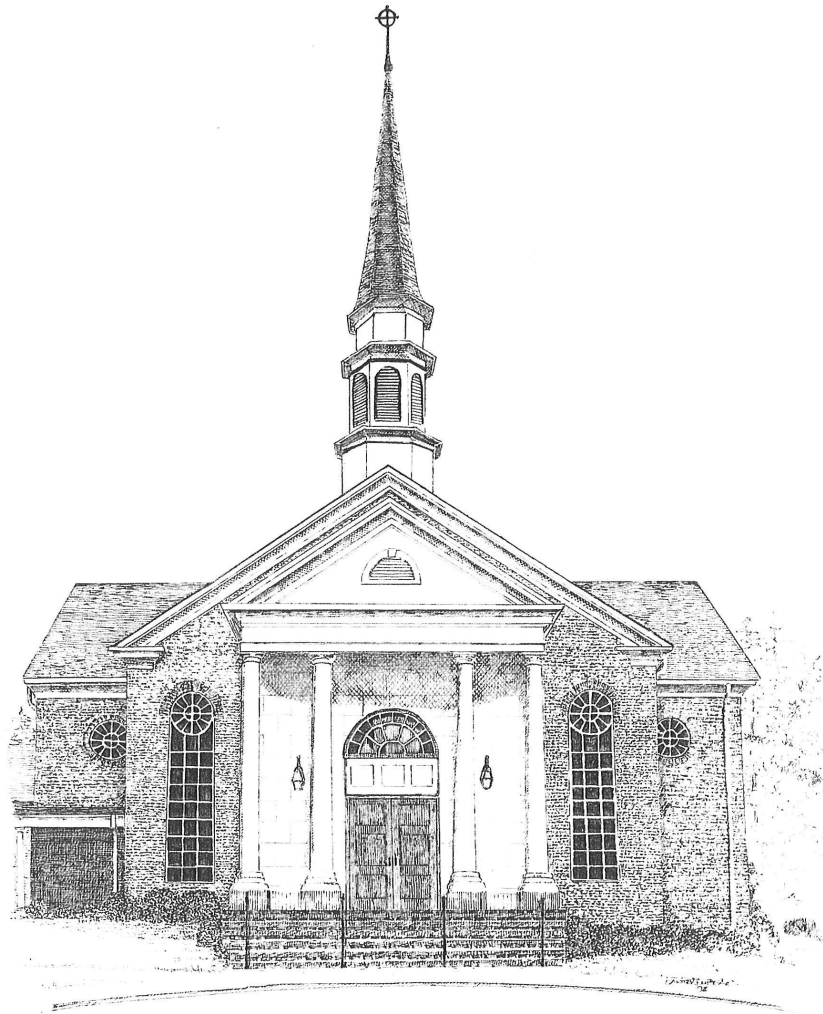




Westminster Presbyterian Church

is called by God to be an inclusive community of faith,
abiding in God's love, and committed to:
Enjoying God, Following Jesus, and Growing Disciples

You Are Welcome Here:

We are glad you are worshipping with us today. We pray you experience our joyful welcome and God's peaceful presence as you worship with us today.

Questions about Westminster? Just ask! Any one of us would be glad to help.

The Sanctuary is a Place of Reverence and Worship

In order that our worship might be meaningful to all, please enter the sanctuary reverently. The narthex or courtyard are good places to visit with friends before or after worship. Use the moments before worship to prepare your heart, mind, and body for worship, centering yourself in the space and quieting your heart. It may be helpful to listen quietly to the prelude, find the hymns we will be singing, meditate on the scriptures we will be reading.

Children at Westminster:

Children are an integral part of our church family. We are glad when they come to worship God with us. In our midst, children learn our rhythms of worship, become knit into our fellowship, and teach us as surely as we are teaching them.

Please take children to the restroom before worship. If you need to leave the sanctuary during worship, please use the exits at the rear of the sanctuary. We ask that families sit together during worship and that no child move unaccompanied through the building.

Children's worship packets are available on the front pew and are given out after *The Time With All Gods Children*. Children first grade and up (by age or development) are encouraged to remain in worship.

Children in kindergarten and younger (by age or development) may depart with our caregivers and teachers for the nursery or remain with their parents for worship if they choose. If this is your first visit to Westminster, you are welcome to accompany your child to Children's Sunday School so that you can meet our caregivers and help settle your child in.

A brochure regarding our Children, Youth, and Vulnerable Adult protection policy is available in the narthex.

