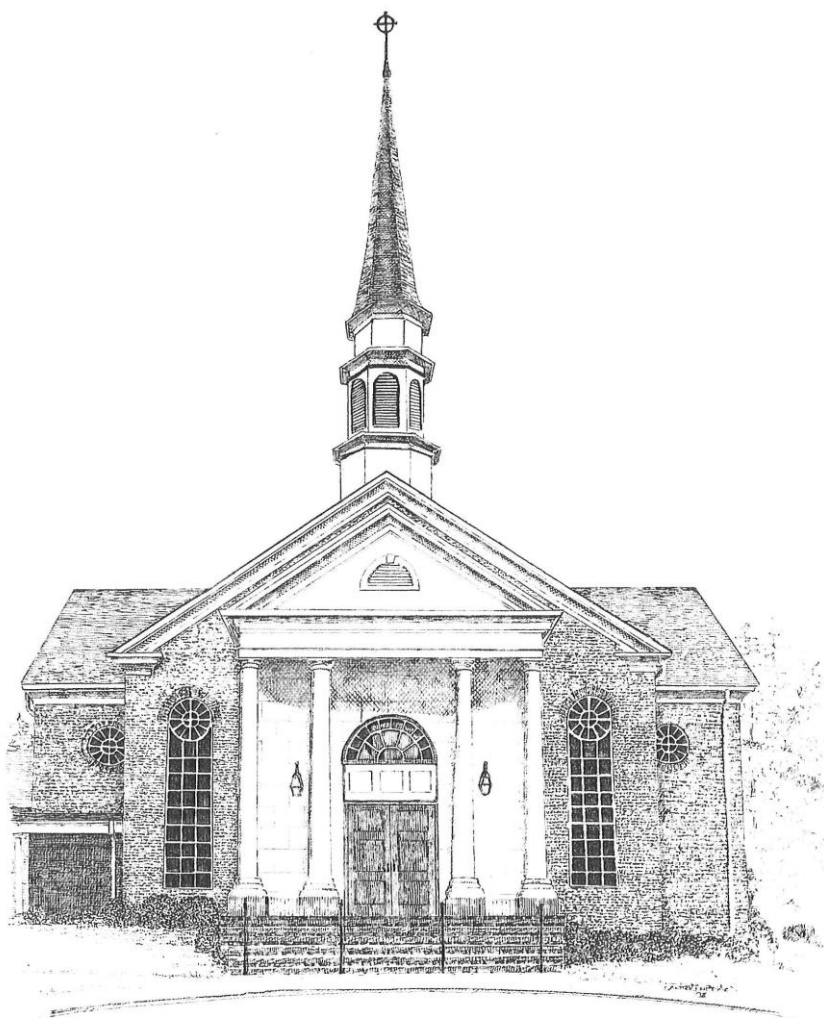




Westminster Presbyterian Church

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
Evangelism Sunday
September 27, 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

Bill Kimler

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 133

How very good and pleasant it is
when kindred live together in unity!

**It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down upon the beard,
on the beard of Aaron,
running down over the collar of his robes.**

It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion.

**For there the Lord ordained his blessing,
life forevermore.**

***Hymn #662**

“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”

RATISBON

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies 662

1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies; Christ, the true, the on - ly light;
 2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pa-nied by thee;
 3 Vis - it then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief;

Sun of Righ-teous-ness, a - rise; tri-umph o'er the shades of night;
 joy - less is the day's re - turn till thy mer - cy's beams I see;
 fill me, ra - dian - cy di-vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;

Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
 till they in - ward light im - part, cheer my eyes and warm my heart.
 more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

This well-crafted morning hymn opens by celebrating daylight as an image of Christ, the true Light, then ponders life without light, and culminates in a prayer for inward light. The tune's name honors its German roots: Ratibon is the former English name for Regensburg.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1740

MUSIC: German folk melody; adapt. Johann Werner, 1815; harm. William Henry Havergal, 1847

RATIBON

7.7.7.7.7.7

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

***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 for All God's Children

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Acts 9:1-19

9 Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2 and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. 3 Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. 4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" 5 He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. 6 But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." 7 The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. 8 Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing;[a] so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. 9 For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank.

