The Order of Common Worship

Westminster Presbyterian Church
November 30, 2025
10:30 a.m.

"Worship the Lord in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth." --Psalm 96:9

"...true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth." -- John 4:23

"What is the chief end of man? To glorify God and enjoy Him forever." -- Shorter Catechism

Welcome to Westminster!

Prelude: Prelude on "Veni, veni Emmanuel" Paul Fey

Greeting Scott Winter

Call to Worship: based on Psalm 85:7-13

Rev. Dr. Whitney Alexander

Show us your unfailing love, O God, our Savior,

And grant us your salvation.

Listen to what the Lord our God says:

He promises peace to his people, who are his beloved saints.

The Lord will indeed give what is good.

Righteousness goes before him and prepares the way for his steps.

May the Lord make his holy face to shine upon us in this time of Advent worship. May we see God's face and so know peace.

Prayer of Invocation

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Scott Winter Family

*Hymn of Adoration: "Joy to the World! The Lord is Come" Celebrating Grace #102

Call to Confession based on Isaiah 40:3

"A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" Prepare the way of the Lord! Let us make our confession to God.

Corporate Confession of Sin

Merciful God, always with us, always coming: We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your Advent. We have forgotten how to hope in miracles; we have ignored the promise of your kingdom; we get distracted by all the busyness of this season. Forgive us, God. Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds, the intelligent courage of the Magi, and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph, that we may journey with them to Bethlehem and find the good news of a child born for us. Now, in the quiet of our hearts, we ask you to make us ready for his coming. Amen

Assurance of Pardon and The Lord's Prayer

based on Isaiah 40:1-2

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Your sins are pardoned. The penalty is paid.

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 Thanksgiving: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Celebrating Grace #83

Celebrations and Concerns of the Church

Prayer requests can be made via bulletin tear-off, Facebook Messenger, gulfportchurch.org, the OR code on the back of the bulletin, or by calling the church office at (228) 864-3143.

Prayers of the People

The Offertory "Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"

arr. Carter

*Doxology Old Hundredth

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

*Prayer of Dedication

*Scripture Reading: Joshua 13:1

Pew Bible p. 222

Sermon: "Aging Gracefully"

Rev. Dr. Whitney Alexander

*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 Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting, Amen.

*Hymn of Commitment: "Go, Tell it on the Mountain" Celebrating Grace #143

*Benediction Rev. Dr. Whitney Alexander

*Passing of the Peace

*Postlude: Intermezzo on "Carol of the Bells" arr. Dixon

*If you are able, please stand.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in appreciation of all who prepared the church for the Christmas season.

Please take a moment to complete the registry of fellowship section of this bulletin. Childcare is available in our nursery during worship. Restrooms are located down the main hall, and there is an emergency exit at the front right of the sanctuary. We encourage your prayer requests and questions about our family of faith's mission and ministry. Please see a greeter or an Elder if we can be of any assistance.

Registry of Fellowship - November 30, 2025		
Name(s):		
□ Member □ First Time Visitor □ Return Visitor		
For our visitors:		
Address:		
Phone:		
Email:		
\square I would like a call from the pastor (please list phone number above).		
☐ I would like information on becoming an active member of Westminster.		
☐ I would be willing to provide supper for LifeHouse Youth when meeting.		
Prayer Requests:		
Would you like a prayer card sent? □ Yes* □ No		
Please send address for prayer card to office@gulfportchurch.org.		

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 5005 Lawson Avenue, Gulfport, Mississippi 39507 office@gulfportchurch.org

www.gulfportchurch.org

facebook.com/gulfportwpc (228) 864-3143

This Week's Meetings/Events

Cub Scouts Meeting: Monday, Dec. 1 at 6 p.m. **Prayer Group:** Tuesday, Dec. 2 at 10 a.m.

Genesis Project: Wednesday, Dec. 3 at 2:30 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous: Thursday, Dec. 4 at 6 p.m.

