

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Second Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2024

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude – Air in F Major George Frederick Handel

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

Eternal God, holy and faithful, what can we give in return for our life? Teach us to take up the cross of Christ with grateful hearts and humble spirits, offering all for the sake of the gospel, so that we may receive life in fullness; through Christ, who is coming in glory. Amen.

Chiming of the Hour

Greeting and Announcements Jacob Suttle

Call to Worship (responsive)

Hear the promise of the Lord our God:

**I will bless you and make you a blessing.**

Hear the calling of the Lord Jesus Christ:

**Take up your cross and follow me.**

Let us worship God.

\* Hymn of Praise 720 – Jesus Calls Us

\* Call to Confession

In the name of Christ, I urge you: Be reconciled to God. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

\* Prayer of Confession (unison)

**God our Redeemer, we confess that we are people of ashes and dust. You call us to be a blessing in the world, but we only seek our own benefit. You call us to give our lives for others, but we only seek to save ourselves. Forgive us, God of grace. Set our minds on divine things—the good news of the gospel and the promise of new life in you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**  
(time for silent confession)

\* Declaration of Forgiveness (responsive)

Listen, the time has come at last. Look, now is the day of salvation! 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

Pam Love

Prayer for Illumination

God of all glory, by the wisdom of your Word and the pouring out of your Spirit, let the same mind be in us that is in Christ Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading – Psalm 22:23-31  
435

pew Bible pg.

The Word of the LORD.

**Thanks be to God!**

Anthem – The Lord is My Shepherd

Thomas Matthews

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:

He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul:

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:

Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies

Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever, forever.

Second Reading – Mark 8:31-38

pew Bible pg. 820

The Word of the LORD.

**Thanks be to God!**

Sermon – Do We Really Want Jesus to be Jesus? Tommy Suttle, Director of Discipleship

## GIVE THANKS TO GOD

\* Hymn of Thanksgiving 718 – Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

\* Affirmation of Faith: Adapted from the PCUSA Study Catechism, Q. 80 (responsive)

What does it mean to believe in "the forgiveness of sins"?

**That because of Jesus Christ, God no longer holds my sins against me. Christ alone is my righteousness and my life; Christ is my only hope. Grace alone, not my merits, is the basis on which God has forgiven me in him. Faith alone, not my works, is the means by which I receive Christ into my heart, and with him the forgiveness that makes me whole. Christ alone, grace alone, and faith alone bring the forgiveness I receive through the gospel.**

Prayers of the People (responsive)

Out of the ashes, up from the dust we bring our prayers to God, saying: In your steadfast love, O Lord, **have mercy on us.**

God of all mercy, we pray for the church . . . By the gift of your saving grace, strengthen our faith and inspire our witness to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. In your steadfast love, O Lord, **have mercy on us.**

God of all mercy, we pray for the world . . . As you called Abraham and Sarah to be a blessing to the nations, extend your covenant of peace and plenty to all. In your steadfast love, O Lord, **have mercy on us.**

God of all mercy, we pray for this community . . . Answer the cries of all who are suffering, so that the poor may eat and have their fill and the lost may find a home in you. In your steadfast love, O Lord, **have mercy on us.**

God of all mercy, we pray for loved ones . . . Support and sustain those who are weak, especially the very old and very young. Give them long life to glorify your name. In your steadfast love, O Lord, **have mercy on us.**

Restore in us, O God, the joy of your salvation; renew and sustain our spirits, so that we may live according to your will; through Jesus Christ, our hope and strength. 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

Jesus says: Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Let us offer the gifts of our lives in love and service to the Lord.

Offertory – When I Survey

David Schelat

\* 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 and thank you, Lord God, for the majesty of your work, the wisdom of your word, and the generosity of your grace. You have shown us, O God, the sacrifice that you desire. Now use these gifts—and use our lives—to liberate the oppressed, to break the bonds of injustice, to feed the hungry, welcome the poor, and unite the human family; all in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**GO IN GOD'S NAME**

\* Hymn of Consecration 738 – O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

\* Blessing and Charge (responsive)

May the steadfast love of God, the abundant grace of Jesus Christ, and the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

