

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, February 2, 2020
9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Be a bright flame before me, O God, a guiding star above me. Be a smooth path below me, a kindly shepherd behind me today, tonight, and forever. Alone with none but you, O God, I journey on my way. What need I fear when you are near, O Lord of night and day? More secure am I within your hand than if a multitude did round me stand. Amen.

The Prayer of St. Columba

GATHERING THE COMMUNITY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

PREPARING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" arr. Bish

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Your love is as high as the heavens, O God; your faithfulness soars through the skies.
People: Your righteousness reaches the towering peaks: your justice the depths of the sea.

Leader: We shelter beneath your wings; we feast on food you provide.

All: We open our eyes to take in your goodness; for you are the source of all life, and because of your light we see light. Let us worship God!

* HYMN OF PRAISE No. 35 LOBE DEN HERREN

"Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Surprising God, you have made foolish the wisdom of the world, teaching that the meek shall inherit the earth and heaven belongs to those who suffer for the sake of justice. But we cling to the values of this world, things that enhance our status but cheat our souls. We seek comfort in simple answers and easy outs. We disregard the marginalized and mock weakness, forgetting that Christ lifted up the lowly and made a home among the vulnerable. God of blessing, forgive us, renew our minds, so that we might act with justice, practice kindness, and walk humbly with you. Amen.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal, No. 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.

At 9 a.m., children in K5 - first grade are invited to leave for Children's Church.

ANTHEM (11:15) "God Is Calling Us" Sleeth

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Micah 6:6-8 O.T., p. 757

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 5:1-12 N.T., p. 785

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Mathew Frease

"Energy, Intelligence, Imagination, and Love"

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER Hymnal page 35, Traditional

OFFERING

Offertory "Be Thou my Vision" Hunter/Sorenson

* Doxology (Hymnal, No. 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

ORDINATION TO THE MINISTRY OF WORD AND SACRAMENT (11:15 a.m.)

Statement on Ordination and Installation Debbie Foster

Constitutional Questions to the Pastor

Constitutional Questions to the Congregation Mary Kathleen Duncan

Prayer of Ordination and Installation

Declaration of Ordination and Installation Debbie Foster

Charge to the Pastor Katie Aumann

Charge to the Congregation Lydia Kellett

* HYMN No. 761 BEECHER

"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

* CHARGE & BLESSING The Reverend Lauren Slingerland

* CHORAL RESPONSE (11:15) "Glory Be to the Father" Stanford

* POSTLUDE Toccata from Organ Symphony No. 5 Widor

*All who are able may stand

COMMISSION TO ORDAIN

Mary Kathleen Duncan Associate Pastor, Westminster Presbyterian, Greenville

Debbie Foster Presbytery Leader, Stated Clerk, Foothills Presbytery

Lydia Kellett Elder, Westminster Presbyterian

Raenota Merrill Elder, Fort Hill Presbyterian, Clemson

Ken Schafer Elder, Greer First Presbyterian, Greer

GUESTS

Katie Owen Aumann Associate Pastor, Covenant Presbyterian, Atlanta, Georgia

Mathew Frease

ThD Candidate, Columbia Theological Seminary, Atlanta, Georgia

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HEAD USHERS: 9:00 a.m. Pete Sweeny
11:15 a.m. Bryant Puntch
SPONSOR: Becca Donohue
GREETERS: 9:00 a.m. Parks McLeod, Philip Land, Bob Dellert
11:15 a.m. David Massey, Ben Alexander, Kristin Burrell
LITURGISTS: 9:00 a.m. Ben Dorr
11:15 a.m. Ben Dorr, Leigh Stuckey, Mary Kathleen Duncan, Amos Workman
LAY READERS: 9:00 a.m. Judy McKenney
11:15 a.m. Raenota Merrill
ACOLYTES: 9:00 a.m. Grayson O'Toole, Grayson Williams
11:15 a.m. George Blount, Daniel Knauer

PARKING

We have permission to use the parking lots at the Uniform Shop and Augusta Commons Mall.

TRAFFIC POLICE OFFICER

A Greenville city police officer will be on duty from 9:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. to help people cross the street from the other side of Augusta Road.

CHURCH NOTES

Musicians leading in worship this Sunday are:

Nancy Smith, organist

9:00 a.m.

Chancel Choir

11:15 a.m.

