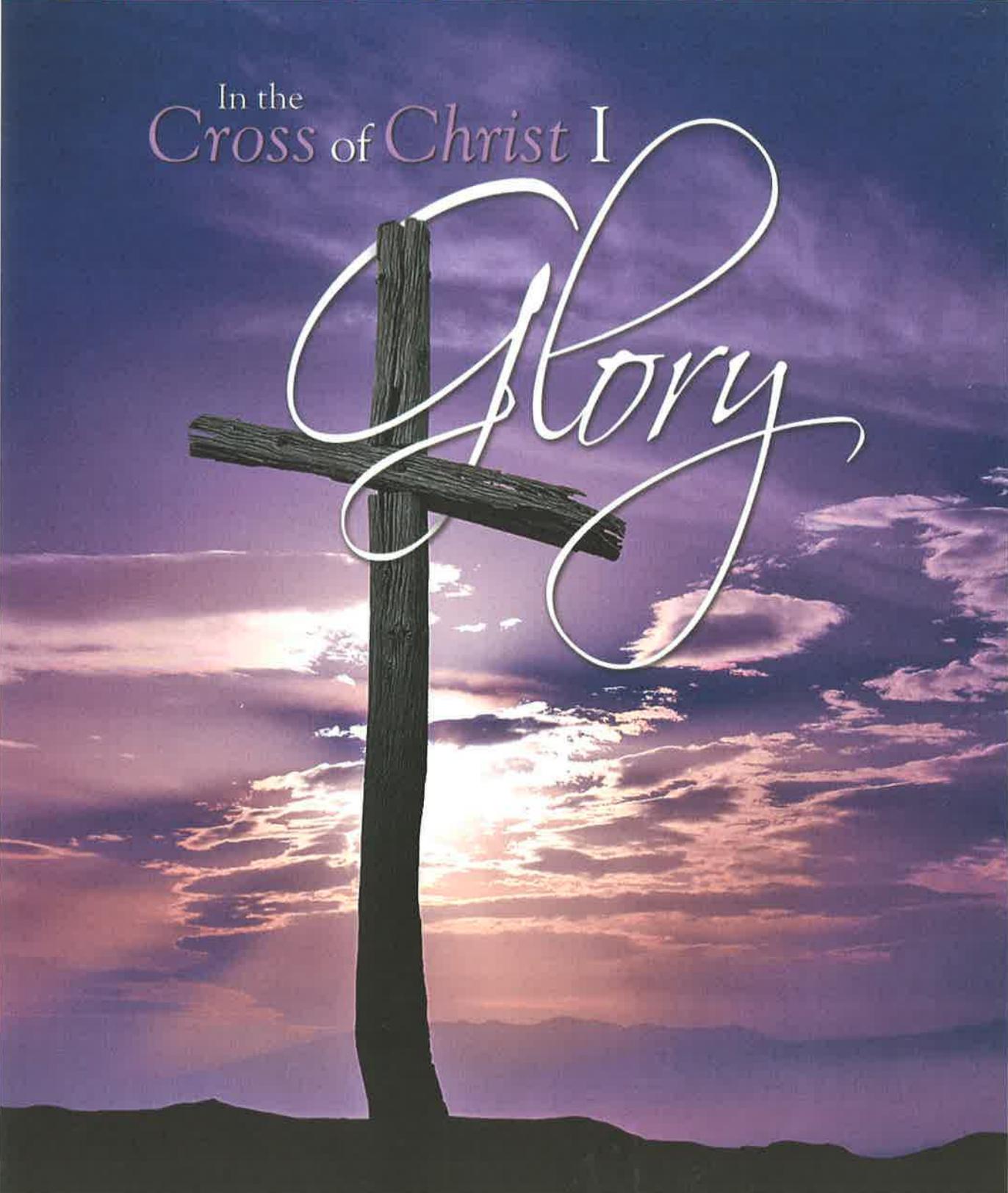


In the  
*Cross of Christ I*

*Glory*



# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 18, 2018

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – *Now the Green Blade Riseth* McCabe

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

God of thundering glory and wondrous love, you lifted up Jesus Christ from the earth to draw all people to your holy name. Like grains of wheat that fall to the dust, teach us to die—and so to bear much fruit, giving our lives for the sake of the gospel, following and serving Christ Jesus forever. Amen.