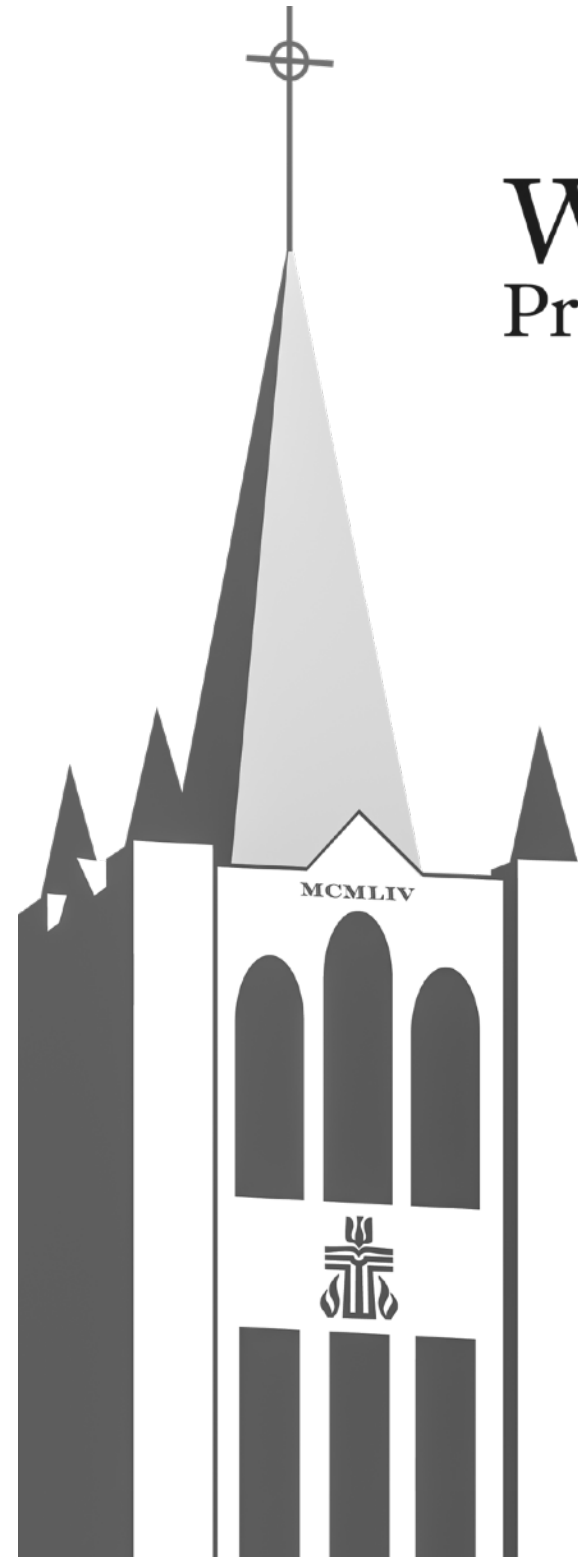
Remember the words of the Lord Jesus: If any wish to be my disciples let them take up the cross and follow me. **Amen.**

\* Postlude – Take Up Your Cross

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 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

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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 – waiting on 3rd treatment results after cancer diagnosis*

*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 – some reduction of pain  
with nerve block therapy*

*Vida Davis, sister of Ruthie Davis – dementia*

*Drew, friend of Alejandro Herrera – epilepsy*

*Cathy Dudley – Bedford 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*

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

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

*Kenny Harrell*

*Anderson Hembree, son of a friend of Nancy Johnson – at home recovering from fall*

*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*

*\*Ann Kenamond McPhail, Mary Dayne Gregg's sister – lung issues*

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

*Glenn Nobles – endurance and strength*

*Fergus Reid, Carolyn McLarnan's nephew – severe pain*

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

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

*Ray Robinson – receiving treatment*

*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)*

*\*Evelyn Schruff, niece-in-law of Martha Davis – at UMMC in ICU*

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

*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're 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.

**The March/April *Today* devotionals are on the narthex cabinet.**

**Youth and Children** will not meet today.

**Brown Bag** will meet Tuesday at 11 a.m.

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

Volunteers are coming in early March to help with recovery efforts in the Rolling Fork area.

**PW is asking for casseroles to be made for this project.** There are aluminum pans and labels located on the table by the stairs. Casseroles are due by Feb. 29 and can be placed in the freezer in the room across from the Breadbasket room.

**Pot Luck** will be this Wednesday, at 5:30 p.m.

**Hymn Sing** at 6 p.m. in sanctuary

**Chancel Choir** will meet at 6:30.

The Presbytery of Mississippi Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Invites you to the Ordination and Installation of

Cassandra Phillips Alston as Pastor of J. J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church, 111 Third Street, McComb, MS

Today at 4 o'clock p.m.

**Growing Spiritually** will meet next Sunday at 10:35 a.m.

**Articles for the March newsletter** are due to Wes by

Thursday, Feb. 29, by noon. ([wes@wpchattiesburg.com](mailto:wes@wpchattiesburg.com))

**Meistersingers concert** will be Sunday, Mar. 3, at Westminster. All are invited.

