

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.

A Service for the Worship of God
Veterans' Remembrance
November 8, 2026

WE GATHER IN GOD'S WORD

Chiming the Hour

Prelude "For the Beauty of the Earth" arr. Joel Raney

Words of Scripture Psalm 118:29

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

his steadfast love endures forever.

Welcome and Announcements Bill Jacobs

***Call to Worship:**

One: Can you imagine unfettered love?
Free and bold, wild and true, the kind of love that changes you?
Can you imagine a home—safe and bright,
With impromptu dancing, meals around table, and laughter late into the night?
Can you imagine faith like a compass
That guides the way you shop and vote, the way you love and hope;
That asks questions and yet still believes, even despite uncertainty?
Can you imagine a world where trees, bees, and all living things grow wild and free? Where peace is the narrative and hope the currency?
A world where news stories are testimonies and funerals are far between?
Can you imagine?

All: Yes, we can imagine.

One: Today in worship, dare to dream. Dare to imagine what could be.

And pay attention, for God is here, in wandering thoughts, hopes, and prayers.

All: Let us worship holy God, that great unfettered love.

***Hymn #462** **"I Love to Tell the Story"** HANKEY

462 I Love to Tell the Story



This text is drawn from the second part of a fifty-stanza poem on the life of Christ written in 1866, during the author's recovery from a serious illness. The tune named for her first appeared three years later, and the composer was responsible for the creation of the refrain.

TEXT: Katherine Hankey, 1866; ref. William G. Fischer, 1869
MUSIC: William G. Fischer, 1869

HANKEY
7.6.7.6.D with refrain

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

One: God of Grace,
You invite us to dream of a better world,
All: But instead, we bury our heads in the sand.
We are afraid to recognize how much must change.
We are afraid, because if we know the truth,
then don't we have a job to do?
One: So instead, more often than not, we maintain the status quo.
All: We passively allow things to stay the same.
One: We don't speak out; we don't imagine a new day.
All: We don't dream of a world without racism, sexism, bigotry, or shame.
One: Instead we allow ourselves to believe that some things will never change.
All: Forgive us. Show us the way. Teach us to dream.
One: Teach us to imagine again.
All: Humbly we pray.
Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

***Response of Praise** Hymn 647

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.

And now let the weak say, "We are strong";
let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!"

And now let the weak say, "We are strong";
let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!"
Give thanks. Give thanks.

***Passing the Peace**

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

Time with All God's Children

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading Mark 12:38-44

38 As he taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes and to be greeted
with respect in the marketplaces **39** and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at
banquets! **40** They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will
receive the greater condemnation."

41 He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich
people put in large sums. **42** A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a
penny. **43** Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more
than all those who are contributing to the treasury. **44** For all of them have contributed out of their
abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

Second Scripture Reading Leviticus 19:9-10 and 25:8-12

9 "When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the
gleanings of your harvest. **10** You shall not strip your vineyard bare or gather the fallen grapes of your
vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the alien: I am the Lord your God.

8 "You shall count off seven weeks of years, seven times seven years, so that the period of seven weeks of
years gives forty-nine years. **9** Then you shall have the trumpet sounded loud; on the tenth day of the
seventh month—on the Day of Atonement—you shall have the trumpet sounded throughout all your land.
10 And you shall hallow the fiftieth year, and you shall proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its
inhabitants. It shall be a Jubilee for you: you shall return, every one of you, to your property and every one
of you to your family. **11** That fiftieth year shall be a Jubilee for you: you shall not sow or reap the
aftergrowth or harvest the unpruned vines. **12** For it is a Jubilee; it shall be holy to you: you shall eat only
what the field itself produces.

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

Sermon **Rev. Caroline V. Dennis**

"Reimagine Your Story"

Veteran's Remembrance

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

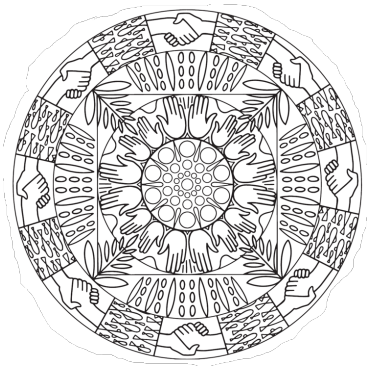
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us, not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Call to Offering

Offertory "God of Ages, History Maker" arr. Faye Lopez

***Response of Praise** Hymn #717

For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own;
here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring;
give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.



