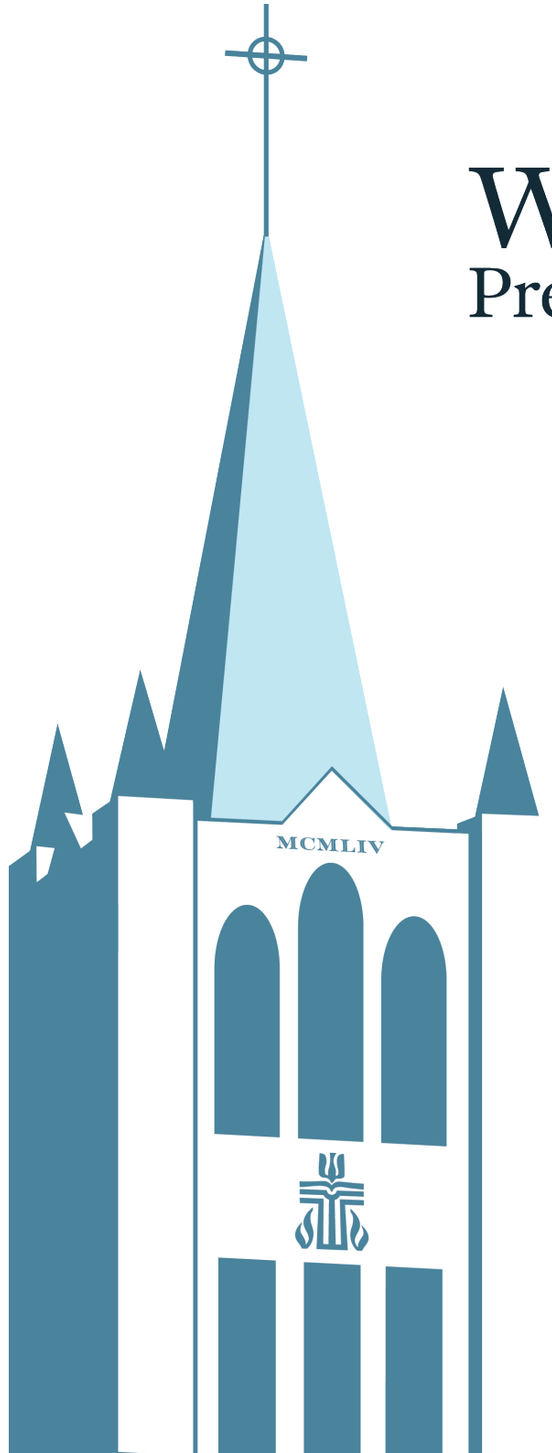
* Blessing and Charge *(responsive)*

The blessing of the holy, triune God, who was and is and is to come—first and last, beginning and end, Alpha and Omega—be with you now and always. **Alleluia!** Go in peace to love the Lord your God with heart and soul and mind and strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself. **Amen.**

* Postlude – ***All Things Bright and Beautiful*** arr. Thomas H. Jones

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* 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.



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

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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
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
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 – continued prayers
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
Robin Sykes Thornburg, daughter of a friend of Pam Love – malignant brain tumor
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 November/December *Today* devotionals are on the narthex cabinet.

Deacons will meet today at 11:35 a.m. and the **Session** will meet on Nov. 15.

The Youth and Children will meet today from 5:00-6:30 p.m. A meal will be provided.

Tuesday, Circle 1 will meet at 9:30 a.m. and **Circle 2** will meet at 6:30 p.m.

Brown Bag Bible Study will meet Tuesday at 11:00 a.m.

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

Men of the Church will meet Thursday at 7:00 a.m. at Loblolly Bakery.

Westminster is **collecting** winter coats (jackets, sweaters, etc.) and blankets for the international students at USM. There is a box for items in the narthex. Deadline is Nov. 13.

PW's least coin donation container is located on a narthex cabinet. Please continue to bring your coins to donate. These coins are used for grants that promote evangelism, service, and ecumenical solidarity. . . among women throughout the world.

Our annual church stewardship mailing was mailed last week. Please be on the lookout for it and if you do not receive one, please contact the church office.

To donate to WPC

Blessing of the Pets

Please plan to come to this community event, benefitting Southern Pines Animal Shelter and Hub City Humane Society. It will be held at Westminster on Nov. 14 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Monetary donations or supplies are encouraged but not required. All pets are welcome but must be secured.

Westminster will begin collecting for **Boswell Regional Center** from Nov. 15 – Dec. 7. A list of suggested items will be provided soon. This long-standing ministry is deeply appreciated by the clients of BRC.

Meistersingers will have a concert Nov. 15 at 3:00 p.m. at Westminster.