



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

Twentieth-third Sunday of Ordinary Time

September 10, 2017

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – *Gather Us In*

Honore

Prayer of Preparation

(from I Corinthians 12)

(you may prepare for worship by praying silently)

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it with Christ.

Chiming of the Hour

Greeting and Announcements

Mike Anderson

Call to Worship – *(responsive)*

(from Psalm 149)

Praise the Lord!

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.

For the Lord takes pleasure in his people.

Let the high praises of God come from our mouths!

Come, let us worship our Maker, the Lord our God!

* Hymn of Praise 267 – *Come, Christian, Join to Sing*

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

Dear God, we know that you are a loving, nurturing, and relational God. We know that you created us to be a relational people. We know that you have called us into a relationship with you and into relationships with others. We know that you have created us to be a diverse people but that you have unified us through your son, Jesus Christ. And yet we continually fight against the Body of Christ with our disagreements, our jealousies, and our impatience. Forgive us, O Lord, when we chose division over unity. Forgive us, O Lord, when we are motivated by hatred and revenge instead of prayerfully seeking reconciliation. We tend to be shallow and thin-skinned; teach us to be patient, loving, and forgiving. Gracious God, teach us to live in unity and harmony, and forgive also the sins of our hearts . . .

- * Assurance of Pardon (*responsive*)

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed is the man whose sin in the Lord will never count against him.

The wages of sin is death,

But the gift from God is eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Lord!

Friends, God loved us so much that he sent his only Son to pay the penalty for our sins. That is the message of the gospel; through the **Father's** love and the sacrifice of his son, Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven!

Alleluia!

- * The Congregation's Response: *Gloria Patri*

Hymn 581

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Time with Children

Alicia Westbrook

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson – I Corinthians 12:12-31a

pew Bible pg. 933

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem – *The Word is a Lamp*

Second Lesson – Matthew 18:15-20

pew Bible pg. 799

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon – *The Body of Christ and the Higher Call of Reconciaiation*

Tommy Suttle, Director of Discipleship

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

- * Affirmation of Faith: (*unison*)

(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 468 – *In My Life*

Presbyterian Women Officer Installation

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 – *Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus*

Gieschen

- * The Doxology – Hymn 606
- * Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

- * Hymn of Consecration 744 – *Arise, Your Light is Come*
- * Charge and Benediction
- * Postlude – *Trumpet Sonata*

Franceschini



- * 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

*Erin Blanchard, Michael Raggio's goddaughter – recovering
Marilyn Bowen, Sam Dossett's sister – colon cancer*

Brandy Zachary Carter, friend of Nancy Johnson – upcoming cancer re-scans

Madeline Carter, 4th grader at PCS – diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes

Angela Cook, Sharecare member – prayers for family through difficult times

Becky Dahle, friend of Nancy Johnson – inflammation with side effects of medicine

Ruthie Davis – rescheduled surgery

Sam Dossett – continued prayers

Geraldine Jones – foot pain

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

Nell Hollingsworth, Holley Holifield's nanny as a child – improving after fall

Crystal Miller, friend of Nancy Johnson – recovering after heart and lung transplants

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

Evelyn Schruuff, niece-in-law of Martha Davis – recovering from stomach cancer surgery

Jerry Spann, friend of Ruthie Davis – cancer surgery

Margaret Suttle – recovering at home

Will, friend of Victor Wang – battling spinal cancer

PRAYERS OF COMFORT

For the family and friends of Carolyn Bedenbaugh

Your **Pastor Nominating Committee** continues its work to find the person God would call to come and be the pastor of our church. While we cannot report anything definite at this time, we are getting close. We hope in the next few weeks to be able to share a time line for a congregational meeting to call a pastor and the expected start date. We continue to covet your prayers as we near the end of our search.

The Pastor Nominating Committee

Gene Owns, Chair

Wes Brooks

Michael Ginn

Mary Cromartie

Ginny Graham

Robin Roberts

Mary Claire Royals



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.

Today the **Diaconate** will meet at 11:30 and the **Session** will meet at 12:30.

Today Grades 3-5 will meet from 4:15-5:30 p.m. and the **Youth** will meet from 5-6:30 p.m.

The September/October Today devotionals are in the narthex.

Brown Bag Bible Study meets Tuesday at noon. We will be studying II Kings 4.

All **Men of the Church** are invited to meet Thursday, Sept. 14, at 6:30 a.m. at Shoney's.

Our Presbytery has a new website. It is www.pbyofms.org

New Beginnings monthly luncheon is Monday, Sept. 18, at noon in Montague Hall. Everyone is invited to attend, so RSVPs are essential. Please contact Tommy Suttle at tommy@wpchattiesburg.com. Brett Harries from OLLIE will be our speaker.



PW Circles 1 & 2 meet Tuesday, September 12. **Circle 1** meets in the parlor at 9:30 a.m. and **Circle 2** meets at 7 p.m. in the generation room. **Circle 3** will meet following supper on Wednesday.

Boswell Choir will be performing this coming **Wednesday night**. Please join us at 5:30 in the sanctuary for the concert. Pizza and salad will be served at 6:15. Please fill out a reservation slip and place in offering plate.

Children's choir will rehearse after supper. **Circle 3** will meet after supper. **Chancel Choir** rehearses at 7 p.m.



The **PW Fall Cluster Gathering** at First Trinity in Laurel will be Saturday, Sept. 16th. Please let Mary Dayne know if you plan to attend. There will be a carpool leaving the church at 9:15 a.m.



Join us on Saturday, Sept. 16, at 9 a.m. for the monthly **Men's Breakfast** in Montague Hall. Chad Edmondson, investment manager and Westminster member, will discuss "Turning Capital Into Income." Please bring food for the animal shelter.

Annual Budget Amount	Giving Year to Date	Budget Year to Date	Previous Week's Giving
\$456,500.00	\$266,540.99	\$308,137.53	\$7,851.00

At 9:15 on Sunday, September 24, the WPC Presbyterian Women will host a **church-wide breakfast** in Montague Hall. After breakfast, the young children will be dismissed to attend their Sunday School classes. The Youth and adults will remain in Montague Hall for a brief presentation about the Thank Offering. PW would like to encourage everyone to attend.

Westminster's Presbyterian Women have purchased a **new flower arrangement for the sanctuary**. The arrangement is dedicated the glory of God and celebrates the Cloud of Witnesses who have helped shape our faith. Many thanks to Margaret Brooks, who selected and arranged the flowers.

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 2017

Mac Forsyth
Jeff Haydel
Karen Reidenbach

Class of 2018

Gene Owens
Michael Raggio
Robin Roberts

Class of 2019

Althea Jerome
J. T. Johnson
Cindy Nobles

THE TRUSTEES

Franklin Bryant Gene Fair Wally Gregg

THE DEACONS

Class of 2017

Dan Davis
Lisa Forsyth
Larry Royals
Dudley Westbrook

Class of 2018

Shane Brooks
Kathy Cain
Howard Keever
Beth Richmond

Class of 2019

David Daves
Janeil Harris
Butch Nobles
Susan Turner
Youth Representative
Drew Suttle

CHURCH STAFF

Mike Anderson, Interim Pastor
Martha Davis, Church Administrator
Connie Roberts, Chancel Choir Director
Amy Ruff, Children/Youth/College Ministry
Jenny Maul, Children's Music Director

Tommy Suttle, Director of Discipleship
Sinclair Lundy, Financial Secretary
Randall Harris, Organist
Wes Brooks, Communications
Ray Robinson, Sexton