

Welcome to
**Westminster
Presbyterian Church**

Sunday, April 12, 2026 † 10:55 AM



3601 Halls Ferry Road Vicksburg, Mississippi

wpcvicksburg.com

Pastor Nathaniel Stamper

Bold indicates the congregation reads aloud

***Indicates those able may stand**

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord Calls Us

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 49:15–16, 18

Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you.

Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are continually before me.

Lift up your eyes around and see; they all gather, they come to you.

As I live, declares the LORD, you shall put them all on as an ornament; you shall bind them on as a bride does.

*INVOCATION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

...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.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

“How Great Thou Art”

1. O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der
2. When thro' the woods and for - est glades I wan - der
3. And when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing,
4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion

con - sid - er all the worlds thy hands have made,
and hear the birds sing sweet - ly in the trees,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It features a vocal line in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. The lyrics are aligned with the notes, with some words appearing in bold. The score includes a repeat sign at the end of the first line of music.

I see the stars, I hear the roll - ing thun - der,
 when I look down from loft - y moun - tain gran - deur,
 that on the cross, my bur - den glad - ly bear - ing,
 Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o - ra - tion,

thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played.
 and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
 he bled and died to take a - way my sin.
 and there pro - claim, my God, how great thou art.

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee:
 how great thou art, how great thou art!

Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee:
 how great thou art, how great thou art!

The Words of Our Lord Jesus Christ:

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.

And a second is like it:

You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

The Lord Cleanses Us

CONFESSION OF SIN

Book of Common Prayer (1552)

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done, and there is no health in us. But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are repentant, according to your promises declared to mankind, in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

1 John 1:8–10

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

“The Gloria Patri”

#735

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.

The Lord Feeds Us

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY

“Wonderful, Merciful Savior”

C F/C C C/E F Gsus G

1. Won-der-ful, mer-ci-ful Sav-ior, pre-cious Re-deem-er and Friend;
 2. Coun-se-lor, Com-fort-er, Keep-er, Spir-it we long to em-brace;
 3. Al-might-y, in-fi-nite Fa-ther, faith-ful-ly lov-ing your own;

Am Am/G F C/E Gsus Am

who would have thought that a Lamb could res-cue the souls of men?
 you of-fer hope when our hearts have hope-less-ly lost the way;
 here in our weak-ness you find us fall-ing be-fore your throne;

F C/G Gsus C Am Am/G F E

Oh, you res-cue the souls of men.
 oh, we've hope-less-ly lost the way. You are the One that we praise,
 oh, we're fall-ing be-fore your throne.

Am Am/G F G Am Am/G F

you are the One we a-dore. You give the heal-ing and grace our

C/E Gsus Am F C/G Gsus C

hearts al-ways hun-ger for; oh, our hearts al-ways hun-ger for.

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.

PASTORAL PRAYER

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”

1. Sa - vior, like a shep-herd lead us, much we need thy ten-der care;
2. We are thine; do thou be - friend us, be the guar - dian of our way;
3. Thou hast prom - ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful tho' we be;
4. Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly let us do thy will;

in thy pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use thy folds pre - pare.
keep thy flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
thou hast mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse and pow'r to free.
bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with thy love our bos - oms fill.

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast bought us, thine we are;
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear, O hear us when we pray;
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, let us ear - ly turn to thee;
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast loved us, love us still;

bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast bought us, thine we are.
bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear, O hear us when we pray.
bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, let us ear - ly turn to thee.
bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast loved us, love us still.

¹Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James,

To those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ:

²May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

³Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints. ⁴For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

⁵Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. ⁶And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day— ⁷just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.

⁸Yet in like manner these people also, relying on their dreams, defile the flesh, reject authority, and blaspheme the glorious ones. ⁹But when the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, was disputing about the body of Moses, he did not presume to pronounce a blasphemous judgment, but said, “The Lord rebuke you.” ¹⁰But these people blaspheme all that they do not understand, and they are destroyed by all that they, like unreasoning animals, understand instinctively. ¹¹Woe to them! For they walked in the way of Cain and abandoned themselves for the sake of gain to Balaam’s error and perished in Korah’s rebellion. ¹²These are hidden reefs at your love feasts, as they feast with you without fear, shepherds feeding themselves; waterless clouds, swept along by winds; fruitless trees in late autumn, twice dead, uprooted; ¹³wild waves of the sea, casting up the foam of their own shame; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved forever.

¹⁴It was also about these that Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied, saying, “Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of his holy ones, ¹⁵to execute judgment on all and to convict all the ungodly of all their deeds of ungodliness that they have committed in such an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things that ungodly sinners have spoken against him.” ¹⁶These are grumblers, malcontents, following their own sinful desires; they are loud-mouthed boasters, showing favoritism to gain advantage.

