

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Christ the King

November 26, 2023

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – *Fanfare and Processional*

Douglas E. Wagn

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

Almighty God, you raised Christ from the dead and established him as Lord over every rebellious power. Give us grace to serve him wisely and faithfully that the world may see his glorious inheritance among the saints and recognize the freedom of joyful obedience in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Chiming of the Hour

Choral Call to Worship – *I Will Worship the Lord*

John Rutter

Greeting and Announcements

Fran Estes

Call to Worship (responsive)

The Lord God is our shepherd.

We are the people of God's pasture, the sheep of God's hand.

God will seek the lost, feed the hungry, and strengthen the weak.

But the proud and power-hungry will be fed with justice.

Let us worship the Lord.

* Hymn of Praise 268 – *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

* Call to Confession

In Christ, God came to reconcile all things, making peace through the blood of the cross. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

* Prayer of Confession (unison)

Righteous God, you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him, and are slow to acknowledge his rule. We give allegiance to the powers of this world, and fail to be governed by justice and love. In your mercy, forgive us. Raise us to acclaim him as ruler of all, that we may be loyal ambassadors, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ. (time for silent confession)

* Declaration of Forgiveness (responsive)

God has rescued us from the power of evil and claimed us for the realm of Jesus Christ, in whom we have redemption. 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

Christopher Crotwell

Prayer for Illumination

Sovereign God, let your Word rule in our hearts and your Spirit govern our lives until at last we see the fulfillment of your realm of justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading – Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

pew Bible pg. 702

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem – *Come Thou Fount*

Mae Westbrook, soloist

arr. by Heather Sorenson

Second Reading – Matthew 25:31-46

pew Bible pg. 807

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon – *Sheep and Goats*

Tommy Suttle, Director of Discipleship

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

* Hymn of Thanksgiving 265 – *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun*

* Affirmation of Faith: (unison) The 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 Ghost, 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 Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of the People (responsive)

Our shepherd satisfies our needs; in faith, let us pray to the Lord.

O Lord, our God, we pray for the church . . . As you have made Christ the head of all, help us to live faithfully as his body, continuing his mission in the world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for the earth . . . Let all the earth make a joyful noise to you, a song of praise to the rock of our salvation, for you are coming to reveal a new creation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for all nations . . . Drive out those wolves in sheep's clothing who abuse the weak and scatter the flock. Come and save us; bring justice and peace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for this community . . . Help us to see Christ among our neighbors, serving those who are hungry and thirsty, naked and lonely, sick or in prison. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for loved ones . . . Remember the people of your pasture: rescue the lost, bind up the broken, heal the sick, and feed those who hunger. Lord, in

your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving shepherd, lead and guide us— in green pastures and by still waters, in right paths and through dark valleys, until we feast with you in glory and dwell in your house forever; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

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.

Invitation to Offering

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God.

Offertory – *Andante Religioso*

Henry Smart

* The Doxology – Hymn 606

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 (unison)

We praise you, great God, for you are ruler of the universe, and have sent your Son to be King of kings. We rejoice that he has triumphed over all the powers of this world, and governs the nations with righteousness and justice. We celebrate the victory of his life, death, resurrection, and ascension to rule at your side. By your Spirit, claim our complete loyalty, and establish Christ's reign of peace in every land and in every heart. Accept the offering of our lives in the service of Christ's kingdom. He is Lord forever and ever. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn of Consecration 826 – *Lift High the Cross*

* Blessing and Charge (responsive)

May the Lamb upon the throne be your shepherd, guiding you to the water of life, and wiping away every tear. **Alleluia!**

Now press on toward the goal of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

