

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 11, 2026

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

Gathering Music – Meditation on *Bradbury* Charles Callahan

Prayer of Preparation (*you may prepare for worship by praying silently*)
God of Peace, grant us your breath and draw us into stillness, that we may come to know
that you are holding onto us, carrying us through the whirlwind and into the bright sun of a
magnificent new day. Amen.

Chiming of the Hour

Greeting and Announcements Randall Harris

Call to Worship (responsive)
When the path leads nowhere, we become disoriented, and skies darken,
how do we find peace, O God?
When farewells are too many, tears won’t stop, and strength is gone,
how do we rest, O God?
When hope is hard, love is lost, and light is dim,
you give us one more breath, O God.
Let us turn that breath into praise.

- * Hymn of Praise 267 – *Come, Christians Join to Sing*
- * Call to Confession
From ancient times to now, God’s people have turned away. We are no different: we let
fear take hold of us and try to go our own way. Let us be honest about how we have failed to
follow God.
- * Prayer of Confession (unison)
**True God from True God, we have not built a golden calf, but we have worshiped idols.
We have put our trust in what we build with our own hands. We find security in what we
can hoard instead of trusting your provision. We listen to lies that spread hatred and
division instead of the radical truth of your word. Forgive us. Melt down our idols until
we see only you and fix our sight on your way alone.** (time for silent confession)
- * Declaration of Forgiveness (responsive)
God shows us a different way— a way of truth, honor, justice, purity, and excellence. This
path is open to all of us if we reach out and accept God’s forgiveness.
Thanks be to God! We will live as God’s people, forgiven and freed.

- * 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 Tommy Suttle

Sacrament of Baptism for Rosalina Gabrielle Rosado
Presentation
Declarations of Intent
Profession of Faith

- * 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 the life everlasting. Amen.**

Thanksgiving Over the Water
The Baptism
Laying on of Hands
Baptismal Hymn #482 “Baptized in Water”
Charge and Blessing

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 – *Psalms 23* pew Bible pg. 435
The Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem – *Judge Eternal Throned in Splendour*
Text: Henry Scott Holland, Music: Malcolm Archer (lyrics are in announcements)

Second Reading – *Matthew 22:1-14* pew Bible pg. 803
The Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon – *A Wedding Robe* Rev. Dr. Christopher Crotnell

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

- * Hymn of Thanksgiving 503 – *Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation*
- Prayers of the People (responsive)
Our shepherd satisfies our needs; in faith, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, in your mercy, **hear
our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for the church . . . Fix our minds on what is honorable and true, pure and just, pleasing and commendable— whatever is excellent and worthy of praise. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for the earth . . . We wait for you, our only hope of salvation: prepare a feast of plenty for all creatures; destroy the shroud of death cast over us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for all nations . . . Show your favor to those who love your way, who observe justice and do what is right; bless them with prosperity and peace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for this community . . . Let your church be a refuge for the poor and a sanctuary for those in distress, to shelter them from every storm. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for loved ones . . . Remember those who mourn: wipe away the tears of their eyes and give them the hope of new life in you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving shepherd, lead and guide us—in green pastures and by still waters, in right paths and through dark valleys, until we feast with you in glory and dwell in your house forever; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **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 – *My Jesus, I Love Thee*

arr. Molly Ijames

The Doxology – Hymn 606

* Prayer of Dedication (unison)

God of the harvest, you are continually planting the seeds of your love in our world and in our lives. As we bring our gifts to you, may they be seeds of your grace, peace, and hope, planted deeply in our community. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn of Consecration 803 – *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

* Blessing and Charge (responsive)