***Prayer of Dedication**

Jesus of Nazareth,
In scripture we hear of a woman who gave her last coin away.
You pointed her out, but you did not say, "Go and do likewise."
So we cannot help but wonder—did you point her out to ask,
"Why does this one have so little when others have so much?"
Did you point her out to help us see the injustice that led to her suffering?
Maybe.
So today, for her, and for you, and for every person who cannot afford to give to God
And put food on the table, we offer our gifts.
We pray that you would use them for your good.
Right what is wrong.
Balance the systems of injustice.
Use these gifts to build the world that we can only imagine
But you can bring forth.
In hope we pray,
Amen.

***Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in God the Creator,
who, like a painter with a canvas,
imagined creation and breathed it into being.
We believe in Jesus,
who many years later,
walked this hurting world and showed us a new way to love.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who prods us and pulls us,
leads us and guides us,
carries us and loves us into new life, day after day.
And we believe in the power of imagination,
a gift from God that allows us to dream dreams,
create anew, start over, try again, and live lives of hope.
So in response, together, as God's church,
We dare to dream.
We strive to love.
We try to imagine a new day.
And we walk together,
All with God's help.
Amen.

***Hymn #366** **"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling "** HYFRYDOL

366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means "delightful") gives us a foretaste of endless song.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1747, alt.
MUSIC: Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1831, alt.

HYFRYDOL
8.7.8.7.D

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude **"**Lift High the Cross" arr. Faye Lopez

[*All stand as they are able.]

The sanctuary flowers are given by Arthur & Kathy Gillespie in memory of Mary Frances Thompson.

Serving Today at Westminster

Guest Pianist:	Amy Fennell
Liturgist:	Bill Jacobs
Host:	Watkins Family
Sunday Study:	Brian Purcell
Children's Sunday School	Kathy Gillespie

Today at Westminster: Veterans' Remembrance

Sunday Study	9:00 am	Joe Gettys Classroom *(Adults)*
Sunday School	9:00 am	Children's Wing *(Children and Youth)*
Worship	10:00 am	Sanctuary
Children's Nursery	10:00 am	Sanctuary and Children's Wing
Session Meeting	11:30 am	Joe Gettys Classroom
Young Adult Bible Study		Snr. High Room

This Week at Westminster

Office Hours:	9:00 am– Noon	M-Th	
Zoom Prayer Time	Noon	Monday	Zoom
BEMA Discussion Group	6:00 pm	Monday	Joe Gettys Classroom
Books and Brown Bags	6:00 pm	Wednesday	Joe Gettys Classroom
Healing & Wholeness Service	6:00 pm	Thursday	Sanctuary

Next Sunday, November 15: Dedication Sunday

Sunday Study	9:00 am	Joe Gettys Classroom *(Adults)*
Sunday School	9:00 am	Children's Wing *(Children and Youth)*
Worship	10:00 am	Sanctuary
Children's Nursery	10:00 am	Sanctuary and Children's Wing
Sunday Sustenance	11:15 am	Fellowship Hall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Study Opportunities at Westminster

Sunday Adult Study: Join us for Adult Study this Sunday at 9:00 am in the Joe Gettys Room as we discuss chapters 7 and 8 of *Christian Prayer for Today* by Martha Moore-Keish. Books are available in the Joe Gettys Classroom.

Books and Brown Bags: Join the group for wonderful followship and a facilitated discussion of the Enneagram. Please find details in your November edition of the Westminster Times.

A Service of Healing and Wholeness – November 12
Join us Wednesday, November 12, for a Service of Healing and Wholeness in the Sanctuary from 6:00–6:45 P.M. Like a quiltmaker, God gathers the pieces of our lives—our joys, struggles, memories, losses, and blessings—and stitches them together into something new. Together, we will bring our families, neighbors, nation, and world before the Lord in prayer, seeking healing, comfort, and wholeness.

Following worship, a simple soup supper will be served in the Fellowship Hall from 6:45–8:00 P.M. Bring a friend and join us as we pray and share in fellowship.

Thanksgiving Service Community Choir Dr. Will Cleveland, Music Director at both Immanuel Lutheran Church and The Church of the Resurrection, has invited interested choir members to join a joint choir rehearsal to prepare for the Community Thanksgiving Service (November 23 at Main Street UMC) Copies of the music are available on the sideboard in the Narthex. Rehearsals will be from 6:00 pm (arrive 10 minutes early) to 6:20 pm on Thursdays, Nov. 5, Nov. 12, and Nov. 19. If you plan to participate, please email Dr. Will at will@episcopalgreenwood.org

Dedication Sunday is next Sunday, November 15. Please bring your Stewardship Covenants to church with you on Sunday so that you may joyfully present them during worship.



Our Money Story: *Reimagine*

Stewardship 2027 – November 8, 2026

Scripture calls us to reimagine a world where our social and economic systems are not built to disparage or impoverish, but instead to provide for and benefit all. This week, we revisit scriptures seeking to reimagine and reinterpret what they mean regarding God's money story. Then, in light of these stories in scripture, we are called to reimagine our own money stories.