**Westminster Presbyterian Church
A Service for the Worship of God**

July 26, 2026

WE GATHER IN GOD'S WORD

Chiming the Hour

Prelude

Words of Scripture

Psalm 118:24

This is the day that the Lord has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Welcome and Announcements

Gloria Christie

***Call to Worship**

from Psalm 104

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

O Lord my God, you are very great.

You are clothed with honor and majesty,
wrapped in light as with a garment.

You make springs gush forth in the valleys;
they flow between the hills,
giving drink to every wild animal;
the wild asses quench their thirst.

**By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation;
they sing among the branches.**

**From your lofty abode you water the mountains;
the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

O Lord my God, you are very great.

***Hymn #20**

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

ROYAL OAK

20 All Things Bright and Beautiful

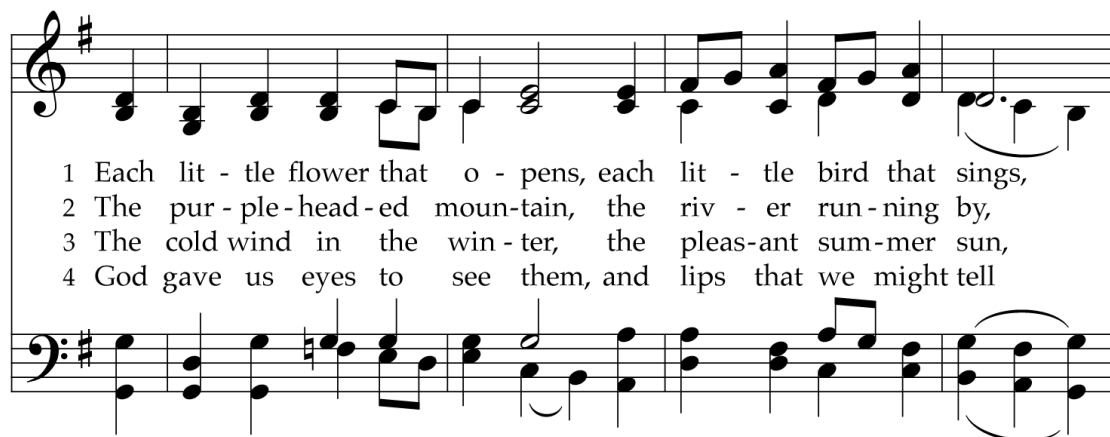
Refrain



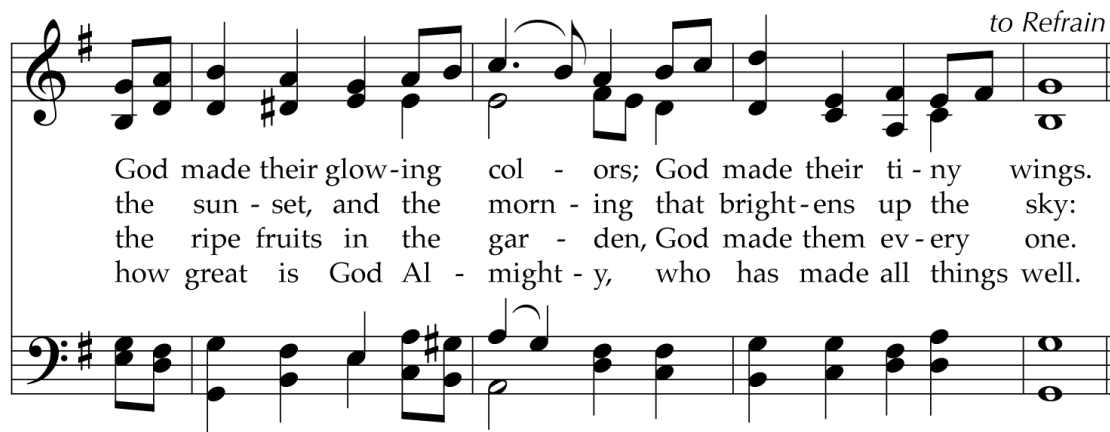
All things bright and beau-ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,



all things wise and won-der - ful, the Lord God made them all. *Fine*



1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
 2 The pur - ple-head-ed moun-tain, the riv - er run-ning by,
 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas-ant sum-mer sun,
 4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell



God made their glow-ing col - ors; God made their ti - ny wings.
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky:
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - ery one.
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well. *to Refrain*

One of a series of hymns the author wrote for children on the Apostles' Creed, this text (originally in seven stanzas) expands "Maker of heaven and earth." The first stanza became the refrain when the text was later set to a popular tune from the age of King Charles II.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess
our failure to be what you created us to be.**

**You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways,
in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love.**

We pause for personal prayer.

