

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 21, 2026

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – *Toccata in G Major*

William Walond

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

God our rock and salvation, you have called us to follow you; give us the courage to do so. You have called us to love you above all; give us confidence to do so. When the waters of life rage around us, hear our prayers, steady our feet, and anchor us in your word, that we might proclaim your presence in the midst of turmoil. Amen.

Chiming of the Hour

Greeting and Announcements

Durwood Blackwell

Call to Worship (responsive)

I will praise the name of God with a song;

I will magnify him with thanksgiving.

Let the oppressed see it and be glad; you who seek God, let your hearts revive.

For the Lord hears the needy, and does not despise his own that are in bonds.

Praise the LORD!

* Hymn of Praise 463 – *How Firm a Foundation*

* Call to Confession

We have died to sin; yet we continue to live in it. God's grace abounds so we might move past our sins. Trusting that promise, let us confess.

* Prayer of Confession (unison)

Gracious God, we try to follow your word: to put others above ourselves, to remember that we are all bound together as your beloved children, to seek the common good instead of our own interests. But it is so easy for our lesser selves to get the better of us. We succumb to jealousy, vindictiveness, callousness, and indifference. In your mercy, send your healing to those we have hurt, and to our own misguided souls so that we may follow you once more. (time for silent confession)

* Declaration of Forgiveness (responsive)

We are united in Christ's life, death, and resurrection: he has saved us from sin so that we might live in God. **Thanks be to Jesus Christ, who frees us from sin!**

* 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

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 – Genesis 21:8-21

pew Bible pg. 15

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

Anthem – *Lord, I Trust Thee*

G. F. Handel

Lord, I trust thee, I adore thee. Ah! Thou friend of man, restore me!

On thy loving grace relying, for the bread of life I'm sighing.

Quench my thirst and let my hunger cease, fill my heart with joy and endless peace.

When the breath of life has left me, may my soul be blended with thee.

Second Reading – Matthew 10:24-39

pew Bible pg. 791

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

Sermon – Not Peace but a Sword

Tommy Suttle, Director of Discipleship

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

* Hymn of Thanksgiving 432 – *How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord*

* 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)

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 . . . As we have been united in Christ's death, let us be one in the joy of resurrection—set free to take up the cross and follow. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the Spirit, we pray for the earth . . . Spring up with your surprising grace in the wilderness and wasteland. Be merciful to the earth you have made. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the Spirit, we pray for all nations . . . Where old family feuds divide nations and close neighbors are worlds apart, give blessing; put an end to hate and fear. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the Spirit, we pray for this community . . . Redeem those who are mocked and mistreated. Restore those who are cursed and cast aside. Hold them in your hands and save them from evil. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the Spirit, we pray for loved ones . . . Draw near to those who are in distress; deliver those whose lives are sinking in despair. Answer them with the abundance of your love. 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 – *Give Me Jesus*

Richard Billingham

The Doxology – Hymn 606

* 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 339 – *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

* 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 – *Toccata in E Minor*

Johann Pachelbel



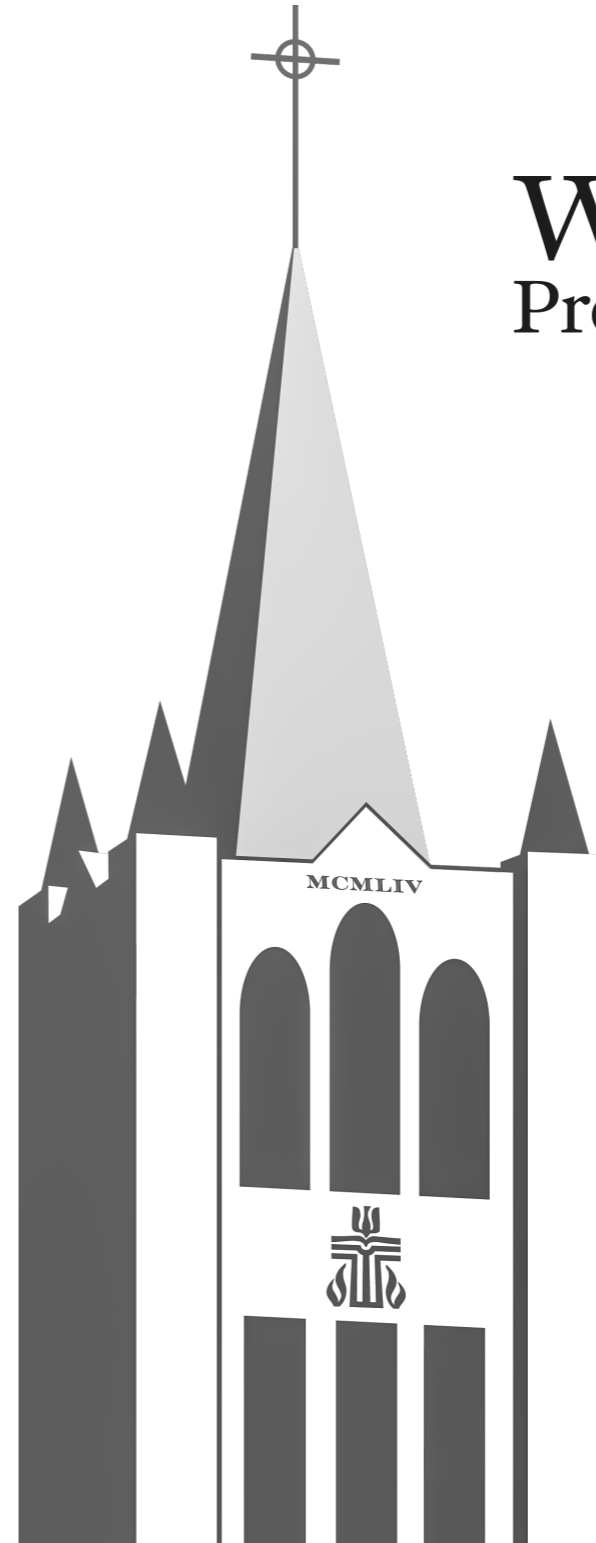
* Please stand at the * as you are able. Unison readings are **printed in bold.**

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

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

**Mike Gerald – recovering from motorcycle accident*

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

Lola Norris

**Brenda Owens – recovering from broken ankle*

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 – 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



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 Session will meet today following worship.

The Youth will not meet today.

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

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

If you need something **notarized**, contact Martha in the office. No charge for members.

There is a box on the narthex cabinet labeled glasses for your **donated glasses**. These will be taken to the Lions Club.

The **furniture warehouse** needs donations. Call the office if you have items to donate, and we will schedule a pickup.

We are **collecting clothes** (women’s and children’s) for the domestic abuse shelter. Call Ann Johnson (601-268-6632) to schedule a drop-off time.



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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