10 Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." 11 The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, 12 and he has seen in a vision[b] a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." 13 But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, 14 and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." 15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; 16 I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." 17 So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul[c] and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18 And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, 19 and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus,

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

Sermon

Rev. Caroline V. Dennis

"A New Road"

*Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus,
suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.*

Acts 9:3

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.

Welcoming New Members

Elder David Grier

Call to Offering

***Hymn #517**

“Here, O Our Lord, We See You”

MORECAMBE

Here, O Our Lord, We See You 517

1 Here, O our Lord, we see you face to face.
 2 Here would we feed up - on the bread of God,
 3 This is the hour of ban - quet and of song;
 4 Too soon we rise; the sym - bols dis - ap - pear.
 5 Feast af - ter feast thus comes and pass - es by,

Here would we touch and han - dle things un - seen,
 here drink with you the roy - al cup of heaven;
 this is the heaven - ly ta - ble for us spread.
 The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;
 yet, pass - ing, points to that glad feast a - bove,

here grasp with firm - er hand e - ter - nal grace,
 here would we lay a - side each earth - ly load,
 Here let us feast and, feast - ing, still pro - long
 the bread and wine re - move, but you are here,
 giv - ing sweet fore - taste of the fes - tal joy,

and all our wea - ri - ness up - on you lean.
 and taste a - fresh the calm of sin for - given.
 the fel - low - ship of liv - ing wine and bread.
 near - er than ev - er, still our shield and sun.
 the Lamb's great brid - al feast of bliss and love.

These stanzas are selected from a ten-stanza hymn written in 1855 to serve as a monthly post-communion reflection for the members of St. Andrew's Free Church, Greenock, Scotland. They are set to a tune named for both a coastal town and a large bay in northwest England.

***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 #700**

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

I’M GONNA LIVE

700 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

1 I'm gon-na live so (live so)
 2 I'm gon-na work so (work so)
 3 I'm gon-na pray so (pray so)
 4 I'm gon-na sing so (sing so)

God can use me an - y -

where, Lord, an - y - time!
 (an - y - time!) I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na

live so (live so)
 work so (work so)
 pray so (pray so)
 sing so (sing so)

God can use me an - y -

where, Lord, (my Lord,) an - y - time!
 (an - y - time!)

This African American spiritual has more depth than may at first appear: for people who are bound in slavery to sing about dedicating themselves to God's use shows a profound awareness of God-given self-worth despite circumstances that would deny their human or spiritual value.

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

[*All stand as they are able.]

*The sanctuary flowers are given by David and Beth Hammond
in memory of their mothers.*

Serving Today at Westminster

Organist:	Claire Kuhl
Liturgist:	Bill Kimler
Host:	Wicker Family
Sunday Study:	Brian Purcell
Children's Sunday School	Kathy Gillespie

Today at Westminster

Sunday Study	9:00 am	Joe Gettys 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
Sunday Sustenance	11:15 am	Fellowship Hall

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

Next Sunday, October 4

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 and Communion	10:00 am	Sanctuary
Children's Nursery	10:00 am	Sanctuary and Children's Wing
Worship & Music	11:15 am	Choir Room

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 explore Willimon's latest book, *Fear of the Other*.

Books and Brown Bags will discuss *Plainsong* by Kent Haruf.

Join Us Today for Sunday Sustenance Lunch. Lunch is free but we invite you to consider a donation in the amount you might spend on lunch. Our freewill offering recipient this month is MEGS House which serves individuals and families who have experienced domestic violence. Today's Menu features choice of Green Goddess or Mediterranean Chicken, Rice, and Brussel Sprouts. Thank you Chef Rob and Team A for your preparations for us!

World Communion Sunday, October 4. This coming Sunday, we celebrate the worldwide communion of Christians, mindful of those around the world who gather at the Lord's Table with us. The table will be laden with breads from around the world! Come and share the feast! Remember also, that every Communion Sunday, we remember those who hunger for daily bread. Pick up a purple bag today and bring it back full next Sunday, so that all might know the abundance of God's provision. Take note: high need items are printed right on the bag!

Congregational Meeting, October 4. Next Sunday, we will convene a congregational meeting at the end of worship for the purpose of receiving and acting on the report from our Nominating Committee bringing us the following slate of officers: Elder Class of 2029: David Grier and Karl Schwarzmann. Nominating Committee Class of 2027: Luke Christie, Denise Waldrep, Sarah Parks.



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