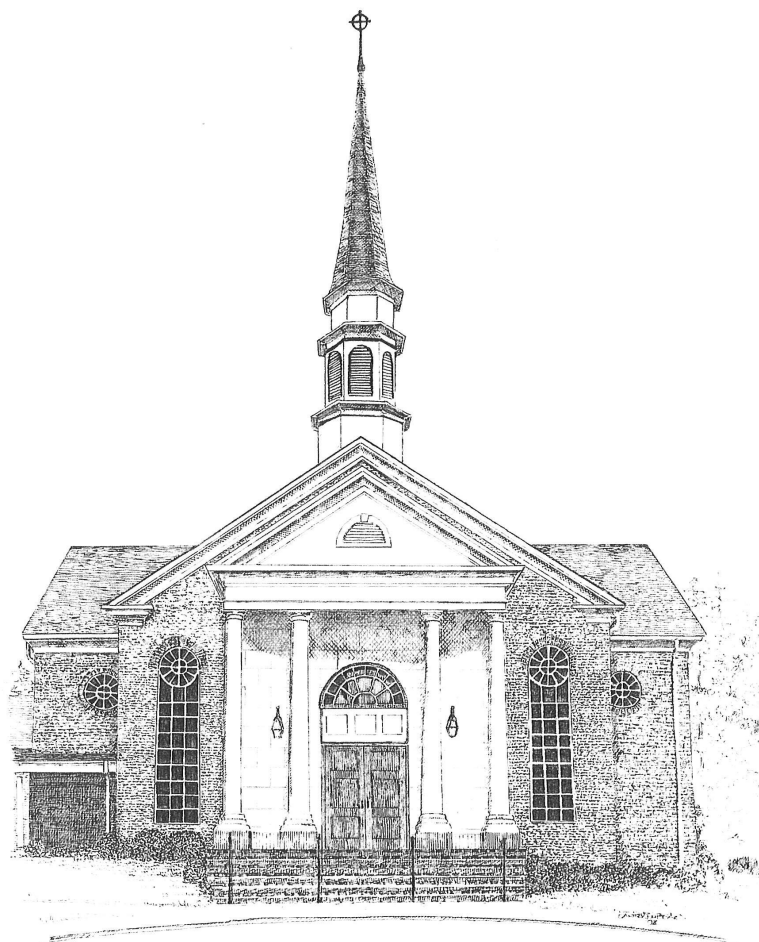


# Westminster Presbyterian Church



An Inclusive Community of Faith  
United by Our Faith in Jesus Christ and  
Our Commitment to Sharing God's Love and Grace  
to Those Among Us and Those Beyond Us

**You Are Welcome Here:**

We are glad you are worshipping with us today. Westminster is a welcoming and inclusive community seeking to grow in faith and understanding and to show God's love to those among us and those around us. 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.

**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.

After the "Time with All God's 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 Children's Sunday School 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. Children's worship packets are available in the narthex. As is a brochure regarding our Children, Youth, and Vulnerable Adult protection policy.



**Westminster Presbyterian Church**  
**A Service for the Worship of God**  
January 28, 2024

WE GATHER IN GOD'S WORD

**Chiming the Hour**

**Prelude**

**Words of Scripture**

Psalm 1:1-3

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked  
or take the path that sinners tread or sit in the seat of scoffers,  
but their delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and on his law they meditate day and night.

**They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
which yield their fruit in its season,  
and their leaves do not wither.  
In all that they do, they prosper.**

**Welcome and Announcements**

Nancy Hart Wicker

**\*Call to Worship**

Come! You whose life is chaotic.  
**The Spirit is hovering.**  
Come! You who are waiting.  
**The Spirit is breathing.**  
Come! You who seek justice and righteousness.  
**The Spirit is flowing.**  
Come! You with a story to tell.  
**The Spirit is burning.**  
Come! You who are resting like peach groves in January.  
**The Spirit is abiding.**

**\*Prayer of the Day**

Come! Holy Spirit, be our guide. Refresh our memory, our hope, and our courage.

**Teach us to abide in you even as you abide in us that our branches may be heavy and the air may be fragrant with the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Amen.**

**\*Hymn #398**

**"There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit"**

SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT

*There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,  
and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;  
there are sweet expressions on each face,  
and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.*

*Refrain:*

*Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,  
stay right here with us, filling us with your love;  
and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;  
without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived  
when we shall leave this place.*

*There are blessings you cannot receive  
till you know him in his fullness and believe;  
you're the one to profit when you say,  
"I am going to walk with Jesus all the way." (Refrain)*

## **Call to Confession**

### **Prayer of Confession**

**Almighty God, you poured out your Spirit upon gathered disciples creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community of faith. We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of grace, speak the good news of your love, or live as a people made one in Christ.**

*We pause for personal prayer.*

**Have mercy on us, O God Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit, and fill us with a flaming desire to be your faithful people, doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 of Illumination**

#### **First Reading**

Genesis 1:1-5

**1** When God began to create the heavens and the earth, **2** the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. **3** Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. **4** And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. **5** God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

#### **Second Reading**

Galatians 5:13-25

**13** For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. **14** For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." **15** If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

**16** Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. **17** For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. **18** But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. **19** Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, **20** idolatry,

sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, <sup>21</sup> envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

<sup>22</sup> By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. <sup>24</sup> And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