Use these prompts to help you discern your personal money story by ***reimagining****.*

In each column, write what immediately comes to mind when you read the column heading—don't overthink it.

What drives our current economy? (*For example, profit, need*)	**What drives the economy of the Kingdom of God?**

Look at both lists. What is in opposition, and what is in harmony? What would it take to dissolve the barrier between these columns? What actions could bring the Kingdom of God into our current economy?

To seek restoration, we must begin by ***reimagining***—by harmonizing what is dissonant, by dissolving the barriers and definitions we've always known.



WEEK THREE *REIMAGINE*

LAMENT OF A GIFT

BY HANNAH GARRITY

INSPIRED BY MARK 12:38-44 *(The widow's mite)*

DIGITAL PAINTING

In this painting, I have depicted two coins from the time of Jesus. Two. Two is not enough to live on. Economist Thomas Picketty's new book, *Capital and Ideology (Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2020)*, details how societies throughout the ages have structured inequality into their/our economic systems. He argues that the economy is not a force of nature. Human ideology shapes the economy. Marshall Steinbaum sums up Picketty's new work: "In his sweeping new history, the economist systematically demolishes the conceit that extreme inequality is our destiny, rather than our choice."[2]

In this text, Jesus agrees with Picketty. An exegesis of this text by Addison Wright[3] establishes that Jesus is actually lamenting the widow's gift. Wright cites Jesus' overall viewpoint on the financial structures of the day, arguing that this cannot be an affirmation of the widow's selflessness. Rather, it must be a lament of the societal structures that cause the widow to give all of her resources to organized religion.

For me, the lament perspective on this traditional stewardship text is transformational. It is inspiring me to engage financially with the Church in a much more personal way. With sudden clarity, I connected the fact that Jesus' Church is the financial ideology I believe in. The hypocrisy that Jesus observes in this text is the same hypocrisy that I have always struggled with as a member of the Church of the present. So, what actions can I take, what questions can I ask, and what conversations can I have to ensure that the Church I am giving to is the Church Jesus meant to create?

—HANNAH GARRITY



WEEK THREE *REIMAGINE*

JUBILEE

BY LAUREN WRIGHT PITTMAN

INSPIRED BY LEVITICUS 19:9-10; 25:8-12 *(The Year of Jubilee)*

DIGITAL PAINTING

In the Year of Jubilee, God offers rest—a break for farmers, relief for those experiencing economic injustice, and Sabbath for the land. This radical rest is counter to the rhythm of our lives; it resists valued ideologies like efficiency and productivity and has broad economic implications. Jubilee has remained a theoretical, hopeful concept tucked away in scripture. This kind of radical slowing down is difficult to imagine, however... so is a global, economy-halting pandemic.

Rest feels unnatural in a pandemic, but it's available to us if we are willing to receive it. Rest slows our vision and illuminates gifts that normally whirl by us. While sheltering in place, I've searched for positivity, and during such great loss, I've found more—more time, space, and color. I found a patch of mint in my yard, and the scent became my soul's balm. Rest offers recovery. The earth is thriving with a break from humanity. Scientists are seeing significant decreases in air pollution and animals are returning to previously uninhabitable waterways.

Rest offers perspective. God does not want us worn ragged, reaping the maximum extent of our harvest. God wants new eyes for us to recognize broken systems so we can enact change that sustains everyone: "You shall leave them for the poor and the alien: I am the Lord your God" *(v.10)*. God is found in the connective tissue of our relationships to our neighbor—particularly those most vulnerable.

Rest reminds us of our interconnectedness. Despite physical distancing, people are rediscovering one another while longing for and celebrating every moment of connection. Despite future insecurity, people are finding innovative ways to support one another. Rest uncovers the enoughness in our lives, and as my dear mentor used to say, "Enough is abundance." What will we glean from this time of rest?

—LAUREN WRIGHT PITTMAN

Liturgy for Our Money Story Series is written by Sarah Are.
Artwork by Hannah Garrity and Lisle Gwynn Garrity
| A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Guest Musician: Today, it is our joy to welcome Amy Fennell, friend of the church, Greenwood High School music teacher, Palmetto Girls Choir Director, as our guest musician today.

We are grateful to God for Amy's gifts and to Amy for sharing those gifts with us.

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

Clerk of Session	Treasurer	Office Manager
Claire Kuhl	David Hammond	Charleston Warner

RULING ELDERS

Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Laine Horowitz	Luke Christie	Ginny Cartee
David Grier	Bill Kimler	Rob Graves

Rev. Caroline Vinson Dennis, pastor
317.777.1487

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

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