



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

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Third Sunday of Easter

April 15, 2018

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – *The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns* Hobby

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

Holy One, you have made us witnesses to the good news of the gospel—that Jesus Christ, our flesh and bone, is risen from the dead. Open our minds to understand these things, and let your word be fulfilled in us so that we may share the bread of life with a hungry world; through Jesus Christ, our peace. Amen.

Chiming of the Hour

Choral Call to Worship

Greeting and Announcements

Wes Brooks

Call to Worship – (*responsive*)

On the cross, Jesus suffered and died.

We are witnesses: Lord, have mercy.

But now Jesus is risen from the dead.

We are witnesses: He is risen indeed!

Let us worship God.

* Hymn of Praise 246 – *Christ is Alive* (vs. 1-4)

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

God of all hope and joy, we confess that we continue to live in fear. You sent the Lord of life among us yet we gave him up to die. You raised him from the dead yet we still do not believe.

Forgive us, God of grace. Help us to receive with gratitude the great gift of love you offer and live as your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (time for silent confession)

* Assurance of Pardon

* The Congregation's Response: *Christ is Alive* (vs. 5)

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age, till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Proclaim God's Word

Time with Children

Christopher Crotwell

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading – Acts 3:12-19

pew Bible pg. 887

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem – *Awake, Arise*

Howard Helvey

Awake, arise! Lift up thy voice, which as a trumpet swell!

Rejoice in Christ! Again rejoice, and on his praises dwell!

Let us not doubt, as doubted some, when first the Lord appeared;
but full of faith and reverence come, what time his voice is heard.

And even as John, who ran so well, confess upon our knees
the Prince who locks up death and hell, and has himself the keys.

And thus through gladness and surprise the saints their Savior treat;

Nor will they trust their ears and eyes but by his hands and feet:

Those hands of liberal love indeed in infinite degree,

Those feet still frank to move and bleed for millions and for me.

O Dead, arise! O Friendless, stand by seraphim adored!

O Solitude, again command thy host from heaven,

Thy host from heaven restored!

Second Reading – Luke 24:36-48

pew Bible pg.861

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon – *Resurrection Stories*

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 630 – *Fairest Lord Jesus*

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–*The Solid Rock*

Goodyear

- * 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 244 – *This Joyful Eastertide*

- * Charge and Benediction

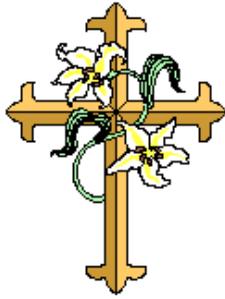
- * Postlude – *March in D*

Bach

*There will be a congregational meeting following the service.
If you need to leave, please do so during the Postlude.*



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



PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH

Marilyn Bowen, Sam Dossett's sister – colon cancer

Margaret Buckley – recovering at home

Iola Cannedy – recovering from hand surgery

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

Sarah Ellena, daughter of Martha Ann and Charles Hogrefe – recovery from alcohol addiction

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 – recovering from surgery at home

Stephanie Liddell, Geri Jones' daughter – employment and special prayers

Rush McClinton, Jeanne Herring's nephew – in rehab after surgery

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

Cindy Nobles – undergoing treatment for the recurrence of cancer

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 treatments

congregational MEETING

The session has called for a congregational meeting following worship today.

The purpose of the meeting will be

- to hear a report from the church officer nominating committee
- to elect new officers

Trustee: Mary Cromartie

Session: David Arnold, Ginny Graham, Eric Reidenbach, plus Claude Sanders for Margaret Brooks' unexpired term

Diaconate: Chad Edmonson, Brandon Hayes, Rhoda Pickett, Beth Richmond

Youth representative to the Diaconate: Jackson Creel



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.

Youth and Children will meet today at 5 p.m. to work on Youth Sunday.

William Carey Choral will have a performance today at Westminster starting at 3 p.m. Connie Roberts and Michael Ginn will be conducting.

Brown Bag Bible Study will not meet this week due to the trip to Camp Shelby.

The next **Wednesday night meal** will be May 2.

Growing Spiritually Committee will meet today at 11:30 a.m. in the conference room.

Choir will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday.

All **Men of the Church** are invited to meet Thursday, April 19, at 6:30 a.m. at Shoney's.

It's time to stir up your favorite recipes for the **Dessert and Casserole Auction** on Wednesday, May 2, at 5:30 following supper.

NEWSLETTER INFO for May is due April 24.

Please email wes@WPCHattiesburg.com



Throw Away Day is Saturday, April 21, from 8 until 2 p.m. at Bobby L Chain Airport or Lamar County Multi-Purpose Center.

Margaret Lochhead is seeking volunteers to fill **Breadbasket applications** for April 30-May 4. A signup sheet is on a narthex table.



Everyone is invited to our annual fish fry immediately following the worship service April 22 in the Montague Hall.

Officer Training will be Saturday, April 21 from 9 until noon.

Youth Sunday will be Sunday April 29 during worship. Please make plans to attend.

Fall more deeply in love with Jesus: attend Mississippi Presbyterian **Cursillo** Retreat at Camp Wesley Pines (Gallman, MS) May 3-6. It's uplifting, life-changing, and free. Consider this your personal invitation. For details, see David Arnold, Beth Richmond or Dean and Mary Cromartie. You can apply online at www.mspsbyteriancursillo.com

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.



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

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