

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Third Sunday of Easter

May 4, 2025

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – *Prelude on Darwall's 148th*

Brenda Portman

Prayer of Preparation (*you may wish to prepare for worship by praying silently*)

Risen Savior, Jesus Christ, as you appeared by the sea and surprised your disciples with a miraculous catch of fish, surprise us this day with the fullness of your grace, so that we may truly know that you are our Lord and you are risen indeed. Amen.

Chiming of the Hour

Greeting and Announcements

Tommy Suttle

Call to Worship – (*responsive*)

Because we love our Lord Jesus Christ,

**we will feed his lambs.**

Because we love our Lord Jesus Christ,

**we will tend his sheep.**

Let us worship God.

\* Hymn of Praise 244 – *This Joyful Eastertide*

\* Call to Confession

The Spirit of God helps us in our weakness, interceding with sighs too deep for words.  
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

\* Prayer of Confession – (*unison*)

**God of everlasting life, we confess that we continue in the ways of death. We fail to love and feed the sheep that you have given us to tend. We stand by while some are threatened and even participate in persecution. Forgive us, God of grace. Change the path we are on, show us the light of your way, and send us forth to serve you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

(time for silent confession)

\* Declaration of Forgiveness (*responsive*)

Hear the good news of God's promise: I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

\* The Congregation's Response: *Gloria Patri*

Hymn 581

**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.**

## PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Time with Children

Katie Ginn

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God, send us your Spirit to guide us into the truth, so that we may know and trust the good news of the gospel, and look with hope and joy for the life of the world to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading – John 21:1-19

pew Bible pg. 883

The Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem = *Jesu, Lamb of God, Redeemer*

Mozart

Jesus, Lamb of God, Redeemer, born the blessed Virgin Mary's Son,  
Who upon the cross a victim hast man's salvation won,  
From whose side, which man had pierced, flowed the water and the blood:  
By thy sacred body broken in death and in life be our food, in death.  
And in life be our food.

Second Reading – Acts 9:1-20

pew Bible pg. 893

The Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon – *Something Like Scales*

Rev. Dr. Christopher Crotwell

\* Communion Hymn 450 – *Be Thou My Vision*

Invitation to Offering

How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods yet refuses to help a sister or brother in need? Remembering God's great love for the world, let us offer the gifts of our lives.

Offertory – *Victory*

Alan Bullard

## THE EUCHARIST

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Thanksgiving (*responsive*)

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

**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.**

The Communion

Prayer After Communion (*unison*)

**Gracious God, we give you thanks that by the witness of your word and the sharing of this meal you have opened our hearts and eyes to the presence of Christ among us. Now send us forth from this place by the power of your Spirit to tell this good news to the world: The Lord has risen indeed! Amen.**

\* Hymn of Consecration 295 – *Go to the World*

\* Blessing and Charge (responsive)

Beloved children, may the love of the holy triune God — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — abide with you forever. **Alleluia!**

Now go forth in Jesus' name, remembering his new commandment to love one another, just as he has loved us. **Amen.**

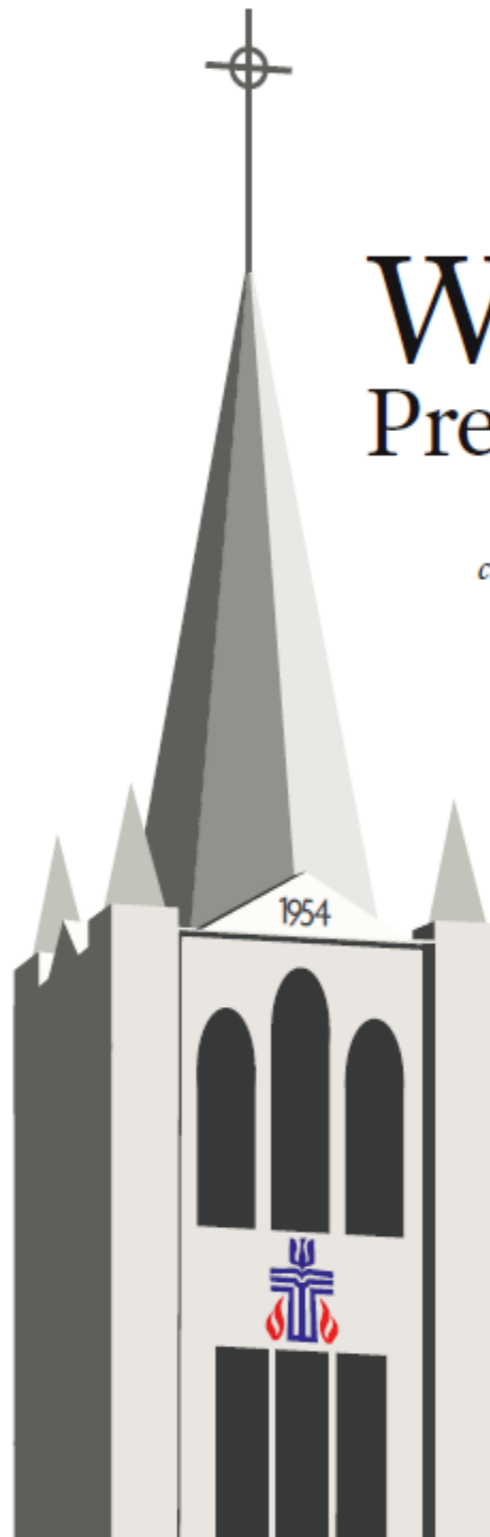
\* Postlude – *This Joyful Eastertide*

Douglas E. Wagner



\* Please stand at the \* as you are able. Unison readings are **printed in bold**.