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

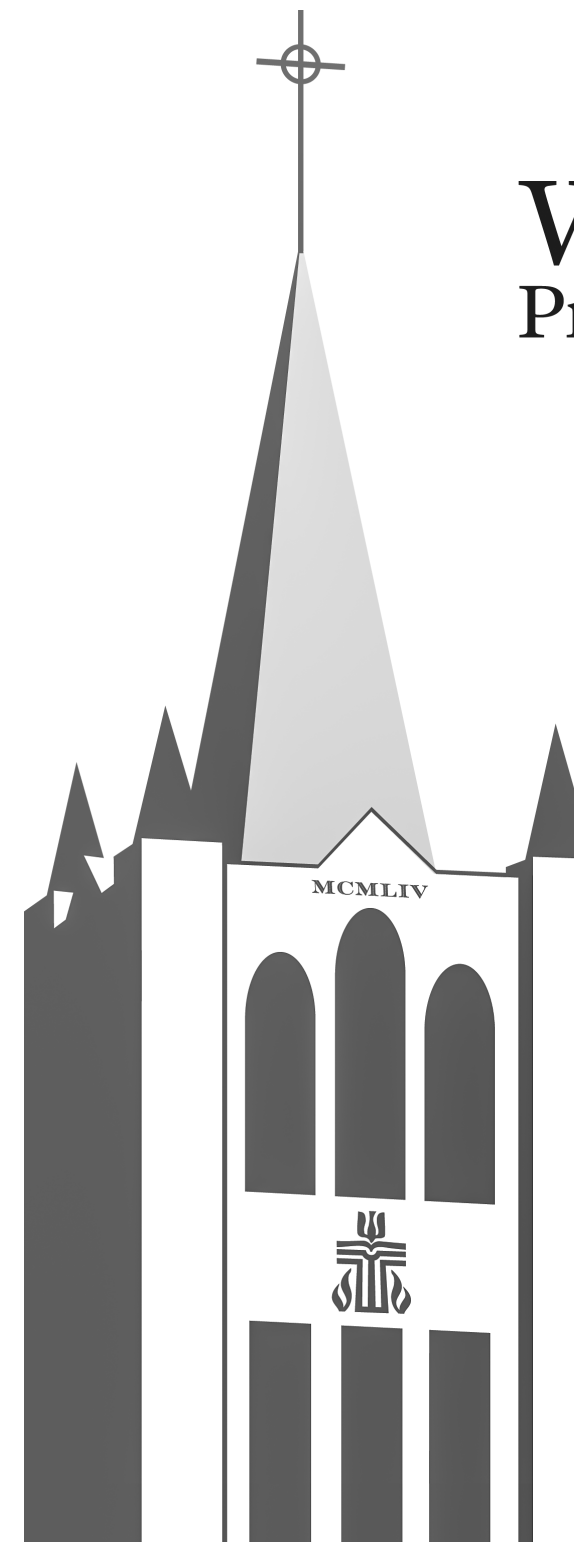
Lead a life worthy of your calling, giving glory to God in all things. **Amen.**

* Postlude – Trumpet Tune on “Royal Oak”

Craig. A Penfield



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



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

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.

Deacons will meet today after worship, and the **Session** will meet next Sunday.

The Youth will meet today at 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. Both circles will meet at the church.

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

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

Sunday, Oct. 18, there will be a luncheon following worship. All are invited to attend for food and fellowship.



Please join us for Wednesday night dinner this week at 5:30 p.m. 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: Chicken and sausage étouffée, green salad, crispy French bread, 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 p.m.

New Beginnings will meet Monday, Oct. 19 at noon. Please let Martha or Tommy know if you are coming.

This Sunday begins our PW mission emphasis of the “Thank Offering”.

See handout in the bulletin and for more information about the Thank Offering of Presbyterian Women, visit presbyterianwomen.org/thank.

Judge *Eternal Throned in Splendour*

Judge eternal, throned in splendor, Lord of lords and King of kings,
With thy living fire of judgement, purge this realm of bitter things;
Solace all its wide dominion with the healing of thy wings.
Still the weary folk are pining for the hour that brings release:
And the city’s crowded clang our cries aloud for sin to cease;
And the homesteads and the woodlands plead in silence for their peace.
Crown, O God, thine own endeavor, cleave our darkness with thy sword:
Feed the faint and hungry heathen with the richness of thy word:
Cleanse the body of the nation through the glory of the Lord, (Repeat)



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