

Sixth Sunday of Easter
Holy Baptism
May 10, 2026

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. Acts 17:22

Worship on the
Lord's Day

Worship begins as the people gather - greeting one another, praying in silence, or offering music to the glory of God. The act of assembling in Jesus' name bears witness to the Church's identity and mission as Christ's body in the world.

About the Prelude

The Prelude is a musical offering to help move the hearts and minds of the gathering community from the daily struggles of life to the worship of God.

GATHERING

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God!

(Those who are able may stand.)

Bless our God, O peoples;
let the sound of praise be heard!
God has kept us among the living
and has not let our feet slip.
**We went through fire and through water,
yet God has brought us out to a spacious place.**

Come and hear what God has done for us,
all who fear God.
**Surely God has listened to us
and heard our prayers!
Blessed be God, who is steadfast love.**

PRELUDE

All Glory Be to God on High, BWV 711

J.S. Bach

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

**Faithful God,
through all the ages, you have kept your promises.
You have freed us
from the powers of scarcity and death
for abundant new life.
Stay with us as we wait and watch for your Spirit
with excitement and hope,
that we may experience your love
and share it with our lives,
in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*(The Cross and Bible lead the procession, symbolic of the centrality
in worship of Jesus Christ - the Living Word,
and the Bible - the written Word.)*

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ST. DENIO

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

CALL TO CONFESSION

If we say we have no sin,
we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins,
God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:8-9)

In humility and faith, let us confess our sin to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God,
in whom we live and move and have our being,
whose face is hidden from us by our sins,
and whose mercy we forget
in the blindness of our hearts:
Cleanse us from all our offenses,
and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires,
that with reverent and humble hearts
we may draw near to you,
confessing our faults, confiding in your grace,
and finding in you our refuge and strength;
through Jesus Christ your Son.

(Silent confession)

Kyrie

James MacMillan

About the Kyrie

The Kyrie (Greek "kyrios" [Lord]) is a corporate musical prayer for grace.

(Organ introduction) **4** 1st-Choir/2nd-Congregation

Lord, have mer-cy, Lord, have
mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy, Christ, have
mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy, Lord, have mer-cy.

Assurance of Pardon

A declaration of forgiveness proclaims the good news of God’s mercy and offers the assurance of pardon in Jesus’ name. The liturgist pours water into the font, which reminds us of the grace and cleansing of our Baptism, and the baptismal call to new life in Christ.

Act of Praise

The Act of Praise brings together the choir and congregation to sing God’s praise in response to the Assurance of Pardon as the last phrase.

Prayer for Illumination

A Prayer for Illumination calls on the Holy Spirit to empower the reading, understanding, proclaiming, and living of God’s word. This sense of utter reliance on the illumination of the Spirit is an important and distinctive mark of the Reformed tradition.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the Good News: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

***The Peace**

Since God in Christ has forgiven us,
let us also forgive one another.
The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*(Please exchange the peace with the words,
“The peace of Christ be with you.”)*

***ACT OF PRAISE**

John Weaver

Glory to God in the Highest

**(Please refer to the inside back cover of your hymnal
for music for this hymn.)**

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace
to God’s people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship You, we give You thanks,
we praise You for Your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,**

**You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Hear the Word of God! **Our ears are open.**

John 14:15-21

(New Testament, page 109 in your pew Bible)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Make a Joyful Noise to God! 54

(Psalm 66)

1 Make a joy - ful noise to God! All cre - a - tion sings your praise!
 2 Come and see what God has done, great the bless - ings to the just:
 3 Bless the Lord, our ref - uge sure; let our songs of praise be heard!

Great your won - ders here dis - played, un - ex - celled through - out our days.
 walked the cho - sen through the sea, brought their en - e - mies to dust.
 By whose jus - tice, we are tried; by whose grace, our guilt de - ferred.

Glo - rious is your sa - cred name, a - ges old, yet still the same.
 Let us lift a thank - ful voice for God's mer - cies, and re - joice!
 When our life's sure end shall come, bring us to your heav - en - ly home.

This paraphrase of Psalm 66 maintains a corporate tone more suitable for congregational singing than does the original psalm, which moves to a personal narrative in its latter part. The reference to "all creation" is strengthened by the associations of the tune (see no. 14).

