



# 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

Twenty-Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

September 17, 2017

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – *Voluntary in C* Purcell

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

Lord, open my ears to hear your good news and my heart to receive with joy the salvation wrought for me by your holy blood. In Jesus' name. Amen

Chiming of the Hour

Greeting and Announcements Wilson Ruff

Call to Worship – (*responsive*) Psalm 146

Praise the Lord, my soul.

**I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save.**

Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God. He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them — he remains faithful forever.

**He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free; the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.**

The Lord reigns forever. Amen.

\* Hymn of Praise 716 – *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

\* Call to Confession

\* Prayer of Confession (*unison*) *The Leonine Sacramentary*

**Look mercifully, O Lord, we beseech you, on the affliction of your people, and let not our sins prevail to destroy us, but rather your abundant mercy to save us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

(Time for Silent Confession) Amen.

\* Assurance of Pardon

\* The Congregation's Response: *Gloria Patri* Hymn 581

## PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Time with Children

Katie Ginn

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson – Luke 16:10-13

pew Bible pg. 851

The Word of the LORD.

**Thanks be to God!**

Anthem – *Sometimes a Light Surprises*

Craig Courtney

Pam Love, solo

Sometimes a light surprises the Christian while she sings.  
It is the Lord who rises, with healing in his wings.  
When comforts are declining He grants the soul again  
A season of clear shining, to cheer it after rain.

In lowly contemplation we sweetly then pursue  
The theme of God's salvation, and find it ever new.  
Set free from present sorrow, we cheerfully can say  
Let the unknown tomorrow bring with it what it may.

It can bring with it nothing but He will bear us through.  
Who gives the lilies clothing will clothe His people too.  
Beneath the spreading heavens no creature but is fed;  
And He that feeds the ravens will give His children bread.

Though vine nor fig tree neither their wanted fruit shall bear  
Though all the fields shall wither, nor flocks nor herds be there  
Yet God the same abiding, His praise shall lift my voice;  
For while in Him confiding, I cannot but rejoice!

Sermon – *Faithfulness is Everything*

Rev. Dr. Mike Anderson

## GIVE THANKS TO GOD

\* Affirmation of Faith: *(responsive)*

The Heidelberg Catechism

What do you believe when you say: "I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth"?

**That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth with all that is in them, who also upholds and governs them by his eternal counsel and providence, is for the sake of Christ his Son my God and my Father. I trust in him so completely that I have no doubt that he will provide me with all things necessary for body and soul.**

**Moreover, whatever evil he sends upon me in this troubled life he will turn to my good, for he is able to do it, being almighty God, and is determined to do it, being a faithful Father.**

- \* Hymn of Thanksgiving 39 – *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

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 – *Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts*

Whitworth

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

### **GO IN GOD'S NAME**

- \* Hymn of Consecration 546 – *Lord Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*
- \* Charge and Benediction
- \* Postlude – *Recessional on HYMN TO JOY*

Barr



\* Please stand at the \* as you are able. Unison readings are **printed in bold**. Also, please take your bulletin and papers home or place them in the recycling basket in the narthex.



## **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, 4<sup>th</sup> 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*

*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*

*William Pollacci, 2 month old having heart surgery on Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>,*

*nephew of a coworker of Alicia Westbrook*

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

*Jerry Spann, friend of Ruthie Davis – cancer surgery*

*Margaret Suttle – recovering at home*

*Jay Wellons, son-in-law of Gene and Fluffy Fair, tumor*

## **PRAYERS OF COMFORT**

*For the people affected by Hurricanes Irma and Harvey*

### **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance**

1st Thessalonians 5:17 encourages us to pray continually. Following a disaster, our best response is first to seek God's presence on behalf of those in need.

PDA continues to be in touch with presbytery leadership in New Covenant, Mission, and South Louisiana Presbyteries. National Response Teams are being deployed into the affected regions when it is safe to do so.

PDA is also in touch with the Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network (FLAPDAN), which is a mutually agreed upon partnership between six presbyteries in Florida. This is a unique platform in which PDA can relate to all six presbyteries at once for disaster situational awareness.

**The needs for the response are great. God's people are once again called to stand in the "GAP" – Give, Act, Pray.**

**How to give.** Make checks payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church. Put on memo line hurricane disaster relief. We will be sure to get your contribution to the right place.

Our Presbytery has a new website. It is [www.pbyofms.org](http://www.pbyofms.org)



# 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 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 5.

All **Men of the Church** are invited to meet Thursday, Sept. 21, at 6:30 a.m. at Shoney's.

**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](mailto:tommy@wpchattiesburg.com). Brett Harris from OLLIE will be our speaker.

**PW Prayer Ministry** will meet Tuesday at 11 a.m. in the Generation room.

## Wednesday Night Dinner

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—sirloin tip roast, mashed potatoes and gravy, butter beans, biscuits, and dessert

Children—chicken nuggets and mac and cheese

**After supper Mike will present:** Richard Foster's *Streams of Living Water*. Foster examines the "streams of living water" — the six dimensions of faith and practice that define Christian tradition. He lifts up the enduring character of each tradition and shows how a variety of practices, from individual study and retreat to disciplines of service and community, are all essential elements of growth and maturity. Foster examines the unique contributions of each of these traditions and offers as examples the inspiring stories of faithful people whose lives defined each of these "streams."

**Chancel Choir** will meet at 7.

Annual Budget Amount	Giving Year to Date	Budget Year to Date	Previous Week's Giving
\$456,500.00	\$278,619.44	\$317,013.92	\$12,078.45

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 to 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.

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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 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