

Welcome to

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 28, 2025 † 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

based on Psalm 27; John 4:23

Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.

The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.

We desire to live in God's house and to seek God in his holy temple.

We have come with shouts of joy, to sing and to make music to the Lord.

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

Teach us your ways and make straight our paths in this hour of worship and always.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

1. All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and
2. Thou rush - ing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in
3. Thou flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for thy
4. And all ye men of ten - der heart, for - giv - ing oth - ers,
5. Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in

with us sing al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Thou burn - ing
heav'n a - long, O praise him, al - le - lu - ia! Thou ris - ing
• Lord to hear, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Thou fire so
take your part, O sing ye, al - le - lu - ia! Ye who long
hum - ble - ness, O praise him, al - le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the

sun with gold - en beam, thou sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam,
 morn, in praise re - joice, ye lights of eve - ning, find a voice,
 • mas - ter - ful and bright, that giv - est man both warmth and light,
 pain and sor - row bear, praise God and on him cast your care,
 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spir - it, three in one,

O praise him, O praise him, al - le -

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*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.

The Lord Cleanses Us

READING OF THE LAW

The Law

(Exodus 20 & Matthew 22:37–40)

And God spoke all these words, saying, “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.”

You shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself a carved image...

You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain...

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy...

Honor your father and your mother...

You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet...

Hear also the words of our Lord Jesus when he said:

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.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved You with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done Your will, we have broken Your law, we have rebelled against Your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

2 Corinthians 5:21

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

*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.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only-begotten 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty:

from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead

I believe in the Holy Spirit;

the holy catholic¹ church;

the communion of saints;

the forgiveness of sins;

the resurrection of the body;

and the life everlasting. Amen.

¹ 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.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER Based on an Ancient Prayer

O Lord, compassionate, patient, and merciful,

hear our prayer:

Guide us

that we may walk in your truth;

Work in our hearts,

that we may fear and desire you above all else;

for you are great and work wonders.

You are God alone.

O Lord, mighty in mercy and excellent in strength,

aid, comfort, and save all that hope in your holy Name.

For to you become all glory, honor, and adoration,

to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

now, and ever, and unto the ages of the ages. Amen.

The Lord Feeds Us

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

“Joy Has Dawned”

1. Joy has dawned up - on the world, prom-ised from cre - a - tion;
2. Sounds of won - der fill the sky, with the songs of an - gels,
3. Shep-herds bow be - fore the Lamb, gaz - ing at the glo - ry;
4. Son of Ad - am, Son of heav'n, giv - en as a ran - som;

The first system of musical notation is in 4/4 time, key of F major. The treble staff contains the melody with lyrics underneath. The bass staff contains a harmonic accompaniment. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff: F, Gm7, F/A, Csus, Dm7, Gm7, F/C, and C.

God's sal - va - tion now un-furled, hope for ev - 'ry na - tion.
as the might - y Prince of Life shel - ters in a sta - ble.
gifts of men from dis - tant lands proph - e - sy the sto - ry.
rec - on - cil - ing God and man— Christ, our might - y Cham - pion!

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff: F, Gm7, F/A, Csus, Dm7, Gm7, Csus, and F.

F/A Bb Gm7 Csus Dm7 Gm7 F/C C

Not with fan-fares from a - bove, not with scenes of glo - ry,
 Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in dark - ness,
 Gold, a King is born to - day; in - cense, God is with us;
 What a Sav - ior, what a Friend, what a glo - rious mys - t'ry:

F Gm7 F/A Csus Dm7 Gm7 Csus F

but a hum - ble gift of love: Je - sus, born of Mar - y.
 cling now to a moth - er's breast, vul - n'ra - ble and help - less.
 myrrh, his death will make a way; and by his blood he'll win us.
 once a Babe in Beth - le - hem, now the Lord of his - t'ry.

Words & Music: Keith Getty, Stuart Townend
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JOY HAS DAWNED
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SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 4:26-29

²⁶ And he said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. ²⁷ He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. ²⁸ The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. ²⁹ But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“The Parable of Growing Seed”

SERMON NOTES:

The Lord Sends Us

*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

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. Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
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
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.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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.

This morning we welcome Rev. Chandler Rowlen to the Westminster pulpit. Chandler is in his first year serving with RUF at Mississippi College. Prior to that, he served for 6 years as the campus minister with RUF at Carson-Newman University in Jefferson City, Tennessee. He is an Ole Miss and RTS Jackson graduate. He has been married to Leah for 13 years and has three children - Judson (7), Ford (5), and Lizzie Mae (2).

Congratulations to Cooper Orman who graduated from Mississippi State University on December 12 with a Bachelor’s Degree in Geoscience with a concentration in Geographic Information Systems and Minor in Geospatial and Remote Sensing. Let us pray that God may continue to preserve and lead Cooper.

The Storehouse Community Food Pantry wants to thank everyone for food and monetary donations during the Holiday food drive!

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

Upcoming Events

Hannah Circle, January 8, 10:30 AM
Wednesday at Westminster, beginning
January 14, 5:30-7:30

Pray for those with birthdays: Gordon Sluis, 30

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