



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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THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 6, 2018

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music

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

Howard Keever

Call to Worship – *(responsive)*

The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

The Lord Jesus Christ has risen to reign;

HOis is the name above all names.

Let us worship God.

* Hymn of Praise 504 – *We Come as Guests Invited*

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession – *(unison)*

God of all hope and joy, we confess that we continue to live in fear. While Jesus was with us on earth, we dismissed him as a heavenly dreamer. Now that he reigns in heaven we forget that he is Lord of all the earth. Forgive us, God of grace. Be the sovereign of our lives and make us always ready to welcome your return in glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.(time for silent confession)

* Assurance of Pardon

* 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

Tommy Suttle

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson – Acts 10:44-48

pew Bible pg. 895

Anthem – *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Franz Schubert

Holy, Holy, Holy, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

Second Lesson – Acts 8:26-40

pew Bible pg. 892

Sermon – *Do You Understand What You are Reading?*

Rev. Dr. Christopher Crotwell

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

*Communion Hymn 494 – *Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts*

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

THE EUCHARIST

The Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

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.

It is truly right and our greatest joy ... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the faithful of ever time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

You are holy, O God of majesty ... Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen. Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us ... Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever. Hear us now as we pray as our Savior has taught.

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, you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. We have recalled your mighty acts in holy history. We have seen your power in sending light to conquer darkness, water to give us life, and the bread of heaven to nourish us in love. Send us with salvation and joy to all the world, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Go in God's Name

- * Hymn of Consecration 761 – *Called as Partners in Christ's Service* (vs. 1-3)
- * Charge and Benediction
- * Congregational Benediction: *Called as Partners in Christ's Service* (vs. 4)

So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life that surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.

Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase, messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

- * Postlude

Guest musician is Tyler Greer a William Carey University student.



- * 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

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

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

James Reid, Carolyn McLarnan's brother – motor neuron disease or ALS

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

Margaret Suttle

Patty Talbot, Ann Aldridge's sister – receiving treatments



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.

Communion Sundays are also **Breadbasket Sundays** – a time when you are encouraged to make contributions to the Breadbasket ministry. Envelopes are found in the pews or put Breadbasket on the memo line of checks.



The Youth will meet today at 5 p.m.

The May/June Today devotionals are in the narthex.



PW Circles 1 & 2 meet Tuesday, May 9. **Circle 1** will meet at Ann Johnson's house (100 Creek Side Manor) at 9:30 a.m. and **Circle 2** will meet at 6 p.m. at Dutchie Bryant's house (1205 Oakleigh Drive).

Brown Bag Bible Study meets Tuesday at noon. We will be studying II Kings 22-23.

Choir will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday.

If you wish to place fresh flowers in the sanctuary in honor or

Committee Meetings

Today

Inviting Committee at 8:30 a.m. in the conference room
Property Committee at 11:45 a.m. in the generation room

May 9

Administration Committee at 4:30 p.m. in the conference room

May 20

Growing Spiritually at 11:30 a.m. in the conference room

memory of someone or for a special occasion, please contact Martha Davis at the church office to reserve a date.

Next Sunday, the **Diaconate** will meet at 11:45 and the **Session** will meet at 12:30.



All **Men of the Church** are invited to meet Thursday, May 10, at 6:30 a.m. at Shoney's.

Join us on Saturday, May 12, at 9 a.m. for the monthly **Men's Breakfast** in Montague Hall.

The PW will be hosting a breakfast next Sunday starting at 8:45. It is in celebration of our birthday offering. All are invited. (see insert in bulletin)



A crawfish boil will be on Saturday, May 12, at 3:30 p.m. at the Suttles' house (59 Moss Lane, Petal). Children-friendly food will also be available. There will be a caravan leaving the church at 3 p.m.

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 Crowell, 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