All Sing

Hear the Word of God! **Our ears are open.**

Acts 17:22-31

(New Testament, page 137 in your pew Bible)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

Donovan Drake

"Ignorance is Over"

(A moment for meditation)

***HYMN 485**

ENGELBERG

We Know That Christ Is Raised

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Presentation

Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ...

**Obeying the word of our Lord Jesus,
and confident of his promises,
we baptize those whom God has called.**

**In baptism God claims us and seals us
to show that we belong to God.
God frees us from sin and death,
uniting us with Jesus Christ
in his death and resurrection.
By water and the Holy Spirit,
we are made members of the Church,
the body of Christ,
and joined to Christ's ministry
of love, peace, and justice.
Let us remember with joy our own baptism,
as we celebrate this sacrament.**

Questions to the Parents, Congregation, and Children of the Church

***Profession of Faith**

Through baptism we enter the covenant...
With the whole Church, let us confess our faith.



The sacrament of baptism will be administered today at the 8:30 AM worship service to:

Lane Ford Lancaster

son of Billie and Boone Lancaster



The sacrament of baptism will be administered today at the 11:00 AM worship service to:

Isobel Jesse Coleman

daughter of Emily and Tyler Coleman

Mercer James Marrow-Wilsey

son of Amber Marrow-Jones and Mackenzie Wilsey

We Know That Christ Is Raised 485

Capo 3: (D) (Asus) (A) (A/G) (D/F#)
 F Csus C C/B^b F/A

1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
 4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows

(D) (A) (D) (E7) (A)
 F C F G7 C

Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold,
 Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life
 The Spir - it's pow - er shakes the church of God.
 as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.

(Am) (D) (G) (Em) (Bm)
 Cm F B^b Gm Dm

and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
 as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.
 Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One.
 The u - ni - verse, re - stored and whole, will sing:

1-3	4
(Em) (D) (Asus) (A) (Em) (D)	
Gm F Csus C Gm F	

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Beginning with an allusion to Romans 6:9, this exuberant baptismal hymn unfolds the implications of our incorporation into Christ's new life, making us "a new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:17). The text was written to fit this expansive tune by a distinguished British composer.

TEXT: John Brownlow Geyer, 1967, alt.
 MUSIC: Charles Villiers Stanford, 1904
 Text © 1972 John Brownlow Geyer

ENGELBERG
 10.10.10.4
 (this tune in a higher key, 641)

The Baptismal Rite

The Apostles' Creed: The oldest surviving baptismal liturgy, dating from around the year 200 C.E., describes the candidate for baptism standing in water and affirming the faith by responding to three questions. Each question corresponds to one person of the Trinity. The Paschal Candle is symbolic of Christ's death and resurrection. The Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, is our Paschal sacrifice. The Paschal Candle also symbolizes the light of the risen Christ, shining in the world. The use of this symbol dates from the early days of the Church. New Christians were given a lighted candle, symbolic of their having died and been raised to new life in Christ through baptism.

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven;
he is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eternal and gracious God...lives and reigns forever. Amen.

The Baptism

Welcome

Let us welcome these newly baptized into the household of God.

**With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's
Church to share with us in his ministry, for we are all one
in Christ.**

With This Water

With this water begins the journey;
With this water forever claimed.
With this water the Lord now leads you.
With this water forever changed.

With these vows your loved ones name you.
With these vows your family grows.
With these vows this congregation
Now surrounds you, God's love to show.

With this water we celebrate now.
With this water let us recall
The baptism of our Savior,
Who laid down His life for all.

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING
Anthem

Philip Wilby

If Ye Love Me

If ye love me, keep my commandments,
And I will pray the Father,
And he shall give you another comforter,
That he may abide with you for ever:
E'en the Spirit, the Spirit of Truth.

And ye know him,
for he dwelleth with you,
And shall be in you.
I will not leave you comfortless.
I will come to you.

*DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Offering

The collection of tithes and offerings takes place as a response to the Word. These actions are signs of our gratitude for the grace of God proclaimed in the gospel.

To give, please scan the QR code below:



Doxology

A short hymn of praise to the triune God (God, Jesus Christ, Holy Spirit).

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eternal one,
Give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts
we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips but in our lives,
by giving up ourselves to your service, Amen

***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.

SENDING

***HYMN 318**

In Christ There Is No East or West

ST. PETER

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Prelude and Fugue in G Major, BWV 557

J.S. Bach

**(Those who are able may stand.)*

About the Postlude

The Postlude is
considered the final
Alleluia of worship.

