

Welcome to  
**Westminster  
Presbyterian Church**

*Sunday, March 29, 2026 † 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

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## The Lord Calls Us

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\*CALL TO WORSHIP                      Psalm 99:1, 3, 5

The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble!

**He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!**

Let them praise your great and awesome name! Holy is he!

**Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his footstool! Holy is he!**

\*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                      “Holy, Holy, Holy!”

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!      Lord God Al - might - y!  
2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!      All the saints a - dore thee,  
3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!      Though the dark - ness hide thee,  
4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!      Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.  
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
 though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,  
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,  
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
 who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.  
 per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pur - i - ty.  
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Reginald Heber, 1783–1826

NICAEA 11.12.12.10.  
 John B. Dykes, 1861

READING OF THE LAW

1 John 4:7–11

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

**Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.**

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## The Lord Cleanses Us

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CONFESSION OF SIN

John Wesley

**O merciful Father, focus not on our sins against You but on what our blessed Savior has accomplished for us. Do not regard what we have made ourselves; instead, consider what He has become for us through You, our God. May Christ be for each of our souls wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption! Let His precious blood cleanse us from all our sins, and may Your Holy Spirit renew and sanctify our hearts. May He crucify our flesh with its passions and desires, and mortify all our earthly members. Do not let sin reign in our mortal bodies so we obey its lusts; rather, set us free from sin so we may serve righteousness. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Psalm 130:7-8

O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

\*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 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.

## The Lord Feeds Us

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

### OFFERTORY

“Psalm 51” (v.1-3)

1. God, be mer - ci - ful to me, on thy grace I rest my plea;  
 2. My trans - gres - sions I con - fess, grief and guilt my soul op - press;  
 3. I am e - vil, born in sin; thou de - sir - est truth with - in.  
 4. Bro - ken, hum - bled to the dust, by thy wrath and judg - ment just,

plen - teous in com - pas - sion thou, blot out my trans - gres - sions now;  
 I have sinned a - gainst thy grace and pro - voked thee to thy face;  
 Thou a - lone my Sav - ior art, teach thy wis - dom to my heart;  
 let my con - trite heart re - joice and in glad - ness hear thy voice;

wash me, make me pure with - in, cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.  
 I con - fess thy judg - ment just, speech - less, I thy mer - cy trust.  
 make me pure, thy grace be - stow, wash me whit - er than the snow.  
 from my sins O hide thy face, blot them out in bound - less grace.

Paraphrase  
*The Psalter*, 1912

REDHEAD 76 (AJALON) 7.7.7.7.7.7.  
 Richard Redhead, 1853

### \*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 "There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood"



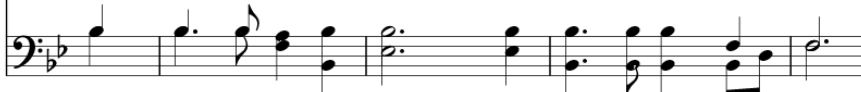
1. There is a foun - tain filled with blood, drawn from Im - man - uel's veins;
2. The dy - ing thief re - joiced to see that foun - tain in his day;
3. E'er since by faith I saw the stream your flow - ing wounds sup - ply,
4. Then in a no - bler, sweet - er song I'll sing your pow'r to save,
5. Dear dy - ing Lamb, your pre - cious blood shall nev - er lose its pow'r,



and sin - ners, plunged be - neath that flood, lose all their guilt - y stains:  
 and there have I, as vile as he, washed all my sins a - way:  
 • re - deem - ing love has been my theme, and shall be 'til I die:  
 when this poor lisp - ing, stam - m'ring tongue lies si - lent in the grave:  
 'til all the ran - somed church of God be saved to sin no more:



lose all their guilt - y stains, lose all their guilt - y stains;  
 washed all my sins a - way, washed all my sins a - way;  
 • and shall be 'til I die, and shall be 'til I die;  
 lies si - lent in the grave, lies si - lent in the grave;  
 be saved to sin no more, be saved to sin no more;



and sin - ners, plunged be - neath that flood, lose all their guilt - y stains.  
 and there have I, as vile as he, washed all my sins a - way.  
 • re - deem - ing love has been my theme, and shall be 'til I die.  
 when this poor lisp - ing, stam - m'ring tongue lies si - lent in the grave.  
 'til all the ran - somed church of God be saved to sin no more.



The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 2 “Speak to the people of Israel, saying, If a woman conceives and bears a male child, then she shall be unclean seven days. As at the time of her menstruation, she shall be unclean. 3 And on the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin shall be circumcised. 4 Then she shall continue for thirty-three days in the blood of her purifying. She shall not touch anything holy, nor come into the sanctuary, until the days of her purifying are completed. 5 But if she bears a female child, then she shall be unclean two weeks, as in her menstruation. And she shall continue in the blood of her purifying for sixty-six days.