**By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

*Gloria Patri

*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.*

*Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Time for All God's Children

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Proverbs 2:1-8, 20

2 My child, if you accept my words
and treasure up my commandments within you,
2 making your ear attentive to wisdom
and inclining your heart to understanding,
3 if you indeed cry out for insight
and raise your voice for understanding,
4 if you seek it like silver
and search for it as for hidden treasures—
5 then you will understand the fear of the Lord
and find the knowledge of God.
6 For the Lord gives wisdom;
from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;
7 he stores up sound wisdom for the upright;
he is a shield to those who walk blamelessly,
8 guarding the paths of justice
and preserving the way of his faithful ones.
20 Therefore walk in the way of the good,
and keep to the paths of the just.

Second Reading

Numbers 22:21-38

21 So Balaam got up in the morning, saddled his donkey, and went with the officials of Moab.
22 God's anger was kindled because he was going, and the angel of the Lord took his stand in the road as his adversary. Now he was riding on the donkey, and his two servants were with him. **23** The donkey saw the angel of the Lord standing in the road, with a drawn sword in his hand, so the donkey turned off the road and went into the field, and Balaam struck the donkey, to turn it back onto the road. **24** Then the angel of the Lord stood in a narrow path between the vineyards, with a wall on either side. **25** When the donkey saw the angel of the Lord, it scraped against the wall and scraped Balaam's foot against the wall, so he struck it again. **26** Then the angel of the Lord went ahead and stood in a narrow place, where there was no

way to turn either to the right or to the left. ²⁷ When the donkey saw the angel of the Lord, it lay down under Balaam, and Balaam's anger was kindled, and he struck the donkey with his staff. ²⁸ Then the Lord opened the mouth of the donkey, and it said to Balaam, "What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?" ²⁹ Balaam said to the donkey, "Because you have made a fool of me! I wish I had a sword in my hand! I would kill you right now!" ³⁰ But the donkey said to Balaam, "Am I not your donkey, which you have ridden all your life to this day? Have I been in the habit of treating you this way?" And he said, "No."

³¹ Then the Lord opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the Lord standing in the road, with his drawn sword in his hand, and he bowed down, falling on his face. ³² The angel of the Lord said to him, "Why have you struck your donkey these three times? I have come out as an adversary because your way is perverse before me. ³³ The donkey saw me and turned away from me these three times. If it had not turned away from me, surely just now I would have killed you and let it live." ³⁴ Then Balaam said to the angel of the Lord, "I have sinned, for I did not know that you were standing in the road to oppose me. Now therefore, if it is displeasing to you, I will return home." ³⁵ The angel of the Lord said to Balaam, "Go with the men, but speak only what I tell you to speak." So Balaam went on with the officials of Balak.

³⁶ When Balak heard that Balaam had come, he went out to meet him at Ir-moab, on the boundary formed by the Arnon, at the farthest point of the boundary. ³⁷ Balak said to Balaam, "Did I not send to summon you? Why did you not come to me? Am I not able to honor you?" ³⁸ Balaam said to Balak, "I have come to you now, but do I have power to say just anything? The word God puts in my mouth, that is what I must say."

This is the Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Caroline V. Dennis

"When Your Vehicle Knows Best"

*Therefore, walk in the way of the good, and keep to the paths of the just.
Proverbs 2:20*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

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.

Call to Offering

***Hymn #738**

“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”

MARYTON

738 O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with thee
 2 Help me the slow of heart to move
 3 Teach me thy pa - tience, still with thee
 4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray

in low - ly paths of ser - vice free;
 by some clear, win - ning word of love;
 in clos - er, dear - er com - pa - ny,
 far down the fu - ture's broad - ening way;

tell me thy se - cret; help me bear the
 teach me the way - ward feet to stay, and
 in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in
 in peace that on - ly thou canst give, with

strain of toil, the fret of care.
 guide them in the home - ward way.
 trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong.
 thee, O Mas - ter, let me live.

In honestly admitting the limits of human ability, this prayerful hymn does not seek a sense of God's presence for self-comfort but for strength and companionship in pursuing the tasks that God sets before us. The author specifically chose this tune to accompany his words.

