

Welcome to
**Westminster
Presbyterian Church**

Sunday, March 8, 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

Psalm 24:7-10

Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?

The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle! Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory! Selah

*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

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

1. A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
 2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
 3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
 4. That Word a - bove all earth - ly pow'rs, no thanks to them, a -

fail - ing; our help - er he, a - mid the flood of
 los - ing; were not the right man on our side, the
 do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
 bid - eth; the Spir - it and the gifts are ours through

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be?
 truth to tri - umph through us. The prince of dark - ness grim,
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go,

doth seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great,
 Christ Je - sus, it is he, Lord Sa - ba - oth his name,
 we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,
 this mor - tal life al - so; the bod - y they may kill:

and armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
 from age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
 for lo, his doom is sure; one lit - tle word shall fell him.
 God's truth a - bid - eth still; his king - dom is for - ev - er.

Our Lord said,

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

The Lord Cleanses Us

Cleanse me from my secret faults, O Lord, and forgive those offenses to your servant which he has caused in others. I contend not in judgments with you, who are truth; I fear to deceive myself, lest my sin should make me think that I am not sinful. Therefore I contend not in judgment with you; for if you, Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall abide it? Amen.

The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

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

“Psalm 103” (v.1,3)

1. ¹Bless the LORD, my soul, and all with - in me bless his ho - ly name!
2. ⁵He with bound-less good sup - plies you; he your long-ing sat - is - fies,
3. ⁸God the LORD is full of mer - cy, slow to an - ger, full of grace.

²Bless the LORD, my soul. For - get not all his bless-ings to pro - claim.
then, like ea - gle's strength re - new - ing, God with good your youth re - vives.
⁹He will not be al - ways chid - ing, nor in an - ger hide his face.

³He for - gives your great trans-gres-sions, heals your sick-ness - es and pains.
⁶For the LORD will act with jus - tice, righ-teous-ness for those bowed down.
¹⁰He deals not by our de - mer - its, nor re - pays what sins de - serve.

⁴He re - deems you from de - struc-tion, crowns you with his ten - der grace.
⁷He made known his ways to Mo - ses, his great deeds to Is - rael's sons.
¹¹Great his love to those who fear him, high as heav'n a - bove the earth.

**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

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Heidelberg Catechism

Question 93

How are these commandments divided?

Into two tables; the first of which teaches us how we must behave towards God; the second, what duties we owe to our neighbour.

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

“He Will Hold Me Fast”

A A/C# D D E A

1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
2. Those he saves are his de - light; Christ will hold me fast;
3. For my life he bled and died— Christ will hold me fast;

A A/C# D D E A

when the tempt-er would pre - vail, he will hold me fast.
pre - cious in his ho - ly sight, he will hold me fast.
jus - tice has been sat - is - fied; he will hold me fast.

F#m E/G# A/C# D D C# F#m

I could nev-er keep my hold through life's fear-ful path;
 He'll not let my soul be lost; his prom-is-es shall last;
 Raised with him to end-less life— he will hold me fast,

F#m E/G# A/C# D D E A

for my love is of-ten cold: he must hold me fast.
 bought by him at such a cost, he will hold me fast.
 till our faith is turned to sight when he comes at last!

D E F#m F#m E/G# A

He will hold me fast; he will hold me fast;

A Bm7 A/C# D D E A

for my Sav-ior loves me so— he will hold me fast.

23 if there is harm, then you shall pay life for life, 24 eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, 25 burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe.

38 “You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ 39 But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. 40 And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. 41 And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. 42 Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

43 “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ 44 But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? 47 And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? 48 You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Dealing With Enemies”

Themes: Love, Retaliation, Peacemaking

Summary: In his fifth and sixth discourses, Jesus teaches how we should deal with people who would commit evil against us.

1. Lex Talionis Applied

2. Retaliation Denied

3. Loving Your Enemies Guide

The Lord Sends Us

*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING “And Can It Be?”

Musical notation for the first system, including treble and bass staves with lyrics.

1. And can it be that I should gain an in - t'rest
2. He left his Fa - ther's throne a - bove, so free, so
3. Long my im - pris - oned spir - it lay, fast bound in
4. No con-dem-na - tion now I dread: Je - sus and

Musical notation for the second system, including treble and bass staves with lyrics.

in the Sav - ior's blood? Died he for me who caused his
in - fi - nite his grace! Emp - tied him - self of all but
sin and na - ture's night. Thine eye dif - fused a quick-'ning
all in him is mine! A - live in him, my liv - ing

Musical notation for the third system, including treble and bass staves with lyrics.

pain? For me, who him to death pur - sued?
love, and bled for Ad - am's help - less race!
ray; I woke— the dun - geon flamed with light!
Head, and clothed in righ - teous - ness di - vine!

G D G/B C A/C# D G

A - maz - ing love! how can it be that thou,
 'Tis mer - cy all, im - mense and free, for O
 My chains fell off, my heart was free; I rose,
 Bold I ap - proach th' e - ter - nal throne, and claim

C D G G D

my God, shouldst die for me? A - maz - ing love!
 my God, it found out me. 'Tis mer - cy all,
 went forth, and fol - lowed thee. My chains fell off,
 the crown through Christ my own! Bold I ap - proach

1. A - maz - ing love!
2. 'Tis mer - cy all...

D7 G C G C G/D D G

how can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me!
 im - mense and free, for O my God, it found out me!
 my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and fol - lowed thee.
 th' e - ter - nal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ my own.

how can it be that thou, my God,

Words: Charles Wesley, 1738
 Music: Thomas Campbell, 1825; harm. Song Companion to the Scriptures, 1911

SAGINA
 88 88 88

*BENEDICTION

2 Thessalonians 2:16–17

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

POSTLUDE

“Dealing With Enemies”

Matthew 5:38-48

Westminster *The Man of Fulfillment* Devotions (March 9th–14th)

Monday: Read Matthew 5:38-48. Review your notes from yesterday’s sermon. What element of Jesus’ call to non-retaliation and loving enemies struck you most deeply? _____

How might this reshape your approach to personal injustices or conflicts in the coming days? _____

Tuesday: Read Matthew 5:38-48. How does Jesus’ emphasis on truthful speech without oaths lead into His teachings on resisting evil through radical generosity and enemy love?

Wednesday: Read Matthew 5:38-48. Amid a culture of quick retaliation, social media outrage, and division, how does Jesus’ command to turn the other cheek and go the extra mile provide a transformative alternative? _____

Thursday: Read Matthew 5:38-48. What does it mean for believers to love their enemies and pray for persecutors, and how does this reflect the perfection of our heavenly Father?

Friday: Read Matthew 5:38-48. Contemplate and pray over your responses to opposition in life. How can embodying non-resistance and unconditional love redirect your path toward greater Christlikeness? _____

Saturday: Read Matthew 5:38-48. What observations have you made that weren’t discussed?

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.

There are no Wednesday at Westminster activities this Wednesday due to Spring Break. It will resume next Wednesday, March 18. We need volunteers to provide dessert on the 18th and 25th. Please sign-up on the Wednesday at Westminster Bulletin Board.

There is a VBS Planning Meeting Sunday, March 29, at 4:30 PM. 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.

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

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
Mon	6:30	Ping Pong

Upcoming Events

Wednesday at Westminster,
5:30-7:00, resumes March 18
VBS Planning Meeting, March 29,
4:30 PM

Pray for those with birthdays: George Stubblefield, 9; Bob Walker, 10

Nursery Workers: Today – Kelsey Stamper and Tatum Sherwin
Next Week – Frances Warren and Kinsey Karel