6 “And when the days of her purifying are completed, whether for a son or for a daughter, she shall bring to the priest at the entrance of the tent of meeting a lamb a year old for a burnt offering, and a pigeon or a turtledove for a sin offering, 7 and he shall offer it before the LORD and make atonement for her. Then she shall be clean from the flow of her blood. This is the law for her who bears a child, either male or female. 8 And if she cannot afford a lamb, then she shall take two turtledoves or two pigeons, one for a burnt offering and the other for a sin offering. And the priest shall make atonement for her, and she shall be clean.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Birth”

**Themes:** Holiness, Defilement, Purification

**Summary:** This chapter of Leviticus outlines the purity process for a mother following childbirth.

1. Childbirth Regulations

2. Mothers' Restoration

3. Mother Mary and the Son of God

# The Lord Sends Us

\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING “Before the Throne of God Above”

Charitie Lees Bancroft, 1863

Music and alt. lyrics by Vikki Cook

$\text{♩} = 72$       D   Em/D   D   G   D   Em/D   D

1. Be - fore the throne of God a - bove, I have a strong and per - fect  
 2. When Sa - tan tempts me to des - pair, and tells me of the guilt with -  
 3. Be - hold him there, the ri - sen Lamb! My per - fect spot - less right - eous -

plea: a great High Priest whose name is Love, who ev - er lives and pleads for  
 in, up - ward I look and see Him there, who made an end of all my  
 ness, the great un - change - a - ble I AM, the King of Glor - y and of

me. My name is grav - en on His hands. My name is  
 sin. Be - cause the sin - less Sav - ior died my sin - ful  
 Grace. One with Him - self, I can - not die; my soul is

writ - ten on His heart. I know that while in heav'n He stands, no tongue can  
 soul is count - ed free. For God, the Just, is sat - is - fied to look on  
 pur - chased by His blood. My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my

bid me thence de - part; no tongue can bid me thence de - part.  
 Him and par - don me; to look on Him and par - don me.  
 Sav - ior and my God; with Christ, my Sav - ior and my God.

Chords: F#m, G, D/F#, A, Bm, Em/G, G, G/A, D, F#m7, G, D/F#, D, A, D, F#m7, G, D/F#, G, F#m, Bm, D/A, G, D/F#, Bm, Em/G, G, G/A, D

\*BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

POSTLUDE

## “Birth”

*Leviticus 12:1-8*

Westminster *A Relationship with the Lord* Devotions (March 30<sup>th</sup> – April 4<sup>th</sup>)

**Monday:** Read Leviticus 12. Review your notes from yesterday’s sermon. What part of the purification laws for new mothers or the requirement of atonement most stood out to you?

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How might this ancient law deepen your gratitude for the cleansing Christ provides in your everyday life? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Tuesday:** Read Leviticus 11–12 and Luke 2:21-24. How do the broader purity laws of chapter 11 flow into the specific purification rites for childbirth in chapter 12, and how does Mary’s obedience to this law after Jesus’ birth show that He came to fulfill what these regulations could only point toward? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Wednesday:** Read Leviticus 12. In a culture that often treats childbirth as purely medical or celebratory—without any sense of spiritual uncleanness or the need for ritual restoration—how does God’s detailed law for a mother’s waiting period and offerings challenge us to view new life, the body, and worship as holy under His lordship? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Thursday:** Read Leviticus 12:6-8. Why does God require a burnt offering and a sin offering (scaled even for the poor) before a new mother is declared clean, and what does this reveal about both the seriousness of impurity and the grace of restoration? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Friday:** Read Leviticus 12. Think and pray about areas of “uncleanness” or separation from God in your own life. How can seeing these temporary Old Testament purification laws as a gracious pointer to Christ’s once-for-all atonement reshape the way you approach personal holiness, family, and regular worship? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Saturday:** Read Leviticus 12. What questions or fresh insights do you have about this passage? \_\_\_\_\_

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## 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.

**Our flowers** are given to the glory of God by Susan Palmer Hampton in loving memory of her husband Jim Hampton and her parents Vernon and Margaret Palmer.

**There is a VBS Planning Meeting** this afternoon at 4:30. This meeting is for anyone who wants to help with VBS. Please let Jennifer Sluis know if you want to help but cannot come to the meeting.

**Hannah Circle** meets Thursday morning at 10:30 at the church.

**Good Friday Service** is this Friday, April 3, at 7:00 PM.

**We will have a potluck breakfast** at the church next Sunday, April 5, at 9:30 AM. Please bring a dish and join us for this wonderful time of fellowship on Easter morning! Drinks will be provided. Morning Worship (10:55 AM) will follow at the normal time.

**The flower list sign-up sheet** for 2026 is on the Women’s Ministry bulletin board. Please sign up to provide flowers for the Sanctuary on one of the dates available. Contact Lexine Cool or Laura Wells if you have any questions.

**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 hamburger steak, macaroni and cheese, roll, and dessert. Sign up for the meal on the bulletin board in the Education Wing or contact the church office by noon Tuesday.

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

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### Today and this week

Sun	9:45	Sunday School
	10:55	Morning Worship
	4:30	VBS Planning Meeting
Mon	6:30	Ping Pong
Wed	5:30	Wednesday at Westminster
Thurs	10:30	Hannah Circle
Fri	7:00	Good Friday Service

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### Upcoming Events

**Easter Potluck Breakfast**, April 5,  
9:30 AM

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**Pray for those with birthdays:** Adam Walker, 29; Bowen Woodson, 1

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**Nursery Workers:** Today – Jennifer Sluis and Meredith Anderson  
Next Week – Laura Wells and Mary Mac Whitney