

Welcome to

# Westminster Presbyterian Church

*Sunday, August 3, 2025 † 10:55 AM*



3601 Halls Ferry Road Vicksburg, Mississippi

[wpcvicksburg.com](http://wpcvicksburg.com)

Pastor Nathaniel Stamper

**Bold** indicates the congregation reads aloud

**\*Indicates those able may stand**

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**                      Psalm 145:1; Deuteronomy 32:3

I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

**For I will proclaim the name of the Lord; ascribe greatness to our God!**

**\*INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**                      "O Worship the King"                      #2

**CALL TO CONFESSION**                      Hebrews 10:19-22

Since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

## CONFESSION OF SIN

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**                      Isaiah 62:11-12

Behold, the Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to the daughter of Zion, "Behold, your salvation comes; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him." And they shall be called The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord; and you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.

**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.**

\*CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles’ Creed

**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<sup>1</sup> church; the communion of saints;**

**The forgiveness of sins;**

**The resurrection of the body;**

**And the life everlasting. Amen.**

<sup>1</sup> THE WORD “CATHOLIC” REFERS TO THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

“Doxology”

#731

**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

“Wonderful Merciful Savior”

Bulletin p.6

SCRIPTURE READING

Joshua 5:1-14

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Today, God Has Rolled the Reproach Away”

\*COMMUNION HYMN

“Behold the Lamb”(v.1-3)

Bulletin p.7

## INVITATION AND PRAYER

**We do not presume to come to your Table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness but in your great mercies. Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## SACRAMENT

## \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Everliving God, thank you for feeding us with these holy mysteries— the spiritual food of the Body and Blood of your Son. Heavenly Father, please assist us with your grace, that we may continue in holy fellowship with you, and do all such good works that you have prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

## \*COMMUNION HYMN

“Behold the Lamb”(v.4)

Bulletin p.7

## \*BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

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**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.

## Westminster Sermon Notes

*Joshua 5:1-14*- “Today, God Has Rolled the Reproach Away”

# Wonderful Merciful Savior

Words and Music by  
Dawn Rodgers and Eric Wyse

## VERSE

♩ = 110

C F/C C Dm/C C C/E F C/E Dm Gsus

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;

8 G E/G# Am Am/G F C/G G7sus E/G# 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.

## CHORUS

16 F F/A C/G Fmaj7/G G7 F/C G/C C G/B Am Am/G F G E/G#

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

25 Am Am/G F G E/G# Am C/G F C/G

You are the One we a - dore. You give the heal - ing and grace our hearts al - ways

## TURNAROUND

34 G7sus E/G# Am F F/A C/G Fmaj7/G G7 C C2sus C F/C Cmaj7 F/C C

hunger for, oh, our hearts al - ways hunger for.

## OUTRO

(1, 2) 3

42 C2sus Fmaj7/G G7 C C2sus C F/C G/C C2

hunger for.

# Behold The Lamb

Words and Music by  
Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty  
and Stuart Townend

## VERSE



1. Be hold the Lamb who bears our sins a - way, slain for us: And we re - mem - ber  
2. The bod - y of our Sav - iour, Je - sus Christ, torn for you: Eat and re - mem - ber  
3. The blood that cleans - es ev - 'ry stain of sin, shed for you: Drink and re - mem - ber  
4. And so with thank - ful - ness and faith we rise to re - spond and to re - mem - ber



the prom - ise made that all who come in faith find for - give - ness at the cross. So, we  
the wounds that heal, the death that brings us life, paid the price to make us one. So, we  
He drained death's cup that all may en - ter in to re - ceive the life of God. So, we  
our call to fol - low in the steps of Christ as His bod - y here on earth. As we



share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His sac - ri - fice, as a sign of our bonds of peace  
share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His sac - ri - fice, as a sign of our bonds of love  
share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His sac - ri - fice, as a sign of our bonds of grace  
share in His suf - fer - ing, we pro - claim: Christ will come a - gain! And we'll join in the feast of heav'n

## TURNAROUND / OUTRO



a - round the ta - ble of the King.  
a - round the ta - ble of the King.  
a - round the ta - ble of the King.  
a - round the ta - ble of the King.

# “Today, God Has Rolled the Reproach Away”

## *Joshua 5:1-14*

### Westminster Devotions (August 4<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>)

Six Day Devotional outline leading up to Sunday based on my message “**Today, God Has Rolled the Reproach Away**” (Joshua 5:1–15). Each day includes a Scripture focus, reflection, and application questions to help internalize the message throughout the week.

## Monday: God Goes Before You

**Text:** Joshua 5:1

**Theme:** *God fights for His people before they fight any battle.*

### **Reflection:**

Before Israel lifted a sword in Canaan, the hearts of their enemies melted. Why? Because the Lord had already gone before them. This teaches us that God's grace and power precede our obedience. Before we ever face a battle, God is silently working behind the scenes on our behalf.