* Choral Benediction – *A Prayer of Saint Patrick*

John Rutter

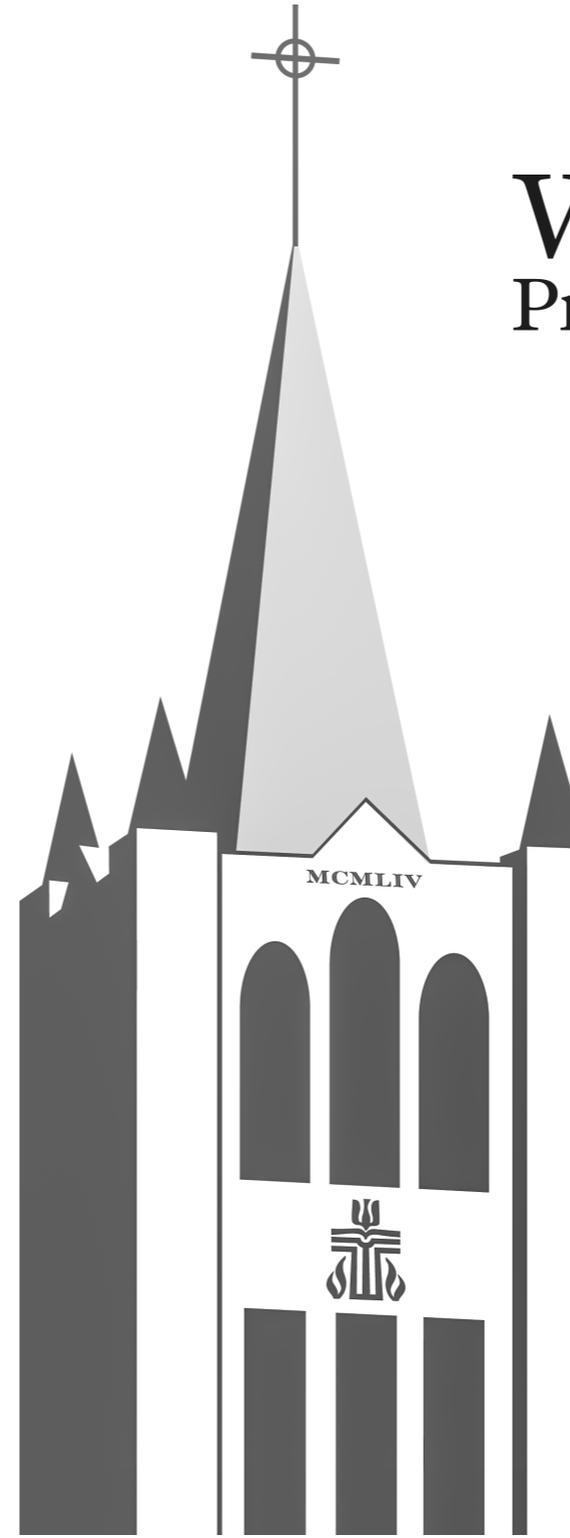
* Postlude – *Spiritual: He Is King*

Robert J. Powell



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

The liturgy for this service was drawn from the *Book of Common Worship* (2018) and *Call to Worship Lectionary Aids for 2013-2014, 2017-2018, Year A.*



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)

Linda Basden, neighbor of Janeil Harris – Alzheimer's

Telina Birch, friend of Nancy Johnson – receiving cancer treatment

Melissa Boivin, Jan Bozeman's family friend – brain damage from car wreck, improving