Men's Breakfast: Friday, Dec. 5 at 8 a.m. at Brick & Spoon—Gulfport Lunch Bunch: Friday Dec. 5 at 11:30 a.m. at Chimneys Restaurant

Announcements

Adult Sunday School: Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in the Library *Study is on the Book of Hebrews, led by Dr. Sam Clark*

Session Meets: Thursday, Dec. 18 at 6 p.m. LifeHouse Youth: Sunday, Dec. 21, 5-7 p.m.

Christmas VBS: Monday Dec. 22, 9-11:30 a.m. Christmas Eve Service: Wednesday, Dec. 24, 5 p.m.

Financial Report (YTD through October 31, 2025)	
2025 Annual Budget	\$320,738.00
YTD General Budgeted Receipts	\$252,405.29
YTD Budgeted Expenditures	\$258,120.07
Last Week's Budgeted Receipts	\$ 1,977.34
Last Week's Future Improvements Receipts	\$ 00.00

The Rev. Dr. Rhett Payne, Interim Pastor Chip Westbrook, Clerk of Session Jane Bloss, Treasurer

Class of 2025 Cummings King Property Rachel Price Missions Class of 2026
Lynda Gary
Discipleship Formation
Jim Roberts
Property
Scott Winter

Class of 2027
Mark Alspaugh
Property
Ben Stone
Personnel
Pat West

Asst. Clerk and Worship STAFF

Alice Bellanger, Youth Director LeAnn Davis, Church Administrator Angela Hudson, Nursery Care Jeanie Pollard, Organist Tim Silkman, Facilities Manager Chip Westbrook, Personnel Committee Chair

Westminster's Mission Partners

Boy Scout Troop 209

Feed My Sheep

Girl Scout Pack 209

Good News Jail & Prison Ministry

GHS Counselors' Fund

Genesis Project

Gub Scout Pack 209

Gulf Coast Rescue Mission

Genesis Project

Pass Road Elem. Counselors' Fund

GCMS Counselors' Fund

Medical Benevolence Foundation

Bethel Free Health Clinic

French Camp Academy

MBF Nursing Scholarship-Haiti

Foundation for Reformed Theology Kindness Foundation Missionaries in Austria, Lebanon, and Japan Belhaven University

Duty Elder Scott Winter



This Week's Birthdays

Dec. 1 – Will Symmes

Dec. 3 — Shere Murray

Dec. 3 – Melanie Gilgan

Dec. 6 – Mary Davis

2026 Stewardship Campaign

Thank you to all who have contributed to our 2026 Stewardship Campaign. We are encouraged by the strong participation so far and grateful for your faithful support. We are encouraging every member to take part, and if you have not yet had the opportunity, you may still submit your pledge by placing your card in the offering basket or by mailing it to the church office. Pledge cards are available in the narthex.

Missions Spotlight for November: The Mook Family in Lebanon

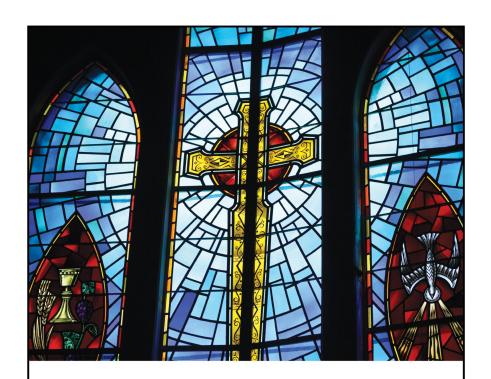
Specific prayer requests:

- For the kids as they start school soon. Especially for Silas, who is potty training ever so slowly.
- For some of the ladies here to be encouraged.
 Elizabeth has been on a few visits lately and has prayed for some women who are feeling the weight of various trials.
- For our kids' immigration papers to be finished soon. We are attempting to get all that sorted, and though we have a lawyer's help, things can be pretty complicated.
- A praise! We've started connecting socially with a few more new friends here lately. This is an answered prayer.
- A praise! We've seen a couple of our Syrian friends evangelize a bit while in conversation lately. It's very encouraging to see God work in the lives of the



Check in and give online today.







"Bearing Witness to God's Love for the World In Jesus Christ"

November 30, 2025