In Christ There Is No East or West 318

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in
 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their
 3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what -
 4 In Christ now meet both east and west; in

him no south or north, but one great fel - low -
 high com - mu - nion find; his ser - vice is the
 e'er your race may be. All chil - dren of the
 him meet south and north. All Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
 gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
 liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.
 one in him through - out the whole wide earth.

This text formed a very small part of an elaborate Christian missionary pageant in the early 20th century, yet it has endured while the grander aspects of that production have faded away. It is set to a simple 19th-century tune that does not get in the way of its message.

Today @ Westminster

Worship Leaders

Preaching

Rev. Dr. Donovan Drake
Head of Staff

Liturgist

Rev. Stephanie Boaz
Associate Pastor for Congregational Care

Lay Liturgists

8:30 AM Suzie Lane
11:00 AM Mike Russell

Presenting Elder

8:30 AM Rachel Hosé
11:00 AM Jamie Capps

Music

Westminster Choir

John Semingson
Director of Music Ministries

Stephen Z. Cook
Organist

Flower Dedication

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Cherrie Forte Farnette by Jennifer, Giles, Henry, and Sarah Jean Caver.

Red Rose

The red rose in the Chancel gives glory and thanksgiving to God for the birth of a daughter, Frances Louise Tiesler, on April 22, 2026, to Julianna and Daniel. William is a welcoming big brother.

Hearing Assistance

We offer two options to assist with hearing during services. 1.) Download the Sennheiser MobileConnect app. 2.) Personal FM receivers with an earpiece. Receivers and instructions for both options are located in the Narthex and on the Welsh Dresser in the Parlor. Please see an Usher if you need assistance.

Large Print Hymns

Looking for large-print hymns? They can be found in the Narthex at the Sanctuary entrance or in the Parlor on the Welsh dresser.

Recorded Worship Services

To watch a service at a later time, go to www.nashvillewpc.church and scroll down to the Worship Service Archive. Click on the service you would like to view.

Dial-a-Sermon

Dial 629.206.1073 after 10:15 AM each Sunday morning to listen to the sermon. The sermon will be available all week.

Childcare

Childcare is available on Sundays from 8:15 AM to 12:00 PM.

Nursery - Room 146

Toddlers - Room 152

2s and 3s - Room 151

Copyright Information

The music used in the service this morning is copyrighted under Christian Copyright Licensing International, Inc., No. 1121525.

Our Mission

Ordinary people testifying to the extraordinary light found in our Lord Jesus Christ.

"For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us."

(2 Corinthians 4:6-7)



TODAY @ WESTMINSTER



**LIVING
OUT THE
WORD**

LOVE
RECONCILE
SHINE
TRANSFORM

"Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.'"

Acts 17:22-23

Why do you suppose this is a common phrase today is "I'm spiritual but not religious."

Where do gods show up in our lives and in the church?

How would you persuade someone into worshipping our Lord?

Welcome

Westminster Presbyterian Church welcomes you to share our common journey to become more faithful disciples of Christ. If you are interested in joining us in this journey, you are invited to contact Stephanie Boaz, sboaz@nashvillewpc.org.

Are you up-to-date on all the WPC news?

We send emails out to the congregation and community three plus times a week. On Monday, we send an email about our mission work. On Wednesdays, we send info about all the events we have going on throughout the month. On Fridays, the Sunday info is included in the email. We also have emails from our Children's, Youth and Young Families ministries.

Please scan the QR code to sign up for the emails you would like to receive.



Baptisms

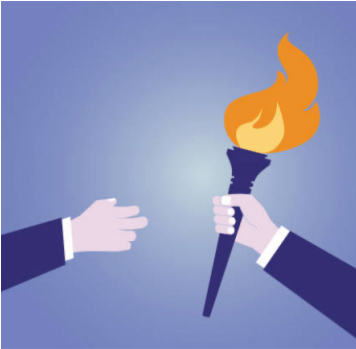
Baptism Sunday is the second and fifth Sundays of each month except during Lent.

If you would like more information about baptisms at Westminster, please contact Sophie Maness, 615.292.5526, smaness@nashvillewpc.org.

If you would like to schedule a baptism, please contact Hannah Boles, 615.292.5526, hboles@nashvillewpc.org.