***Doxology**

*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**

***Affirmation of Faith**

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 Spirit, 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 Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Hymn #741**

“Guide My Feet”

GUIDE MY FEET

Guide My Feet

741

1 Guide my feet while I run this race;

(yes, my Lord!)

guide my feet while I run this race;

(yes, my Lord!)

guide my feet while I run this race, for I

don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 Hold my hand ... | 5 Search my heart ... |
| 3 Stand by me ... | 6 Guide my feet ... |
| 4 I'm your child ... | |

This African American spiritual is based on the imagery of "the race that is set before us" in Hebrews 12:1–2. Its call-and-response structure allows for the improvisation and addition of stanzas related to an athletic metaphor that is as vivid today as it was centuries ago.

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

[*All stand as they are able.]

*The sanctuary flowers are given
in memory of Claire Kuhl's mother, Elizabeth Fields.*

Serving Today at Westminster

Organist:	Claire Kuhl
Liturgist:	Gloria Christie
Host:	Wicker Family
Children's Sunday School	Kathy Gillespie

Today at Westminster

Sunday Study	9:00 am	Joe Gettys Classroom (<i>Adults</i>)
Sunday School	9:00 am	Children's Wing (<i>Children and Youth</i>)
Worship	10:00 am	Sanctuary
Children's Nursery	10:00 am	Sanctuary and Children's Wing
Called Session Meeting	11:15 am	Joe Gettys Classroom

This Week at Westminster

Office Hours:	9:00 – 1:00	M-Th	
Zoom Prayer Time	Noon	Monday	Zoom
BEMA Discussion Group	6:00 pm	Monday	Joe Gettys Classroom
Books & Brown Bags	6:00 pm	Wednesday	Joe Gettys Classroom
PFLAG	6:00 pm	Thursday	Joe Gettys Classroom

Next Sunday, August 2

Please remember that first Sundays are Communion Sundays and that on Communion Sundays we bring offerings of food for our neighbors. Pick up your purple shopping bag in the narthex. The list of most needed items is printed on the bag.

Sunday Study	9:00 am	Joe Gettys Classroom (<i>Adults</i>)
Sunday School	9:00 am	Children's Wing (<i>Children and Youth</i>)
Worship & Communion	10:00 am	Sanctuary
Children's Nursery	10:00 am	Sanctuary and Children's Wing

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Study Opportunities at Westminster

Sunday Adult Study: Join us for Adult Study this Sunday at 9:00 am in the Joe Gettys Classroom as we explore a new *Wired Word* lesson connecting current events and Scripture.

Books and Brown Bags will discuss an article on the Enneagram.

Worship on the Water Sails On!

10:00 A.M. on Sundays

Please continue to support Worship on the Water by praying, by attending, and especially by inviting everyone you know to come experience God's grace, love, and bounty. Remember - Come by Boat, Come by Car, Come as You Are!



Prayer Time in the Upper Zoom Join us each Monday at 12:00 noon for our weekly Prayer Time on Zoom. Watch for the Monday prayer list email for the Zoom link. You may submit prayer requests to the church office or by placing a Prayer Request card from the pew in the offering plate. Everyone is welcome to join us in prayer.

Office Hours' Notice Office Manager, Charleston Warner will be out of the office this week on vacation. During this time, Mary Frances Thompson will be serving as the office alternate and will be available Monday through Thursday, 9:00 A.M.–12:00 P.M. If you need assistance, please stop by or contact the church office during those hours.

Parents, Youth and Children This Friday Night July 31, 2026, will be the first WPC Parents Night Out – Sign-in will start at 5:00pm with pick up by 8:30pm. Parents plan for a night out while kids enjoy a snack supper and recreation including games, music, conversation and time to just be with your church friends. To make this happen, youth leaders will need volunteer adults to come out and play.



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

is called by God to be an inclusive community of faith, abiding in God's love and committed to enjoying God, following Jesus, and growing disciples.

Office Hours: M-Th 9:00 a.m. – Noon Office Phone: 864.229.3595
www.wpcgnwd.org wpcgwd1@gmail.com

Clerk of Session
Claire Kuhl

Treasurer
David Hammond

Office Manager
Charleston Warner

RULING ELDERS

Class of 2026
Laine Horowitz
David Grier

Class of 2027
Luke Christie
Bill Kimler

Class of 2028
Ginny Cartee
Rob Graves

Rev. Caroline Vinson Dennis, pastor
317.777.1487

Sunday Study 9:00 a.m. Church Service: 10:00 a.m.

CCLI License #2724601 and #20189191