Jan Bozeman – constant pain

Margaret Breland, friend of Jan Bozeman – in FGH with severe pain

Janet Burke

Vida Davis, sister of Ruthie Davis – dementia

Tami Dossett, Pam Dossett's daughter – hospitalized

**Cathy Dudley – Beford Care (Medical Blvd) no visitors*

Bill and Louise Edwards, friends of Charles Brown – Bill has cancer and

Louise is in poor health and taking care of Bill

Larry Fontana, friend of Nancy Johnson – mantle cell lymphoma of the throat

Teresa Ginn, Michael Ginn's aunt – dementia

Wendy Graham, Jan Bozeman's sister – at home after hospital stay

Kenny Harrell

Jeanne Herring – prayers for endurance and strength

Ann Johnson

Geraldine Jones

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

B.J. Lambert – prayers for endurance and strength

Bernice McIntosh, Mac Forsyth's aunt – declining health

**Ace Miller – in FGH*

Alvin Mitchell, Sharon Davis' dad (Ruthie Davis' niece) – cancer

Glenn Nobles – endurance and strength

Laura Pearce, Nancy Johnson's goddaughter – constant nerve/ankle pain management

Fergus Reid, Carolyn McLarnan's nephew – severe pain

Kem Reid, Ryan Reid's father – at home recovering

Sheema Reid, Carolyn McLarnan's sister-in-law – starting chemo

Dena Faye Robertson, Glenn Nobles' sister – hospice for Alzheimer's

Ray Robinson

Jeannette Russell, Janet Burke's twin sister – serious health issues

Molly Tracy, friend of Ann Aldridge's daughter – throat cancer

Louise Traxler, Karen Reidenbach's mom – transitioning to long-term care

John Watkins, Rose Marie Yore's brother – prayers for healing

Sandra Young, mother of a friend of Carolyn McLarnan – on hospice



Greeting and Announcements

Welcome to Westminster! We're very glad to see you in worship. 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.

Youth and Children will go shopping for Angel Tree after worship today.

Youth and Children will meet from 5-6:30 p.m. today. A meal will be provided.

PW Prayer Ministry will meet Tuesday at 10 a.m. There are prayer cards on the back of the pews for prayer requests. Please provide an address so a card can be sent and place with the offering.

Brown Bag will meet Tuesday at 11 a.m. **Chancel Choir** will meet Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

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

Articles for the December newsletter are due to Wes by Thursday, November 30.
(wes@wpchattiesburg.com)

Advent Workshop is Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

This is an important way to begin preparing for Christmas. Come join us as we decorate and prepare our church for the Advent season. There will be activities for all A meal will be provided. Please fill out a reservation slip

and place in the offering.

The Church-Wide Work Day is Saturday, Dec. 2, starting at 8:30 a.m.

Caroling will be Dec. 17 at 5 p.m. A meal will be provided at 6 p.m. After the meal, the children and youth will have a Christmas program for your enjoyment. Make plans now to come carol, eat, and watch the youth and children's Christmas program.



It's that time of year when Breadbasket will be getting ready for the 100 Christmas boxes to be given before Christmas. This year Westminster will provide oranges for these boxes. We are asking for donations to purchase the oranges. There is a box labeled oranges on the narthex cabinet for your donations. If you are writing a check, please put oranges on the memo line. For more information, contact Sharon Potin or Martha Davis.

The 38th annual Festival of Lights featuring the Mississippi College Singers is Nov. 30, Dec. 1 and 2 at Provine Chapel at Mississippi College at 7:30 p.m. They will be performing the Christmas portion of Handel's Messiah with organ, guest soloist, and members of the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra. Our very own **Jackson Creel**, who is a senior at MC, is one of the singers and invites you to come and enjoy. Tickets can be purchased at music.mc.edu/tickets. Cost is \$20 for adults and \$10 for students of any school.

BOSWELL GIFT TIME

A long tradition for WPC has been to provide Christmas gifts for the clients at Boswell Regional Center, whose mission is to provide specialized program options for adult Mississippians. This year we need to provide gifts for 64 men and 30 women. A list of acceptable and needed items is on the narthex cabinet. Please provide only new items, do not wrap the gifts but provide a gift bag. If you would prefer to donate money rather than furnish a gift, someone else will shop for you. Make checks out to Westminster and put Boswell on the memo line or put cash in the pew brown envelopes and mark Boswell. Large boxes for gifts are ready and waiting in the narthex today. **The deadline is Dec. 3.** If you have any questions, please see Sharon Potin.



There will be a baby shower for Rachel Harris Rosado on Dec. 3 at 2:30 p.m. in Montague Hall. Come help us celebrate. Rachel's wish list is on babylist.com or give a gift card.