

THE GREAT ENDS OF THE CHURCH

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. 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.

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. Please avoid walking through the courtyard during worship. We ask that families sit together during worship. Please do not let any child move unaccompanied through the building.

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
First Sunday of Easter
April 12, 2026

WE GATHER IN GOD'S WORD

Chiming the Hour

Prelude

Words of Scripture

Psalm 118:24

This is the day the Lord has made!
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Welcome and Announcements

David Grier

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 96

O sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Sing to the Lord; bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples.

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;

***Hymn #246**

“Christ is Alive!”

TRURO

Christ Is Alive!

246

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No lon - ger bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - ery age, till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - ery place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

In 1968 Easter fell ten days after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., and this text was written to express an Easter hope while mindful of that terrible event. Buoyed by a triple-arched tune, it affirms the presence of a wounded, risen Christ with all who suffer.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We pause for a time of personal prayer.

In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

*Response of Praise

Hymn #582

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

*World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. 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 Scripture Reading

Matthew 28:16-20

¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Second Scripture Reading

Ephesians 2:1-10

² You were dead through the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³ All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, doing the will of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else, ⁴ but God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵ even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— ⁹ not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we may walk in them.

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

**“The Proclamation of the Gospel
for the Salvation of Humankind”**

*For by grace you have been saved through faith,
and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God
Ephesians 2:8*

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 #298**


“Lord, You Give the Great Commission”

ABBOT’S LEIGH

298 Lord, You Give the Great Commission



1 Lord, you give the great com - mis - sion: "Heal the sick and
 2 Lord, you call us to your ser - vice: "In my name bap -
 3 Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: "This, my bod - y;
 4 Lord, you show us love's true mea - sure: "Fa - ther, what they
 5 Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: "I am with you



preach the word." Lest the church ne - glect its mis - sion, and the
 tize and teach." That the world may trust your prom - ise, life a -
 this, my blood." Let us all, for earth's true glo - ry, dai - ly
 do, for - give." Yet we hoard as pri - vate trea - sure all that
 to the end." Faith and hope and love re - stor - ing, may we



gos - pel go un - heard, help us wit - ness to your
 bun - dant meant for each, give us all new fer - vor,
 lift life heav - en - ward, ask - ing that the world a -
 you so free - ly give. May your care and mer - cy
 serve as you in - tend, and, a - mid the cares that

United by the refrain after each stanza, this text relies on passages from Matthew and Luke to highlight various dimensions of the church's mission and ministry in the world. It was written for use with this tune, composed in the village near Bristol, England, for which it is named.

TEXT: Jeffery W. Rowthorn, 1978

MUSIC: Cyril Vincent Taylor, 1941

Text © 1978 Hope Publishing Company

Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company

ABBOT'S LEIGH

8.7.8.7.D

THE CHURCH

pur - pose with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty:
draw us clos - er in com - mu - ni - ty:
round us share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty: with the Spir - it's
lead us to a just so - ci - e - ty:
claim us, hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty:

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The lower staff is in bass clef. The lyrics are written between the two staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

gifts em-power us for the work of min - is - try.

The second system of music also consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The lower staff is in bass clef. The lyrics are written between the two staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The system concludes with a double bar line.

***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**

Confession of 1967 9.07

In Jesus Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself. Jesus Christ is God with man. He is the eternal Son of the Father, who became man and lived among us to fulfill the work of reconciliation. He is present in the church by the power of the Holy Spirit to continue and complete his mission. This work of God, the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit, is the foundation of all confessional statements about God, man, and the world. Therefore the church calls men to be reconciled to God and to one another.

***Hymn #839**

“Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!”

ASSURANCE

839 Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

1 Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a
 2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, vi - sions of
 3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest; I in my

fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion,
 rap - ture now burst on my sight; an - gels de - scend - ing,
 Sav - ior am hap - py and blest, watch - ing and wait - ing,

pur - chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.
 bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
 look - ing a - bove, filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

Refrain

This is my sto - ry; this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior

Sometimes this prolific 19th-century hymnwriter wrote texts for others to set, and sometimes she created words for tunes others had composed. This text was of the second kind, and the resulting close fit between words and music has made them both popular and inseparable.

TRUSTING IN THE PROMISES OF GOD

all the day long; this is my sto - ry; this is my

song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

KOREAN

- 1 예수를 내가 주로 믿어
성령과 피로써 거둔다니
이세상에서 내 영혼이
하늘의 영광 누리도다
- 후렴 이것이 나의 간증이요
이것이 나의 찬송일세
나사는 동안 끊임없이
예수 내 구주 찬송하리
- 2 온전히 주께 맡긴 내 영
온전한 기쁨을 누리면서
자비와 사랑 속삭이는
하늘의 천사 보리로다 후렴
- 3 예수께 맡긴 나의 영혼
주안에 복되고 평안하니
세상도 없고 나도 없고
사랑의 주만 보이도다 후렴

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

[*All stand as they are able.]