TODAY @ WESTMINSTER



Pastoral Transition

As we begin the search for our next pastor, we invite you to join the conversation. On June 7 at 9:45am in the Fellowship Hall, the Transition Committee will host an informational session to share updates on the pastoral search process, including the projected timeline and the ways Westminster's legacy and core values, as reflected in our Vision Statement, will guide the journey ahead. Dr. Bill Wilson of the Center for Healthy Churches will speak on his experience helping congregations navigate pastoral transitions and answer questions on how he will support

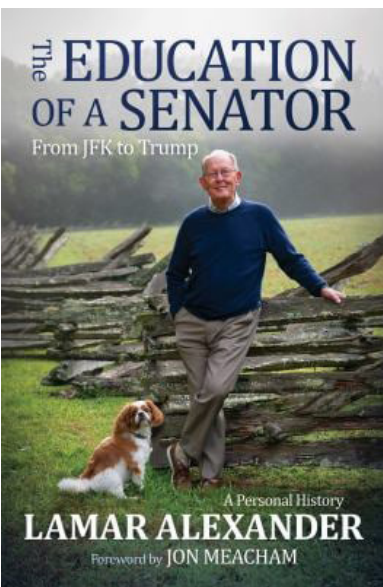
Westminster during this pivotal time. Rest assured, this process will be grounded in prayer, thoughtful discernment, and a commitment to hearing the voices of our congregation as we look toward the future together.



Transition Transparency

Newly-ordained Elder Beville Dunkerley has been appointed Communications Coordinator for the Transition and Pastor Nominating Committees. She will keep the entire congregation informed through every critical stage of the search for our next pastor. Look for monthly email updates, as well as information shared on our website, social media channels and Sunday bulletins. Numerous opportunities and outlets will be provided for

you to voice opinions, questions and concerns as we move through this process together. Beville can be reached at bevilledarden@gmail.com.



Join us for a conversation with Lamar Alexander. Led by Turney Stevens.

His new book is a behind-the-scenes story of the last sixty years of American politics, told with purpose and humor by a political legend who worked with ten presidents, made deals with both Obama and Trump, and believes that serving in public office is the best way to help the largest number of people and to keep our Republic from falling apart.

**May 31
9:45 AM | Fellowship Hall**

Everyone welcome.
Copies of his book will be available.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Financials

Each month, the Finance Committee provides a summary of the church operating income and expenses.

If any members wish to have more information about church finances, please contact:

Mike Koban, Finance Committee Chair
mkoban@prodigy.net

Suzanne McLemore, Treasurer
suzannegm58@gmail.com

Jo Ann McFarlin, Administrator
jmcfarlin@nashvillewpc.org or
615.292.5526 x231.

April 2026

Year to Date

Income: \$1,599,372

Expense: 1,394,649

Net Income (loss):

\$ 204,723



MISSION OPPORTUNITIES



The picture above shows the gifts from Westminster/JiL last summer. We are thrilled they are able to have the transportation to be with us again in person this summer! It has been a long time since they have been able to come to Westminster.

Monday-Thursday - June 15-18
Help Make Our Refugee Neighbors' Summer Extra Special!
9:00 AM - Noon

A request from Nations Ministry: Provide activities such as pom-poms, knitting, oil painting, punch needling, marbleizing, canvas painting, pottery, collage, basket weaving, wood projects, hot pads, etc— for 45 middle schoolers? 4 groups of 10-11

Each group would have 1-2 Joy in Learning leaders and 1 NM staff person.

Leaders: Plan just ONE 2-hour activity you can repeat for all 4 groups.

Let us know if you can help with this request! Scan the QR code.





TODAY @ WESTMINSTER

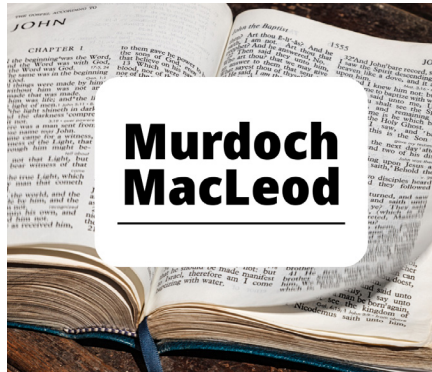
Adult Education Classes start at 9:45 AM



Covenant Class • Fellowship Hall

What does DoubleMint gum, the Panera in Knoxville, TN, and a hospital emergency room have in common? They all helped Sarah Bird Kneff discern her call to ministry and eventually led her to us to serve as Associate Pastor of Adult Faith Formation at WPC.

