

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 19, 2026
ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

Gathering Music – *Westminster Toccata* Paul Fey

Prayer of Preparation (*you may prepare for worship by praying silently*)
Sovereign God, your Spirit is ever present with us. Where can we flee your presence? You are the beginning and the ending, the first and the last, and all that exists in between. When your Spirit seems hidden from us, teach us to recognize your presence and to respond, for your name’s sake.

Chiming of the Hour
Greeting and Announcements Miriam Crotwell

Call to Worship (responsive)
Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth;
Give me an undivided heart to revere your name.
I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart.
I will glorify your name forever.
For great is your steadfast love toward me.
Let us worship God.

- * Hymn of Praise 36 – *For the Fruit of All Creation*
- * Call to Confession
There is goodness within us that grows like fresh wheat. There is also sin within us that chokes that wheat like weeds. Let us bring all of who we are to God, who can separate out what is good, so that we are not overcome with evil.
- * Prayer of Confession (unison)
Ever-present God, there is no place where you are not with us. You see us at our worst and at our best. There is much we would hide from you—the ways we harm your creation, the ways we mistreat others, the ways we turn away when we should turn toward. Even as you know us, forgive us. Guide our thoughts, our words, our actions, that you may delight in us as we delight in you. (time for silent confession)
- * Declaration of Forgiveness (responsive)
Beloved, hear the good news: God knows us and forgives us and leads us in the way of everlasting life. **Thanks be to God!**
- * 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
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 8:12-25 pew Bible pg. 919
The Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God!**
Anthem – *Pie Jesu* from the Faure ‘*Requiem*’
Leah Lott, soloist

Second Reading – Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 pew Bible pg. 794
The Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God!**
Sermon – *Let Both Grow Until the Harvest* Rev. Dr. Christopher Crotwell

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

- * Hymn of Thanksgiving 714 – *God of the Fertile Fields*
- * Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles’ Creed – traditional (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.

Prayers of the People (responsive)
Let us pray in the Spirit, who helps us in our weakness, interceding with sighs too deep for words. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
In the Spirit, we pray for the church . . . Lead us more and more, by your Holy Spirit, to live as those you have chosen and claimed, beloved children and members of Christ’s body. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
In the Spirit, we pray for the earth . . . Help us to hear the groaning of creation, and let us join the cry of suffering, until you come to renew and restore all things. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
In the Spirit, we pray for all nations . . . Gather up all the peoples of the earth in the harvest of righteousness and justice. Let the seeds of peace flourish in this world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
In the Spirit, we pray for this community . . . Let the working of your Spirit among us cause our neighbors to say with joy: surely the Lord is in this place! Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the Spirit, we pray for loved ones . . . Show yourself to those who search for you, at the limits of longing or in deep despair. Lead them by your hand and hold them fast. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the Spirit, we pray to you, O God, confident that all things work together for good for those who love you and are called according to your purpose. Above all, we give you thanks, O God, that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus 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 – *Shall We Gather at the River*

arranged by Joel Raney

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)

God of unending gifts, we praise you for your abundant goodness. As you are generous, we want to be generous too. May the gifts we bring extend your generosity into the world, so that all people may be made whole by your goodness and grace. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn of Consecration 39 – *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

* 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 – *Fantasy on ‘St. Anne ‘*