Chiming of the Hour

Young Disciples – *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* Michael Ginn, Director

Greeting and Announcements Kenny Harrell

Call to Worship – (*responsive*)

The days are surely coming, says the Lord,

**when I will make a new covenant with you.**

And now the promised hour has come,

**when the Lord of life will be lifted up.**

Let us worship God.

\* Hymn of Praise 4 – *Holy God, We Praise Your Name* (vs. 1-3)

\* Call to Confession

\* Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**God our Redeemer, we confess that we are people of ashes and dust. You write your law in our hearts, yet we pretend we do not know you. You lifted up Christ for all to see, yet we turn away from your glory. Forgive us, God of grace. Teach us to delight in your way, to seek you with all our hearts, and to trust in your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

(time for silent confession)

\* Assurance of Pardon

- \* The Congregation's Response: *Holy God, We Praise Your Name (vs. 4)*

**Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Spirit:**

**Three we name you, while in essence only one;**

**Undivided God we claim you, and adoring,**

**Bend the knee while we own the mystery.**

**PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

Time with Children

Mary Clare Royals

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading – John 12:20-33

pew Bible pg. 875

The Word of the LORD.

**Thanks be to God!**

Anthem – *A Lenten Walk*

Hopsan

Second Reading – Jeremiah 31:31-34

pew Bible pg.642

The Word of the LORD.

**Thanks be to God!**

Sermon – *I Will Write It on Their Hearts*

Rev. Dr. Christopher Crotwell

**GIVE THANKS TO GOD**

- \* Affirmation of Faith: (*unison*) The Apostles' Creed (Hymnal pg. 35)

**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**

- \* Hymn of Thanksgiving 247 – *Now the Green Blade Rises*

Prayers of Intercession 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.**

Offertory – *I Need Thee Every Hour*

McDonald

\* 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

**GO IN GOD'S NAME**

\* Hymn of Consecration 106 – *Prepare the Way, O Zion*

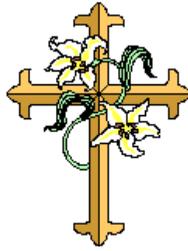
\* Charge and Benediction

\* Postlude – *Toccata on 'He Is Exalted'*

Bock



\* Please stand at the \* as you are able. Unison readings are **printed in bold**. Please remove all papers from the sanctuary when you leave.



## PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH

*Marilyn Bowen, Sam Dossett's sister – colon cancer*

*Margaret Buckley – recovering at home*

*Brandi Carter, friend of Nancy Johnson – postponed cancer scans*

*Ruthie Davis – upcoming surgery*

*Andrew Dennis, Beverly and Charles Dennis' son – melanoma*

*Sam Dossett – continued prayers*

*Lauranne Doggett, Sarah Brannon's sister – Alzheimer's*

*Malcolm English, friend of Joe Pack Arnold – patient at UMMC*

*Katie Hall, friend of Bob Lochhead – slowly recovering from a brain aneurism*

*Mary Halliwell, friend of Mary and Dean Cromartie – pancreatic cancer*

*Nell Hollingsworth, Holley Holifield's nanny – moved to Bedford Care*

*Berniece Johnson, former member who lives in Memphis – Alzheimer's and surgery recovery*

*Robert Liddell, Geri Jones' brother – special prayers for health issues*

*Jean Lukowski, C'est La Vie owner – began treatment for pancreatic cancer*

*Rush McClinton, Jeanne Herring's nephew – recovery from surgery*

*Crystal Miller, friend of Nancy Johnson – recovering from double lung & heart transplant*

*Cindy Nobles – undergoing treatment for the recurrence of cancer*

*Rachel Owens, Gene Owens' sister – mass on pancreas*

*Kem Reid, Ryan Reid's dad – diagnosed with MDS and awaiting blood marrow transfusion*

*Sharon Sabin, friend of Mary and Dean Cromartie – advanced cancer and Parkinson's*

*Margaret Suttle – recovering at home*

*Patty Talbot, Ann Aldridge's sister – receiving treatment*

## PRAYERS FOR A SAFE MISSION JOURNEY

*David Daves, Karen and Eric Reidenbach's trip to El Salvador with*

*Living Waters for the World, March 18-25*

## YOUTH UPCOMINGS

It is time to **purchase Easter lilies**. A sign up sheet is on the narthex cabinet. The cost is \$15 per lily. Deadline is Mar. 25.