¹⁷ But you must remember, beloved, the predictions of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ They said to you, “In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own ungodly passions.” ¹⁹ It is these who cause divisions, worldly people, devoid of the Spirit. ²⁰ But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹ keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. ²² And have mercy on those who doubt; ²³ save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

²⁴ Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, ²⁵ to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

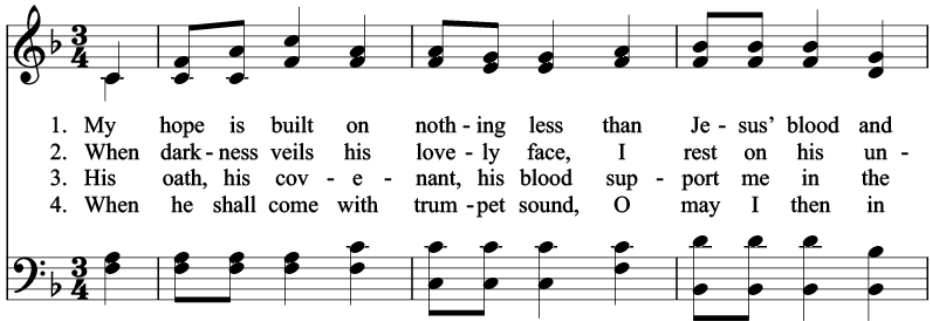
SERMON

“Contend For The Faith”

SERMON NOTES:

The Lord Sends Us

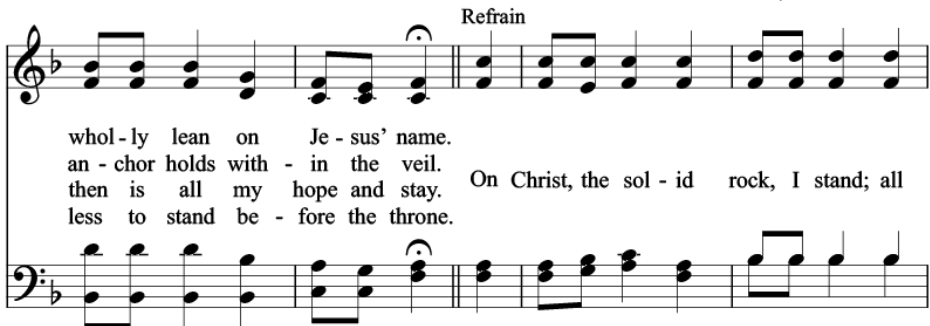
*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”



1. My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus' blood and
2. When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on his un -
3. His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sup - port me in the
4. When he shall come with trum - pet sound, O may I then in



righ - teous - ness; I dare not trust the sweet - est frame, but
chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and storm - y gale, my
whelm - ing flood; when all a - round my soul gives way, he
him be found, dressed in his righ - teous - ness a - lone, fault -



Refrain
whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all
then is all my hope and stay. less to stand be - fore the throne.



oth - er ground is sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

This morning we welcome Pastor Nathan Stevenson to the Westminster Pulpit. Nathan and Adrienne Stevenson have been married for 18 years and have two sons: Jaquan, 28, and Steven, 24. Nathan attended Mississippi College in Clinton, MS, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree with an emphasis in Pre-law and a Minor in Psychology.

At 24, in March 1994, Nathan was called to the ministry—a calling he has embraced with unwavering commitment. His service in the church has been marked by a diverse range of outreach and evangelistic efforts, including leading the weekly Elderly Convalescent Home Bible Study, serving as a Chaplain at the Raymond Detention Center in Raymond, MS, and as Chaplain of Piney Woods School of Life in Piney Woods, MS. Nathan’s dedication to his pastoral duties is evident in his nine-year tenure as a lead pastor.

May 2023 marked a significant milestone in his spiritual and educational journey when he graduated from Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, MS, with a Master of Divinity. Since then, he has transferred his licensure and ordination into the Mississippi Valley Presbytery, and is now embarking on a new chapter of his life as the church planter for the Old Canton Corridor in Jackson, MS.

His vision for this church is to be a thriving, reformed, multiethnic, and multicultural community that will extend hope and support to all who need God’s Word—thereby fulfilling God’s great commission to advance the kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven.

Announcements

Welcome to Westminster – The Westminster family extends a warm welcome to all who worship with us this morning. We pray that God’s rich blessings in Christ may be yours. Visitors, please complete the Guest Card which is found at the end of each pew. We are delighted to have you with us this Lord’s Day.

Please join us for Soups, Salads, Sandwiches, and Sweets Lunch today following the Morning Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall.

A donation for the diaconate fund will be received following the Morning Worship Service this morning. These funds are used for mercy ministries.

Join us for Wednesday at Westminster from 5:30-7:00 for dinner at 5:30, followed by children’s classes, youth group, and an adult study. Dinner is \$5/person (max of \$20/family) and can be paid by cash or check. The menu for this week is smothered chicken, squash dressing, roll, and dessert. Sign up for the meal on the bulletin board in the Education Wing or contact the church office by noon Tuesday.

Mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School! VBS will be June 29-July 2 from 9:00 AM-11:30 AM. Registration will begin at the end of May.

Online giving is available at www.wpcvicksburg.com by clicking on the Online Giving link.

Today and this week

Sun	9:45	Sunday School
	10:55	Morning Worship
	12:00	Soups, Salads, Sandwiches, & Sweets
Mon	6:30	Ping Pong
Wed	5:30	Wednesday at Westminster

Upcoming Events

Hannah Circle, May 7, 10:30 AM
VBS, June 29-July 2, 9:00-11:30 AM

Pray for those with birthdays: Nathan Karel, 15

Nursery Workers: Today – Macey Orman and Grace LaBarre
Next Week – Valerie Gatewood and Kelly Turner