Join us in the Fellowship Hall this Sunday as we get to know Sarah a little better and hear about her journey of faith.



Murdoch MacLeod • Library

We will discuss this week's gospel lesson.

For more info, please contact Paul DeWitt, pdewitt@comcast.net.



Journeys

Please join us in Covenant Class this Sunday.

For more info, please contact Krissie Self, krissiebsself@gmail.com.



KOINONIA YOUTH MINISTRY



YOUTH TEAM

Adam DeVries
Parish Associate
for Youth
adevries@
nashvillewpc.org

Hannah Norris
Youth & Missions
Program Coordinator
hnorris@
nashvillewpc.org

Jessie King
Youth & Pastoral
Care Fellow
jking@
nashvillewpc.org

Julius Hooper
MLC Youth Ministry
Resident
WPKKoinonia
staff@gmail.com

Nathan Scott
Youth Ministry
Intern
WPKKoinonia
staff@gmail.com



9:45 AM •
Sunday School •
Koinonia Youth Café

Mother's Day Gifts: Join us to get all your Mother's Day needs: a latte for your mom, a handcrafted by you bouquet, a homemade card.
Bring your mom for photos!



7:00 PM • Tuesdays
Open Gym

Join the Youth staff every Tuesday evening for a little basketball fun.



July 19 - 25, 2026
Montreat Youth Conference

Montreat Youth Conference affirms youth in their calling to be and to shape the church of Jesus Christ.

Please contact Hannah Norris, hnorris@nashvillewpc.org, for more info.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

8:30 & 11:00 AM • Worship Services

9:45 AM • Sunday School

Children and Worship

Childcare is available for children who are infants through kindergarten during both services. While childcare is available, children are always welcome in worship. There are quiet toys and worship bags for children. They may be found in baskets in the Parlor and in the back of the Sanctuary. The bags have plain paper, crayons, a pencil and a children's bulletin.

2s are in room 149

3s are in room 161

4s are in room 163

Godly Play/Kindergarten in 183

4th & 5th Grade in room 292

1st - 3rd Chapel first and then will be picked up in rooms.



Living Out *the* Word

Today is baptism Sunday and we have babies getting baptized.

God's promise to always love us is the BIGGEST promise of baptism.

How BIG do you think God's love is? Can you draw how big God's love is?

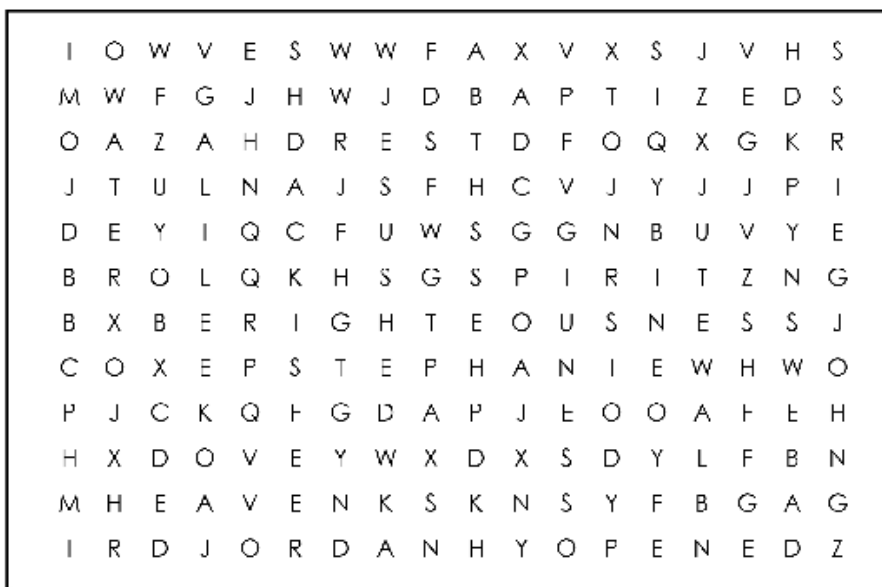
When have you felt loved in a really big way?

The Baptism of Jesus

Word Search

See if you can find these words in the puzzle on the left.