### **Application Questions:**

- Where have you seen God go ahead of you in your life?
- What current battle are you trying to fight in your own strength?
- How would it change your mindset to know God is already at work?

## Tuesday: A New Beginning Through Baptism

**Text:** Joshua 5:1; 1 Corinthians 10:1–2

**Theme:** *Baptism marks God's redeeming work and our new identity.*

### **Reflection:**

The crossing of the Jordan points to baptism—both for Israel and ultimately for Christ. It symbolizes moving from death to life, from wandering to God's promises. Baptism doesn't save us, but it marks us as belonging to the God who has delivered us from our sins.

### **Application Questions:**

- Have you publicly identified with Christ after your baptism?
- Do you live daily out of the identity God has given you?
- How can you remember your baptism today?



## Wednesday: Cutting Away What Doesn't Belong

**Text:** Joshua 5:2–7; Deuteronomy 10:16

**Theme:** *God desires not just outward signs, but inward obedience.*

### Reflection:

Circumcision was a physical reminder of God's covenant, but it pointed to a deeper spiritual truth—He wants our hearts. God raised a new generation because the old one hardened theirs. Even now, He's calling us to cut away the rebellion, pride, or apathy that keeps us from full devotion.

### Application Questions:

- Is there an area in your heart that needs to be “circumcised”?
- What does obedience look like for you this week?
- What habits or attitudes might God be asking you to cut away?

## Thursday: The Reproach Has Been Rolled Away

**Text:** Joshua 5:8–9

**Theme:** *Shame from the past does not define God's people.*

### Reflection:

For 40 years, Israel carried the weight of disobedience and failure. But at Gilgal, God declared, “Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt.” The same is true for us in Christ—our shame is no longer our identity.

### Application Questions:

- What “reproach” are you still carrying that Christ has already rolled away?
- Do you define yourself by past failures or God's promises?
- How can you live today like you are free?

## Friday: A Meal That Reminds Us

**Text:** Joshua 5:10–12; 1 Corinthians 11

**Theme:** *The Passover (and the Lord's Supper) reminds us of God's saving grace.*

### Reflection:

The Passover celebrated God's rescue and called His people to remember. The manna

ceased because now they would live off the promises fulfilled. Today, the Lord's Supper is our covenant meal. It points us to Jesus—our true and final deliverance.

### **Application Questions:**

- When you take communion, do you reflect on its depth and meaning?
- How does remembering God's faithfulness change your daily life?
- In what ways can you prepare your heart better before taking the Lord's Supper?

## **Saturday: God is with Us—Even in the Battle**

**Text:** Joshua 5:13–14

**Theme:** *God doesn't join our plans; He invites us into His.*

### **Reflection:**

Joshua meets the Commander of the Lord's army and asks, "Are you for us or for our enemies?" The answer? "No." God isn't taking sides—He *is* the side. We don't ask God to follow our agenda; we bow to His authority and follow Him.

### **Application Questions:**

- Are you trying to get God on your side, or are you on His?
- What does it look like to fully surrender your plans to God?
- Where do you need to trust His leadership today?

# Evening Service

*Sunday, August 3, 2025 † 6:00 PM*

Prelude

\*Call to Worship

\*Invocation

*Hymn	“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”	#76
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Evening Prayer

*Hymn	“Wonderful Words of Life”	#697
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Scripture Reading

Exhortation

Benediction

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**Westminster Evening Sermon Notes**

## Announcements

**Welcome to Westminster** – The Westminster family extends a warm welcome to all who worship with us this morning and this evening. 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.

**Soups, Salads, Sandwiches, and Sweets Lunch** is next Sunday, August 10, following Morning Worship in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish and join us for this wonderful time of fellowship with your church family!

**Officer Nominations** are open. Officer Qualification Lists and Nomination forms are available at both doors to the Sanctuary. Nominations may be submitted to the church through an elder or the main office.

**Join us** for coffee and pastries at 10:15 AM every Sunday for the summer!

**On-line giving is available** at [www.wpcvicksburg.com](http://www.wpcvicksburg.com) by clicking on the On-Line Giving link.

<u>Today and this week</u>			<u>Upcoming Events</u>
Sun	10:15	Coffee/Pastries Fellowship	<b>Soups, Salads, Sandwiches, and Sweets,</b> Sunday, August 10
	10:55	Morning Worship	
	6:00	Evening Worship	
Mon	6:30	Ping Pong	

**Pray for those with birthdays:** Caden Orman, 5; Scott Reiber, 9

**Nursery Workers:** Today – Macey Orman and Grace LaBarre

Next Week – Valerie Gatewood and Kelly Turner