

WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PC (USA)

We are 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 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.

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

Our liturgy today comes from the Service of Ordination and Installation from the PCUSA Book of Common Worship, 2018.

Westminster Presbyterian Church
A Service for the Worship of God
Radiant Light: A Service of Lessons and Hymns
Installation of Elders
January 18, 2026

WE GATHER IN GOD'S WORD

Chiming the Hour

Prelude

Words of Scripture

Psalm 27:1

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Welcome and Announcements

Mary Frances Thompson

***Psalm Reading**

Psalm 40:1-8

- ¹ I waited patiently for the LORD;
he inclined to me and heard my cry.
- ² **He drew me up from the desolate pit,
out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.**
- ³ He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear,
and put their trust in the LORD.
- ⁴ Happy are those who make
the LORD their trust,
who do not turn to the proud,
to those who go astray after false gods.
- ⁵ **You have multiplied, O LORD my God,
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;
none can compare with you.
Were I to proclaim and tell of them,
they would be more than can be counted.**
- ⁶ Sacrifice and offering you do not desire,
but you have given me an open ear.
Burnt offering and sin offering
you have not required.
- ⁷ **Then I said, "Here I am;
in the scroll of the book it is written of me.**
- ⁸ **I delight to do your will, O my God;
your law is within my heart."**

***Hymn #69**

"I, the Lord of Sea and Sky"

HERE I AM

69 I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

Here I Am, Lord

Leader or All

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo-ple's pain.
 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin-est

made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.
 break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain

All

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you

lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

The stanzas here need to be understood as representing the voice of God, while the refrain (based on Isaiah 6:8) is the faithful human response to God's call. This becomes clearer if a leader or small group sings the stanzas, with the congregation joining on the refrain.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful and loving God, you have called us to be your people and claimed us for service in Jesus Christ. We confess that we have not always lived up to our calling to proclaim good news in word and deed. We are quick to speak when we ought to listen and remain silent when it is time to speak. We put too much faith in our own actions and fail to trust the strength of your Spirit.

We pause for personal prayer

O God, forgive our foolish and sinful ways. Strengthen us anew to follow Christ's way in the world. By your Holy Spirit, give us the grace we need to be faithful disciples and fulfill our common calling, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

By grace you have been saved through faith,
and this is not your own doing;
it is the gift of God.

Ephesians 2:8

I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God!

*Response of Praise

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

Colossians 3:12-14

Lead a life worthy of your calling – with humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another in love, and making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

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

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Time for All God's Children

Laine Horowitz

“One Big Bowl of Caring”

Prayer for Illumination

Hymn #451

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

*Silently now, I wait for thee, ready my God thy will to see.
Open my eyes illumine me, Spirit divine.*

Reading from the Prophets

Isaiah 49:1-7

49 Listen to me, O coastlands;
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The Lord called me before I was born;
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
2 He made my mouth like a sharp sword;
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow;
in his quiver he hid me away.
3 And he said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
4 But I said, "I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the Lord
and my reward with my God."
5 And now the Lord says,
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the sight of the Lord,
and my God has become my strength—
6 he says,
"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."
7 Thus says the Lord,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
the slave of rulers,
"Kings shall see and stand up;
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the Lord, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

*Hymn #749

"Come! Live in the Light!"

WE ARE CALLED

749 Come! Live in the Light!

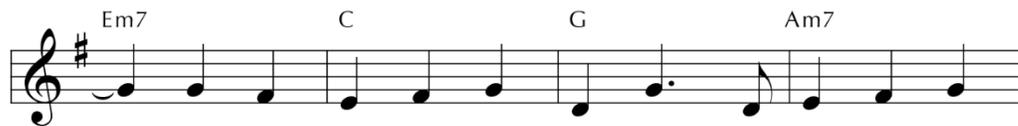
We Are Called



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that



joy and the love of the Lord! We are called
 mer - cy to all those in fear! We are called
 great day when all will be one! God will reign,



to be light for the king - dom, to live in the
 to be hope for the hope - less so ha - tred and
 and we'll walk with each oth - er as sis - ters and



free - dom of the cit - y of God.
 vio - lence will be no more.
 broth - ers u - nit - ed in love.



We are called to act with jus - tice; we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

The thematic and musical center of this hymn on the vocation of all believers is found in the refrain, which is based on the well-known challenge of Micah 6:8, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Gospel Reading

John 1:29-42

²⁹ The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰ This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ ³¹ I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” ³² And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³ I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One.”