Today's liturgy is drawn from the lectionary resource, *Call to Worship, Year C 2015-2016* and the *Book of Common Worship*, 1992.



# Westminster Presbyterian Church

*"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation—everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!"*

II Corinthians 5:17

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## PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH

(\* new added prayers)

*Terri Banks, friend of Pam Love – at home with 24-hour care*

*Linda Basden, neighbor of Janeil Harris – Alzheimer's*

*Dave Beveridge, friend of Alice Crotwell – stomach cancer*

*Jan Bozeman – constant pain*

*Laura Pearce Cureton, Nancy Johnson's goddaughter – nerve block therapy continues*

*Vida Davis, sister of Ruthie Davis – dementia*

*Jessica Dubing, daughter of a friend of Ruthie Davis – paralyzed from motorcycle accident*

*Cathy Dudley – Bedford Care (Medical Blvd)*

*Bill and Louise Edwards, friends of Charles Brown – strength and endurance*

*Hudson Elliott, grandson of friends of the Reidenbachs—NICU at UMMC with*

*undiagnosed health concerns*

*Teresa Ginn, Michael Ginn's aunt – dementia*

*Brigitte Glowiak, Carolyn McLarnan's family – breast cancer*

*\*Jan Gordy, Alicia Westbrook's mother – fractured pelvis, healing & comfort*

*Lee Graham, Pam Love's son-in-law – health issues*

*Mary Gunn – prayers for health concerns*

*Peggy Henry, Karen Reidenbach's sister—in rehab for addiction*

*Charlotte Hill*

*Patricia Holcomb, sister of Glenn Nobles – broken bone*

*Ann Johnson*

*Geraldine Jones*

*Collier Knutson, grandson of a friend of Gwen Combs – waiting on heart transplant*

*Roger Kuyrkendall, Carrie Creel's father –Alzheimer's*

*B.J. Lambert*

*Margaret Lochhead – health issues*

*Deloris McLaurin, Glenn Nobles' first cousin – dementia*

*Glenn Nobles – endurance and strength*

*Carolyn Mitchell Pintard, Bill & Betty Mitchell's daughter – grave health issues*

*Shannon Love Roberson, daughter of Pam Love – health issues*

*Michael Scheetz, Maggie Scheetz's son – prayers for health issues*

*Laura Todd, Grayson Rayborn's cousin – multiple health issues*

*Louise Traxler, Karen Reidenbach's mom – Bedford Care (Medical Blvd)*

*Elizabeth Robinson, Betty & Bill Mitchell's daughter – chemo and radiation treatment*

*Isobel Treen, Carolyn McLarnan's cousin – heart issues*

### Interested in Becoming a Member?

On Sunday, May 18, at 9:30 a.m. in the conference room (across from the church office), Christopher will meet with anyone interested in becoming a member of the Westminster family. This will be a relaxed, conversation-style gathering for you to ask questions and learn whatever you would like to know about the church. Can't make it or want to meet with Christopher directly? Contact the church office. (601-584-7574)



## Greetings and Announcements

**Welcome to Westminster!** We're very glad to see you in worship, and we hope you will sense Christ's presence. If you are looking for a place to grow and serve, we'd love to tell you more about us. Please silence cell phones during the worship hour.

Today, we will observe the **sacrament of communion**. All are welcome to receive God's gifts at the table. To serve everyone, we will use grape juice and gluten-free bread.

Communion Sundays are also **Breadbasket Sundays** – a time when you are encouraged to make contributions to the Breadbasket ministry.



**Growing Spiritually** will meet today at 11:35 a.m.

**The Youth** will meet today from 5:00-6:30 p.m. A meal will be provided.

**The PW Coordinating Team Meeting** is on Tuesday at 9:30 a.m., and **Brown Bag** will meet on Tuesday at 11:00 a.m.

**The choir** will meet on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

All **Men of the Church** are invited to meet Thursday at 7:00 a.m. at Loblolly Bakery.

**Breadbasket volunteers are needed.**

Westminster has Breadbasket May 5-9.

Please call Martha (601-584-7574) to volunteer for Tuesday.



The annual **Dessert and Casserole Auction** will be held on Wednesday, May 7, following supper. The money raised will go to summer trips. A meal will be provided. The Youth will practice following the auction.

**The Paul Andersen Memorial Organ Recital will be held today** at 3:00 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church. The program, sponsored by the South Mississippi Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, will honor the memory of long-time organist, teacher, mentor, and friend, Dr. Paul Andersen. The program will include nine organists: Jackson Creel, Pamela Fuller, Kay Guiles, Bob Knupp, Kenny Myrick, Peyton Parker, Doug Rust, Kathy Vail, and Matt Woods. All are invited to attend this free event.

This is an open **invitation to all ages to go canoeing/kayaking** on Friday, May 30, at 8:30 a.m. on Black Creek. More information is on the yellow paper in the narthex cabinet. Join us!

### May 11 is Youth Sunday.

Please support our youth. They are working hard planning the service. This is a great time for us to see the talents of our youth.

Did you know that Westminster still holds **Sunday school every Sunday morning at 9:30?** And did you know that Sunday School is still very important for our day to day lives as followers of Jesus Christ? Sunday school gives a specific place and time each week to study the Bible in depth, ask questions about our faith in a safe environment, and to help build a stronger sense of community within the life of the church. Plus, sometimes it is just downright fun! Come on back to Sunday school, y'all.