- BAPTIZED
- DOVE
- GALILEE
- HEAVEN
- JESUS
- JOHN
- JORDAN
- OPENED
- RIGHTEOUSNESS
- SPIRIT
- WATER





MUSIC MINISTRY

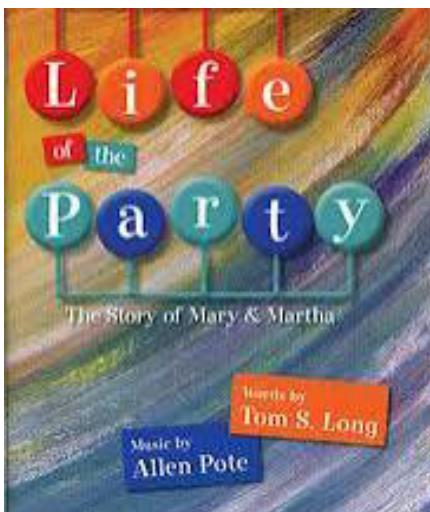


Sunday Rehearsals

Children, Youth & Intergenerational Choirs

4:00 PM Rehearsals
Tinnabulation Handbell Choir

5:00 PM Rehearsals
Laudate Choir



Music Camp 2026 - Rehearsals Continue Sunday

This year, the children will present *Life of the Party*. This musical for young voices from the writing team of Allen Pote and Tom Long is a humorous telling of the stories of Mary & Martha. Family conflict, making time for Jesus in the midst of hectic lives, and trusting God when things get tough are the themes that are addressed. Not too late to sign up. All children, rising grades 1st-7th, are welcome, even if they are not currently involved in Children's Choir.





ANNOUNCEMENTS



May 26

Westminster Book Group

9:30 AM • Fellowship

10:00 PM • Presentation

Goodpasture Hall

The Berry Pickers by Amanda Peters. It was a midsummer day when Joe and his family arrived in Maine to pick blueberries for the summer season. Joe's family were Mik'maq, or indigenous people from Nova Scotia. A few weeks into the picking, Joe and Ruthie, his sister, were playing on their favorite rock when Joe suddenly he could not find Ruthie. She seemed to have disappeared without warning.

Join us and find out the twist in the story line.

Monday, May 11

Women's Covenant Group

at the home of Harriet Sewell

11:30 AM

For our program, we will share book recommendations. Everyone is invited to suggest a couple of books that they have read and highly recommend to others.

Contact Suzanne Allen or Frances Baird for info.

June 4 - Aug 13
Summer Book Study
9:30 AM
Overlook Room

Join us this summer as we get to know the writing of Frederick Buechner, a prolific author and Presbyterian minister.

We will read two of his books:

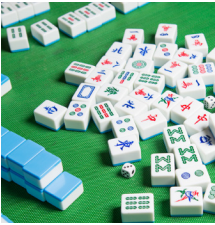
Sacred Journey is a compelling memoir wherein Buechner describes his life growing up as he wrestles with loss, identity and faith. More than a traditional conversion story, this book invites readers to "listen to their lives" and discover the sacred within their own stories.

Telling the Truth: The Gospel and Tragedy, Comedy, and Fairy Tale presents Buechner's vision of the gospel as tragedy that confronts sin, comedy that proclaims grace, and fairy tale that awakens wonder at God's redeeming truth. He writes with both challenge and whimsy about the central, transformative story of redemption through Christ.

Reach out to Sarah Bird Kneff for more information skneff@nashvillewpc.org.



JOY IN LEARNING/CAFÉ



Join us for fun, food and fellowship in the Westminster Café or in a Joy in Learning Class. Please scan the QR code, where appropriate, for more info and to register.

OnGoing Events

Wednesdays

• **Watercolor Painting** | 10:00 AM - Noon | Westminster Café
Learn from each other. Come and go activity.



Thursdays

• **Fill My Cup** | Westminster Café
8:15 AM Meet and Greet | 8:30 AM Coffee/tea and percolating conversation
Come when you can. No sign ups necessary. Join other women in the Café to fill your spiritual cup. We will revisit the previous Sunday's scriptures.

Tuesdays

May 12, 19, 26

Hand-Building Open Studio for Experienced Potters

5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

\$50.00 for 4 days (includes all supplies)



Wednesday & Thursday

May 13 & 14

Stuffing Flyers, Adding Labels and Stamps

9:00 - 10:30 AM

Interested in stuffing flyers and adding address labels and stamps? We have the place for YOU! Email Beth, beth@westminsterjoy.org, if you can join the fun!