³⁵ The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶ and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” ³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸ When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” ³⁹ He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. ⁴¹ He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). ⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

Hymn #450

“Be Thou My Vision”

SLANE

450

Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) (G) (D/F#) (A7) (D)
 E^b A^b E^b/G B^b7 E^b



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) (D) (G) (A)
 B^b E^b A^b B^b



naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) (D) (F#m7) (G) (A)
 A^b E^b Gm7 A^b B^b



thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) (D/F#) (G) (D)
 Cm E^b/G A^b E^b



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

¹ Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— ⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸ He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Homily

The Reverend Caroline Vinson Dennis

“Radiant Light”

“I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth”.

Isaiah 49:6

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

Blessing of Pilgrims to Montreat

Sarah Parks, Kaitlin Burton,
Brennan Ferguson, and Kaitlyn Simpson

Installation of Elders

Ginny Cartee and Rob Graves

There are varieties of gifts,
but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

**There are different ways of serving God,
but it is the same Lord who is served.**

God works through each person in a unique way,
but it is God’s purpose that is accomplished.

**To each is given a gift of the Spirit
to be used for the common good.**

Together we are the body of Christ
and individually members of it.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 27

Statement of Ordination

Presentation

Profession of Faith

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

I do.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior?

I do.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

I will, with God's help.

***Affirmation of Faith**

Apostles Creed

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

And in Jesus Christ, God's 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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

Constitutional Questions

Charge to the Elders

During the singing of the Doxology, all ordained Ministers of Word and Sacrament and Ruling Elders, please come forward for the laying on of hands.

***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 Installation and Thanksgiving**

Annual Congregational Meeting

***Hymn #39**

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

FAITHFULNESS

39 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 *Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22–23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

Refrain

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 오 신 실 하 신 주

Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.
 날 마 다 자 비 를 배 푸 시 며

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.
 일 용 할 모 든 것 내 려 주 시 니

Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 나 의 구 주

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

[*All stand as they are able.]

Serving Today at Westminster

Organ:	Claire Kuhl
Vocalist:	Elizabeth Watkins
Liturgist:	Mary Frances Thomson
Host:	Marvin & Ginny Cartee
Sunday Study:	David Grier

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	T, W, Th	
BEMA Discussion Group	6:00 – 7:00	Monday	Joe Gettys Classroom
Better Together Wellness	5:15 pm	Wednesday	Fellowship Hall
Books & Brown Bags	6:00 pm	Wednesday	Joe Gettys Room
PFLAG Meeting	6:00 pm	Thursday	Joe Gettys Room

Next Sunday, January 25

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Study Opportunities at Westminster

Sunday Adult Study: Adult Sunday Study continues its study of CS Lewis' "Mere Christianity," looking this week at chapters 5 and 6. David Grier is our teacher today.

Books and Brown Bags is discussing chapters 4-7 of "How to Know a Person" by David Brooks.

Annual Meeting & Elder Installation: January 18th As part of worship today, you are invited to participate in our Annual Meeting, as required by the PC(USA) Book of Order:

G-1.0502 Annual and Special Meetings

The congregation shall hold an annual meeting and may hold special meetings as necessary, for any or all of the purposes appropriate for congregational consideration. The business to be transacted at special meetings shall be limited to items specifically listed in the call for the meeting. All active members of the congregation present at either annual or special meetings are entitled to vote.

On the agenda: a report from Session regarding the approved 2026 Operating Budget, and a motion to approve 2026 Terms of Call for retaining our current Pastor. A printed Annual Report will be provided, celebrating 2025 and looking ahead to 2026.

WHAT'S THE BUZZ ABOUT BEMA? You've heard Caroline mention it from the pulpit, you see it on the church calendar and you have probably heard current BEMA students chatting about a fascinating lesson. This walk through the Bible is taught by Jewish follower of Christ and theologian Marty Solomon and is accessed via the BEMA podcast. It is rich with original text information, cultural context, literary structure, and the big picture takeaway messages. Marty's teachings encourage and give you space to wrestle with the text and ask better questions of the Bible. Jacob wrestled with God (Genesis 32:22-32) and emerged from the experience changed. This study will answer questions, have you asking more questions, and leave you changed with knowledge and information you may have never encountered. No prior Bible knowledge is needed. If you would like to learn more about this transformative study please plan to stay after worship Sunday, January 25th, for a brief informational session in the choir room.

Organ Recital – Sunday, January 25 | 3:00 PM Make sure to visit First Baptist of Greenwood for a special organ recital by Will Thomas Cleveland in the FBC Sanctuary. The program will feature works by Josef Rheinberger, César Franck, Felix Mendelssohn, Robert J. Powell, Jehan Alain, François Couperin, and Alexandre Guilmant. All are invited to attend and enjoy an afternoon of beautiful sacred music.



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
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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.

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