

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Sixth Sunday in Lent
May 5, 2024

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – *Variation on Wondrous Love*

John Eggert

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

Holy One, you made known to us the greatness of your love in Jesus Christ, who gave his life for us. Keep us always in Christ's love so that we may abide by your commandments and bear lasting fruit for the world; through Jesus Christ, our faithful friend. Amen.

Chiming of the Hour

Greeting and Announcements

Tommy Suttle

Call to Worship – (*responsive*)

This is Christ's new commandment:

to love one another as he loves us.

And there is no greater love than this:

to lay down one's life for others.

Let us worship God.

* Hymn of Praise 396 – *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship*

* 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 all hope and joy, we confess that we continue to live in fear. In Christ, you claim us as children, but we disobey your commands. In Christ, you even call us friends, but we have not been faithful to you. Forgive us, God of grace. By the power of your Spirit help us to abide in your love and share that love with others; 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 – 1 John 5:1-6

pew Bible pg.

991

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem – *He Shall Feed His Flock*

John Ness Beck

Michael Ginn, soloist

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd: He shall gather the lambs with His arm, And carry them in His bosom, and gently shall lead those that are with young. He shall gather the lambs in His arm, and carry them close to His heart; And gently, so gently, so gently shall lead those with young. (repeat)

Second Reading – John 15:9-17

pew Bible pg. 878

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon – *Fruit That will Last*

Rev. Dr. Christopher Crotwell

* Communion Hymn 693 – *Though I May Speak*

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 – *Lullaby on Jesus Loves Me*

A. K. Johnson

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 Words of Institution

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 761 – *Called as Partners in Christ's Service*

* 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.**

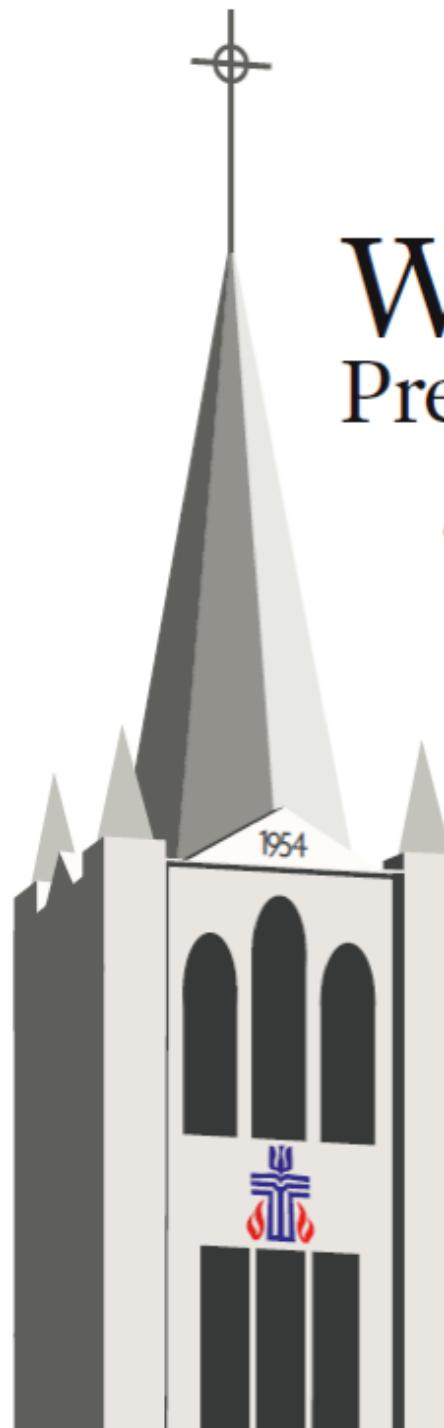
* Postlude – *Intrada*

John Marsh



* 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 2014-2015, Year B*.



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

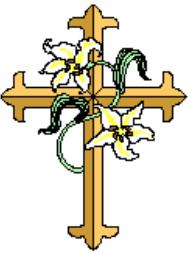
115 N. 25th Ave. Hattiesburg, MS 39401

westminster@wpchattiesburg.com

facebook.com/wpchattiesburg

wpchattiesburg.com

(601) 584-7574



PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH

(* new added prayers)

Terri Banks, friend of Pam Love – at UAB with reaction to chemo

Linda Basden, neighbor of Janeil Harris – Alzheimer's

Melissa Boivin, Jan Bozeman's family friend – at home, upcoming facial cosmetic surgery

Jan Bozeman – constant pain

Margaret Breland, friend of Jan Bozeman – at home, in therapy

Janet Burke – Bedford Care (Medical Blvd)

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

Vida Davis, sister of Ruthie Davis – dementia

Cindy Dawson, Catherine Sampson's daughter – cancer treatment at MD Anderson

Cathy Dudley – Bedford Care (Medical Blvd) no visitors

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

Teresa Ginn, Michael Ginn's aunt – dementia

Wendy Graham, Jan Bozeman's sister – at home on hospice

Anderson Hembree, son of a friend of Nancy Johnson – prayers for successful physical therapy

Ann Johnson

Geraldine Jones

*Susan Kuehn, Althea Jerome's sister – multiple myeloma treatment

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

B.J. Lambert – pain from fracture of vertebra

Glenn Nobles – endurance and strength

Fergus Reid, Carolyn McLarnan's nephew – severe pain

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

Zach Ross, friend of Althea Jerome – at UMMC with serious head injuries from car accident

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

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

Dr. Joe Washburn, Jan Bozeman's doctor – cancer, taking chemo

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.

Everyone is invited to the luncheon following the worship service today.

MAY 12 IS YOUTH SUNDAY!

Today we will observe the **sacrament of communion**. All are welcome to receive God's gifts at the table. So that all may be served, 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.

The May/June Today devotionals are on the narthex cabinet.

Sacred Heart Orchestra and Chancel Choir has a concert today at 3 p.m. at Westminster. Michael Ginn invites you to come hear these young people's performance.

Youth only will meet today from 5-6:30 pm. A meal will be provided.

PW Coordinating Team meeting is Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.

Brown Bag will meet Tuesday at 11 a.m.

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.

Katie is collecting juice boxes and bottled water (8 oz. or 10 oz.) for the youth and children. Please leave on the pew by the office.

The **dessert auction** was a success. Thanks to everyone who baked and to those of you who made a purchase and received delicious treats. Also, thanks to those who gave donations to the youth. Because of your generosity, we raised \$3770 to support summer trips and programs for our children and youth. Thank you for being a blessing!



High school or college students are needed to tutor reading (K-5) this summer in Hattiesburg. It is a paid position. To apply, contact Katie at kemartz@olemiss.edu. There are flyers on the table by the double doors.

To donate to WPC online, scan the QR code and follow the instructions.