Junior & Senior Choristers

Sanctuary Choir

Ellis McLarty, cello

Elizabeth Santi, oboe

Alexandra Lanning, violin

NURSERY

Childcare is available for infants through four-year kindergarten. Our childcare program provides safe, secure nurseries for our babies and toddlers during worship services. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment to all children.

During worship, children in K5-1st grade follow one of our ministers out for Children's Church in Room 206.

HEALTH MINISTRY

We are offering free blood pressure screenings this Sunday, February 2. The screenings will take place in the Friendship Court following the 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. services. If you have any questions or if you are a healthcare professional and would like to help, please contact Tim Miller (627-0725).

In Memoriam

Betty W. Rogers

2/14/1934 - 1/27/2020

"I am the resurrection and the life."

This Sunday, February 2, Lauren Slingerland will be ordained and installed as our Associate Pastor for Children at our 11:15 a.m. service! This is an important and exciting occasion for Lauren and for our congregation. A reception in celebration of Lauren's ordination and installation will be held in the Sanctuary Atrium following the service.

INTERESTED IN JOINING WESTMINSTER?

Visitors interested in learning more about Westminster Presbyterian Church, membership here, and what it means to be Presbyterian are invited to attend our New Member Class from 9-10:30 a.m. on Sunday, February 16. Those who have been baptized and who wish to become members may do so on Sunday, February 16, during the 11:15 a.m. worship service or on a future new member Sunday. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Jennifer Dillard (jdillard@wpc-online.org) at 232-2424.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Members of the Youth Group will collect donations before and after both worship services this Sunday, February 2, for the Souper Bowl of Caring. Donations will benefit our mission partner organizations as they strive to feed the hungry in our community.

THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet Monday, February 17, at 7:00 p.m. in the Charter Room. Walter Hinton will lead the discussion of The Line Becomes a River by Francisco Cantu. Read the book and join us for an interesting evening. All are invited.

BIRTH

A son, George Henry Freeman, was born to Zach & Lee Freeman on Thursday, January 23, 2020 in Greenville.

LET US PRAY FOR:

Mary Lawson and family
The Family of Betty Rogers

MEN'S GROUP BOOK STUDY

The Men's Group will meet again on **Monday, February 3**, at **6:00 p.m.** in **Room 209-C**. We are studying the book, *The Bible Jesus Read*, by Philip Yancey. All WPC men are invited to participate and newcomers are welcome. For more information, contact *Rick Carpenter* (608-1881).

JUSTFAITH GROUP

JustFaith Phase II, *Caring for Each Other*, will begin **Monday, February 3**, from **6-8:30 p.m.** in the **Charter Room**. For more information call *Susan McLeod* (787-6262), *Susan Fender* (905-5466), or *Bill Holt* (982-3368).

WESTMINSTER BOOK CLUB

The Westminster Book Club meets on the first **Tuesday** night of the month at **7:00 p.m.** in the church **library** (except December and July). Newcomers are always welcome. For **February 4**, the group will read and discuss *Pachinko* by Min Gin Lee. The discussion will be led by *Ruth Johnston*.

CHERUBS IN THE SPRING!

Beginning **February 5**, we will commence with our next season of Cherub Choir! We will meet **each Wednesday** from **3:30-4:00** in **Room 208**. This spring we will prepare a program that will be featured before the Junior and Senior Choristers musical on **Sunday, March 29**. Please register your child for this spring season online at <https://wpc-online.org> under the connect and events registration tab. Contact *Katie Knauer* (kknauer@wpc-online.org) for further information.

**K5 - 5th GRADE TEAMS
BASKETBALL BANQUET
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19**

Celebrate the 2019-2020 season of WPC Basketball for **K5-5th** grade teams. Teams will be recognized and trophies awarded. The nursery will be available for children under three. Dinner includes pizza (a gluten friendly option is available if indicated upon sign up), salad, and dessert for \$5/person. Coaches eat for free! Sign up today at www.wpc-online.org. **Register for dinner by Monday, February 17**. Serving lines will be open from **5:45 p.m.-6:15 p.m.** The banquet will conclude by **6:45 p.m.**

YOUNGISH AT WPC

Young...or youngish? We're generous with the term around here. If you're somewhere between 20-something and 40-something we hope you'll join us for study and fellowship this semester. We're continuing our series on miracles, and we're meeting at some of Greenville's hottest spots. Our first meeting is **Wednesday, February 5** at **The Commons** (147 Welborn St.). Drop by around **6:30 p.m.** There will be childcare at WPC beginning at **6:15 p.m.** Watch the Harbinger and our email newsletter for upcoming dates and locations. For more information or to be added to our newsletter contact Leigh Stuckey (lstuckey@wpc-online.org).