The Youth are **collecting small individually wrapped candy** (no chocolate) for the Easter Egg Hunt. There is a box by the church office for any donations.

Save this date: Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, will be the **Youth Dessert/Casserole Auction**.



## 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 turn off cell phones during the worship hour.

**The March/April *Today* devotionals** are in the narthex.

**Youth and Children K-5** will meet at 5 p.m. today.

**New Beginnings** luncheon is March 19 at noon in Montague Hall. Everyone is invited to attend, but RSVPs are essential. Contact Tommy Suttle at [tommy@wpchattiesburg.com](mailto:tommy@wpchattiesburg.com)

**PW Prayer Ministry** will meet Tuesday at 11 a.m. in the generation room. If you would like to include someone on the prayer list, please fill out a card found on the back of the pew and place in the offering plate.

**Brown Bag Bible Study** meets Tuesday at noon. We will be studying II Kings 20.



Please join us for Wednesday night dinner this week at 5:30. There is no charge for the meal, but donations are encouraged. We need a headcount, so please place a reservation slip in the offering plate.

**Menu:** Adults – roast beef, potatoes au gratin, butter beans, biscuits, green salad, and dessert  
Children – chicken strips and tater tots

### **After supper activities:**

**Christopher** will be presenting chapters from Marjorie Thompson's book *Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life*. This book functions as a guide to not only understand spiritual disciplines, but to also try them for yourself.

**Youth** will meet upstairs in the youth room.

**Children's Choir** will meet upstairs in the rotation Sunday school room.

**Chancel Choir** will meet at 7.

All **Men of the Church** are invited to meet Thursday, March 22, at 6:30 a.m. at Shoney's.

Papa John's Pizza in Oak Grove and Hattiesburg is doing a **fundraiser for Breadbasket in March**. Only online sales for the special of the month will be donated. [www.papajohns.com](http://www.papajohns.com)

### **Committee Meetings today**

Worship Committee at 11:30 in the generation room

Growing Spiritually Committee at 11:30 in the conference room

Just as the human body needs eyes, hands, ears, lungs, etc., so does the Body of Christ. We have many small group opportunities for growth, fellowship and service here at Westminster. We encourage members to use their gifts to participate in the mission of this congregation and to invite others to join us in serving Jesus Christ.

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**The Seal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**

A Symbolic Statement of the Church

The Cross – Christianity

The Transept – Bible and Pulpit

The Dove – The Holy Spirit

The Intersection – Baptismal Font or  
Communion Cup

Flames – Implied triangle, the Trinity

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**THE SESSION**

**Class of 2018**

Gene Owens  
Michael Raggio  
Robin Roberts

**Class of 2019**

Althea Jerome  
J. T. Johnson  
Cindy Nobles

**Class of 2020**

Margaret Brooks  
Dean Cromartie  
Kathryn Cummings

**THE TRUSTEES**

Franklin Bryant    Gene Fair    Wally Gregg

**THE DEACONS**

**Class of 2018**

Shane Brooks  
Kathy Cain  
Howard Keever  
Beth Richmond

**Class of 2019**

David Daves  
Janeil Harris  
Butch Nobles  
Susan Turner

**Class of 2020**

Katie Ginn  
Judy Haydel  
Sinclair Lundy  
Robert Lochhead  
**Youth Representative**  
Sarah Beth Suttle

**CHURCH STAFF**

Christopher Croftwell, Minister  
Sinclair Lundy, Financial Secretary  
Randall Harris, Organist  
Wes Brooks, Communications

Tommy Suttle, Director of Discipleship  
Martha Davis, Church Administrator  
Connie Roberts, Chancel Choir Director  
Jenny Maul, Children's Music Director

Ray Robinson, Sexton