Fridays

May 15, 22, 29 & June 5, 12, 19

Ikebana Containers

9:15 - 11:45 AM

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

\$60.00 for all days, including supplies



Wednesdays

June 3, 10, 17, 24

Open Studio - Pottery Throwing

4:30 - 7:00 PM

\$50 for a 4 week session. All supplies, including clay and glazes, are provided. These Open Studio times do not have a designated teacher, so we learn from each other!



MINISTRY TEAM



Donovan Drake
Pastor
ddrake@nashvillewpc.org



Will Wellman
Director of Theology and
Community Initiatives
wwellman@nashvillewpc.org



Sophie Maness
Ex Director of Children's &
Community Life Ministries
smaness@nashvillewpc.org



Stephanie Boaz
Associate Pastor for
Congregational Care
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Ashley Higgins
Associate Pastor
for Young Families
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John Semingson
Director of Music Ministries
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Guy D. Griffith
Associate Pastor for
Pastoral Care and Teaching
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Adam DeVries
Parish Associate for Youth
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Stephen Z. Cook
Organist



Sarah Bird Kneff
Associate Pastor for
Adult Faith Formation
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Hannah Norris
Youth & Missions Program
Coordinator
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MAY 24: HERITAGE SUNDAY

Remembering Witherspoon



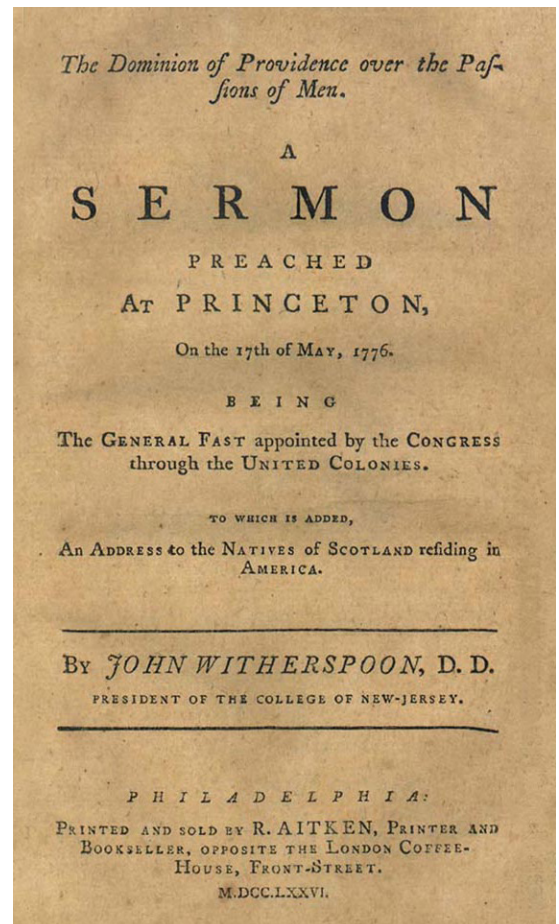
John Witherspoon was many things: the only active clergyman to sign the Declaration of Independence, the leading Presbyterian of the Revolutionary era, a Scottish immigrant, president of the College of New Jersey (now Princeton University), an active politician, and a slaveholder.

Born in Scotland in 1723, Witherspoon was 45 years old when two Americans—Benjamin Rush and Richard Stockton—persuaded him to emigrate to America to head the College of New Jersey. By most accounts, he was an excellent choice. Witherspoon built a reputation as a dynamic preacher, an engaged teacher, and a colonial leader—not just in Presbyterian, religious, and educational circles but increasingly in politics as well.

In May 1776, Witherspoon preached a sermon titled “The Dominion of Providence over the Passions of Men,” making a strong case that God sided with the patriots because their cause was just. The sermon became one of the most well-known and influential of the Revolution.

1776 was just the beginning of Witherspoon’s prominence. Over the next 15 years, he continued to lead as a Presbyterian, an educator, and an American patriot. And, like many other Founding Fathers, he was also an enslaver. While some compatriots like Benjamin Rush argued openly for abolishing slavery, Witherspoon did not. Thus, we remember his many accomplishments but also recognize and reflect on how his leadership limited opportunities for enslaved people in America and others who had little access to church structures, educational institutions, or the politics of the new nation.

Heritage Sunday is a day set aside by the General Assembly of the PC(USA). To learn more about John Witherspoon and the history of Presbyterianism in America visit: pcusa.org/phs/hs



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