arranged by Mary McDonald



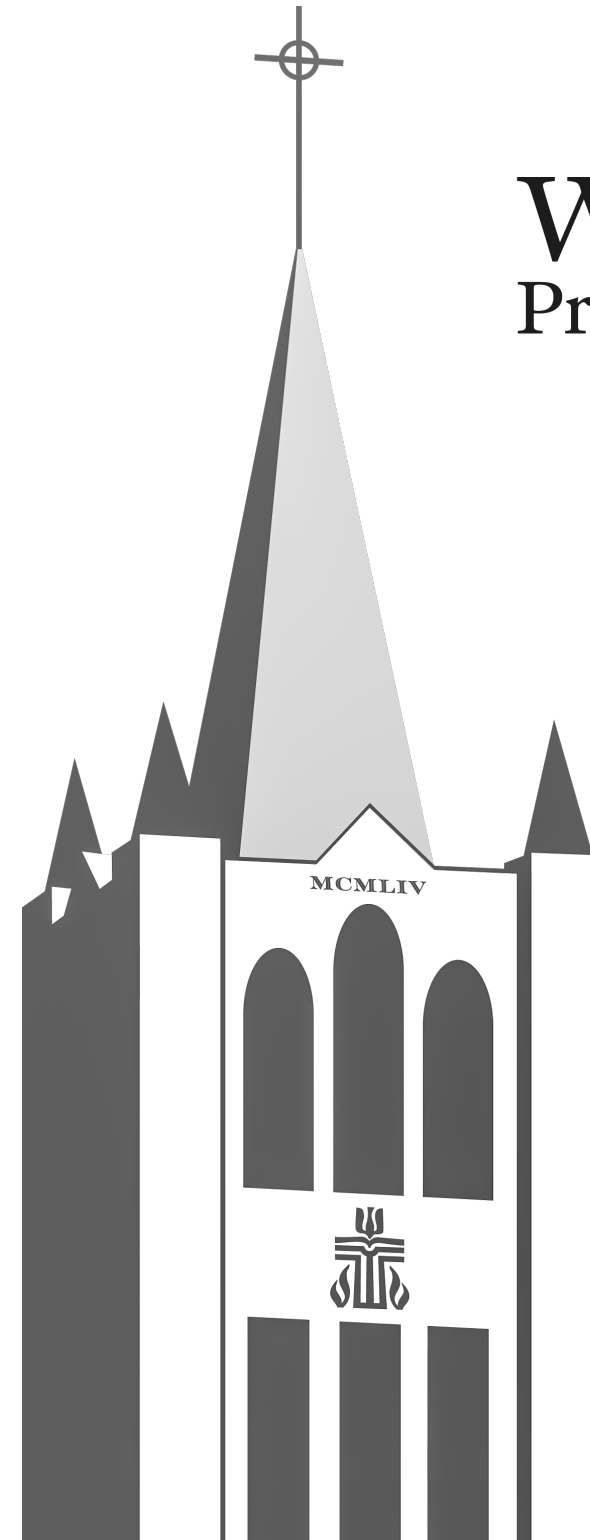
* Please stand at the * as you are able. Unison readings are **printed in bold.**

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



115 N. 25th Ave. Hattiesburg, MS 39401
westminster@wpchattiesburg.com
facebook.com/westminsterhattiesburg1954
www.westminster-hattiesburg.com
(601) 584-7574

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

** Sharon Crenshaw, mother of Cassie Redi – in ICU with respiratory distress*

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

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

PRAYERS OF REJOICING

Rosalina Gabrielle Rosado was born July 9 at 1:14 p.m., was 20 inches long and weighed 7 pounds 4 ounces. Proud parents are Rachel and Marcos Rosado. Welcoming Rosalina are grandparents Randall and Janeil Harris and sister Emmy.



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.

There will be a **church luncheon today**. All are welcome for this time of food and fellowship.

The July/August *Today* devotionals (large and small print) are on the narthex cabinet.

The Youth will not meet today.

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.

New Beginnings will meet tomorrow at noon. Make plans to attend and let Tommy or Martha know if you are coming.

Senior Adult Vacation Bible School

Parkway Heights

August 3-5

9:30 a.m. until noon

Westminster, with other local churches, will have a Bible school for all adults age 55 and older at Parkway Heights. Come enjoy singing, worship, snacks, fellowship and door prizes. To register, see Tommy, pick up a brochure from the narthex, drop by the office, or register online: parkwayheights.org/calendar

Deadline to register is August 2.

The speaker will be Rev. Trey Harper and music leader is Tim Rigby. Edwards Street Fellowship Center will be the recipient of the mission focus.

Midyear giving reports were mailed this past week. Please let the office know if you haven't received one by the end of the week.

Reminder: During the summer months as the AC runs more frequently in the church, please help us be good stewards by keeping the interior doors of the building closed as much as possible. Thank you.



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