ADULT GROUPS

Hiking Group: Will meet **Saturday, February 8**, for a hike along the Chattooga River. Hike Leader: *Durden Collins* (durden.collins@gmail.com).

CONNECTIONS:

Please join Westminster friends for Connections, an adult fellowship group for couples and singles, for lunch at **Lieu's Chinese Bistro** (1149 Woodruff Rd.), at **12:45 p.m. Sunday, February 9**, after the 11:15 worship service. New people are always welcome. **RSVP by Friday, February 7**, by contacting *Mary Ann Cox* (1maryanncox@gmail.com or 963-2335).

SENIOR ADULT LUNCHEON

Who is your favorite former president? Help us celebrate President's Day by joining us for a senior adult luncheon at **noon on Thursday, February 20**. The cost is \$7 per person. Come prepared to share a story about your favorite former president. RSVP to the church office by **Tuesday, February 18**.

**THE HARBINGER
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
2310 Augusta Street
Greenville, South Carolina 29605
(864) 232-2424
www.wpc-online.org**

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CHURCH STAFF

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Associate Pastor	Mary Kathleen Duncan
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Associate Pastor	Lauren Slingerland
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 2 - 8, 2020

SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. Worship Service
Confirmation Class Meeting
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:15 a.m. Worship Service
12:15 p.m. Reception for
Lauren Slingerland
Youth Choir Rehearsal
12:30 p.m. Youth Service Project
3:30 p.m. APNC Meeting
8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous

MONDAY

6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study Group
JustFaith Group Meeting
6:15 p.m. NAMI
8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

TUESDAY

11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
12:00 p.m. Administrative Committee Meeting
Al-Anon
7:00 p.m. Westminster Book Club Meeting

WEDNESDAY

3:00 p.m. It's Elementary!
3:30 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal
4:30 p.m. Junior & Senior Choristers
6:30 p.m. Youngish Adults Group
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY

10:00 a.m. Thursday Bible Study
12:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting
8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

SUPPER WITH SEVEN

It's time to sign up for our next Supper With Seven series. Supper With Seven groups will be made up of couples and singles who will get together for fellowship. The goal will be to have each group get together three times in a period from late February through May. The meal-sharing opportunities range from a traditional dinner at a member's home to backyard barbecues to meetings at the pizza parlor. It is up to each group to decide. **The deadline to sign up for Supper With Seven is Monday, February 3.**

To sign up, return this form to the church office, or fill out the online form on the church website by navigating to the Supper With Seven page (<https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/supper-with-seven/>).

Name(s): _____
(Include both names if you are signing up as a couple.)

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Please check as many as apply:

_____ I/We would be willing to host a first gathering of seven or so people.

_____ I/We cannot host the first gathering, but would consider a subsequent one.

_____ I/We cannot host but would like to be part of a group.



BIGGER THAN ALL OUR FEARS

I wake up in a cold sweat from a nightmare, the terror slowly fading as I groggily reach for the clock on the nightstand to check the time — 3:30 a.m. The house is quiet, my husband and baby are sleeping, yet my worries keep me awake.

This particular morning, I felt anxious about the fires in Australia and my friends who live there. I felt helpless, and worse – without hope.

Anxiety is a common occurrence for me, and I know others struggle with bouts of anxiety and depression as well. It's understandable. On a daily basis we are bombarded with messages of political corruption, natural disasters, hate-mongering, school shootings, gender violence and war.

I sneak away from bed and pick up my journal. As I journal my fears of living in a dangerous and scary world, I realize that none of that is new. The faithful people we read about in the Bible also lived in dangerous and scary times, yet so many of them sang psalms of praise and hope because they know that God can defeat everything that we fear. The verse from Micah 7:7 says, "But as for me, I watch in hope for the Lord, I wait for God my Savior; my God will hear me."

The verse from Jeremiah 29:11 also sprang to mind: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

As I put down my pen, finished with journaling, I repeated these verses in my head like a mantra, or better yet, a war cry. A silent war cry against the fear and anxiety that a secular society wants to push on us. As Christians, we know better. God is bigger than all of our fears combined. Throughout the Bible, He reassures us and tells us not to be afraid. He is our hope, and if we walk humbly with him, we have nothing to fear.

Reassured, I drift back to a peaceful sleep.

Holly Vanderwal