*The sanctuary flowers this week are given by Steve & Claire Kuhl
in celebration of Claire's birthday!*

Serving Today at Westminster

Organist: Claire Kuhl
Liturgist: David Grier
Host: Watkins Family
Sunday Study: David Grier

Today at Westminster

Sunday Study	9:00 am	Joe Gettys Room (<i>Adults</i>)
Welcome to Westminster	9:00 am	Fellowship Hall
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
Worship & Music	11:15 am	Choir Room
Family Faith Formation	11:15 am	Fellowship Hall
Lunch		

This Week at Westminster

Office Hours:	9:00 – 1:00	M-Th	
Zoom Prayers	12:00 NOON	Monday	
BEMA Discussion Group	6:00 pm	Monday	Joe Gettys Classroom
Foster the City Info Dinner	6:00 pm	Monday	Legacy City Church
BAC Meeting	6:00 pm	Tuesday	Parlor
CC&F Meeting	7:00 pm	Tuesday	Choir Room
Books & Brown Bags	6:00 pm	Wednesday	Joe Gettys Classroom
Virtual Study Group	7:00 pm	Thursday	Google Meet
Meditation	10:00 am	Saturday	Fellowship Hall
Larry Dozier Memorial	3:30 pm	Saturday	Sanctuary

Next Sunday, April 19

Sunday Study	9:00 am	Joe Gettys Room (<i>Adults</i>)
Welcome to Westminster	9:00 am	Fellowship Hall
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/ Mission Fair	11:15 am	Fellowship Hall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Study Opportunities at Westminster

Sunday Adult Study: David Grier leads our discussion of Mere Christianity, Book 2, Chapters 4&5. This class meets in the Joe Gettys Room.

Books and Brown Bags will begin their discussion of "Evidence Not Seen" by Darlene Deibler Rose.

Welcome to Westminster: This class is for new members and visitors contemplating membership. Pastor Dennis will be joined by special guests for this six-week series. This class meets in Fellowship Hall. Session 1 on April 12 will be on History and Heritage.

Virtual Study Group The Thursday Virtual Study group continues through May with a "Who? What? When? Where? Why?" study focused on Psalms and Gospel passages listed in the lectionary. Our goal will be to discover the context of scripture as we seek a better understanding of the message. Mary Frances Thompson and Ginny Cartee invite anyone interested in giving this group a try. The class meets Thursdays at 7:00 pm on-line using GoogleMeets.

Use this link to join the meeting: <https://meet.google.com/dae-qynz-bim>

The Great Ends of the Church Worship Series: For the next six weeks at WPC, we are centering our worship around the theme of the Great Ends of the Church which are a set of six mission statements for the PCUSA that are the heart of who the church is and what the church is called to do. The banners on the front of the order of worship each illustrate one of the great ends.

The first banner illustrates the first of the great ends: *The proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind*. The book in the banner represents the Scriptures. The dove is rising from the Scriptures indicating the source of both the original witness and our present understanding. The same Spirit that inspired the original writers enables us to receive the gospel. The cross behind the book and dove remind us that the heart of the gospel is Jesus Christ, God with us and for us.

Next Week:

The Shelter and Spiritual Nurture of the Children of God Mission Sunday

we will focus on the second great end: *the shelter and spiritual nurture of the children of God*. On that day it will be our pleasure to host three of Westminster's partner ministries: Thornwell, Foster the City, and Community Initiatives. With these organizations, WPC is seeking to shelter and nurture children within and beyond our walls. Plan to join us for lunch after worship to learn more about the important work of each of these ministry partners. Sunday Sustenance Offering on this Mission Sunday will support foster families in Greenwood through the work of Foster the City.

Sally Kauffmann Walk to Fight Hunger The Food Bank of Lakelands is proud to dedicate this year's Walk to Fight Hunger in memory of Sally H. Kauffman. This family friendly event is designed to raise awareness and critical funding for our Food Bank and soup kitchen, and programs that directly support children, families, and seniors in need. The walk takes place on April 25, 2026, at the Jeff May Complex. Registration starts at 7:30AM and the walk begins at 8:00AM. You can register by scanning the QR Code or by going to fbgc.charityproud.org/EventRegistration/Index/26979





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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

Richard Wilson

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