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

**Sermon**

Rev. Caroline V. Dennis

### **“I Believe in the Holy Spirit”**

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**

##### **\*Offertory Hymn #319**

##### **“Spirit”**

*Refrain:*

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness,  
blow through the wilderness, calling and free.  
Spirit, spirit of restlessness,  
stir me from placidness,  
wind, wind on the sea.*

*You moved on the waters;  
you called to the deep;  
then you coaxed up the mountains  
from the valleys of sleep;  
and over the eons  
you called to each thing,  
"Awake from your slumbers  
and rise on your wings." (Refrain)*

*You swept through the desert;  
you stung with the sand;  
and you goaded your people  
with a law and a land.  
When they were confounded  
with idols and lies,  
then you spoke through your prophets  
to open their eyes. (Refrain)*

*You sang in a stable;  
you cried from a hill;  
then you whispered in silence  
when the whole world was still.*

*And down in the city,  
you called once again  
when you blew through your people  
on the rush of the wind. (Refrain)*

*You call from tomorrow;  
you break ancient schemes;  
from the bondage of sorrow  
the captives dream dreams.  
Our women see visions;  
our men clear their eyes.  
With bold new decisions  
your people arise. (Refrain)*

**\*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 Thanksgiving**

**\*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 #426**

**“Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak”**

CANONBURY

*Lord, speak to me that I may speak  
in living echoes of Thy tone.  
As Thou hast sought, so let me seek  
Thine erring children lost and lone.*

*O lead me, Lord, that I may lead  
the wandering and the wavering feet.  
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed  
Thy hungering ones with manna sweet.*

*O teach me, Lord, that I may teach  
the precious things Thou dost impart.  
And wing my words that they may reach  
the hidden depths of many a heart.*

*O fill me with Thy fullness, Lord,  
until my very heart o'erflow  
in kindling thought and glowing word,  
Thy love to tell, Thy praise to show.*

*O use me, Lord, use even me,  
just as Thou wilt, and when, and where  
until Thy blessed face I see,  
Thy rest, Thy joy, Thy glory share.*

## Charge and Benediction

### Postlude

[\*All stand as they are able.]

### Serving Today at Westminster

Organ:	Larry Dozier
Vocalist:	Laura Margaret Fennell
Liturgist:	Nancy Hart Wicker
Host:	Wicker Family
Sunday Study:	Tina Corley
Children's Sunday School:	Kathy Gillespie

### Today at Westminster

Sunday Study	9:00 am	Choir Room ( <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
Nurture and Education	3:00 pm	Parlor

### This Week at Westminster

Office Hours:	9:00 – 1:00	M-Th	
BEMA Discussion Group	6:00 – 7:00	Monday	Joe Gettys Classroom
Brown Bags and Books	6:00 – 7:30	Wednesday	Joe Gettys Classroom
Rainbow Fellowship	6:00pm	Thursday	Youth Room
Mission & Outreach	6:00pm	Thursday	Choir Room

### Next Sunday, February 4

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

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Study Opportunities at Westminster

**Sunday Adult Study:** Our Sunday study continues today with the book *Creed: What Christians Believe and Why*. Books are available through the church office for \$15.

**Bema Podcast Discussion Group** (Monday) and **Brown Bags and Books** (Wednesday) continue this week. Bema Podcast group will be discussing Episode 17 of the BEMA Podcast—"A God Who Hears the Cry". Books and Brown Bags will be discussing Sustainable Goal #5: Gender Equality.

**Glory to God Hymnals** We hope to have this beautiful resource in our pews by February 1. We need your help! If you would like to order and dedicate a Glory to God Hymnal, please fill out the **purple** order form in the narthex or fill out the form online at <https://www.wpcgnwd.org/>. The cost is \$30.00 each. A recognition for whom the hymnal is given and the name of the giver will be on the inside panel of the hymnal.



**Prayer Concerns.** Please help us know how we can be praying with you for your joys and concerns by filling out one of the prayer cards in the pew rack and placing those in the offering plate or by completing our on-line contact form.

## **Giving Time, Talent, and Treasure**

There are many ways to contribute to our life together at Westminster. If you are looking for a place to serve, our pastor, Caroline, or any of our elders would love to talk with you to see where your passions and skills intersect with the work of our church family here at church or in our community. Financial contributions can be made by check or cash placed in the offering plate here at church. There are envelopes in the pews. Checks can also be mailed into the church office. No checkbook? No worries! Tithes and offerings can also be made through Tithe.ly, our online giving app which you can find by using this QR code or going to our website at <https://www.wpcgnwd.org/giving>.

<https://www.wpcgnwd.org/giving>





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## **WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*An Inclusive Community of Faith*

*United by Our Belief in and Commitment to Jesus Christ*

Office Hours: M-Th 9:00 a.m. – Noon    Office Phone: 864.229.3595

[www.wpcgnwd.org](http://www.wpcgnwd.org)    [wpcgwd1@gmail.com](mailto:wpcgwd1@gmail.com)

Clerk of Session

Steve Kuhl

Treasurer

Len Bornemann

Office Manager

Charleston Warner

### **RULING ELDERS**

Class of 2024

Kathy Nave Felder

Claire Kuhl

Class of 2025

Tina Corley

Rob Graves

Class of 2026

Richard Wilson

Laine Horowitz

**Rev. Caroline Vinson Dennis, pastor**

317.777.1487

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

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