The Order of Common Worship

Westminster Presbyterian Church August 17, 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 "Lord of the Dance" arr. Wagner

Pastor Greeting

Call to Worship:

based on Colossians 2:3: Revelation 5:12

The Lord Jesus who calls us to worship him today is the same Jesus who refused the temptation to worship the evil one. Rather than receive the glorious kingdoms of this world, he endured the shame of the cross, and today is Lord of lords and King of kings. Now are gathered in him all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, glory, and power.

With the saints of all ages we say, "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

Prayer of Invocation

"God of Grace and God of Glory" Celebrating Grace #285 *Hymn of Adoration: Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930

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 and the Lord's Prayer

*Hymn of Thanksgiving: "Thy Word"

Celebrating Grace#38 Words: Amy Grant, 1984

*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.

"Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee" arr, Whitsett The Offertory:

Old Hundredth *Doxology

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

"Courage"

*Prayer of Dedication

*Scripture Reading: Daniel 3

Pew Bible p. 878

Sermon:

Rev. Dr. Rhett Payne

Celebration of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table & Call to Confession based on Psalm 66:16, 18-20 The psalmist testifies: Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me. If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer. Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me. In the strength of this assurance, let us confess our sins to God.

Corporate Confession of Sin

Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus, our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

John 3:16-17

"God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

The Words of Institution

based on Matthew 11:28-29

Hear the words of our Savior: "Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

Come, then, for all is ready. We come not because we ought, but because we may, not because we are righteous, but because we are penitent, not because we are strong, but because we are weak, not because we are whole, but because we are broken.

*Closing Hymn:

"In Christ Alone"

Celebrating Grace #569 Words: Keith Getty & Stuart Townend, 2001

arr. Ritter

*Benediction

*Passing of the Peace

*Postlude: "Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart"

*If you are able, please stand.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given by Robert Wood to the glory of God and in memory of Carol Wood.

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 - August 17, 2025
Name(s):
□ Member □ First Time Visitor □ Return Visitor
For our visitors:
Address:
Phone:
Email:
□ 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 Scout Pack Meeting: Monday at 6 p.m.

Prayer Group: Tuesday at 10 a.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous: Thursday at 6 p.m.

Session Meets: Saturday at 10 a.m.

Upcoming

Elder Training: Began August 17 at 9:15 a.m., taught by Pastor Rhett (in the library-continuing for the next 8 weeks)

Adult Sunday School: Will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:15 (for the next 8 weeks, while Pastor Rhett does Elder Training in the library)
Genesis Project after-school program: Starts Wednesday, August 20

LifeHouse Youth: Sunday, August 24, 5-7 p.m.

Potluck: Sunday, August 24 after morning worship (<u>note date change</u>) **Lunch Bunch Meets:** Friday, August 29 at 11:30 a.m. at Jalapeño Grill

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

THE SESSION OF WESTMINSTER

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

STAFF

Asst. Clerk and Worship

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

Cub Scout Pack 209

Feed My Sheep

Girl Scout Troop 3542

Good News Jail & Prison Ministry

Gulf Coast Rescue Mission

GHS Counselors' Fund 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

Missions Spotlight for August, Missions Spotlight for August: Lisa & Werner Schobesberger

Werner and Lisa have been working with refugees for the last 24 years. They have been in Linz, Austria since 2011. The refugees come primarily from Muslim nations, and the most open to the gospel have been from Iran, Afghanistan and Turkey (Kurds). They are working right now with Kurds, as Kurds are the largest group currently entering Austria. One friend has been baptized and another couple is in a baptism class right now. There have been two weekly Bible studies and an International Cafe for men on Tuesdays and another for women on Thursdays.

Specific Prayer Requests: Please pray for Mary and her two young adult children. They are from Syria and are waiting on an asylum decision. Please pray for our Kurdish friends to continue to remain open to the Gospel.

Missions Collections:



• Tissues & Disinfecting Wipes Collection for Pass Road Elementary: We are collecting tissues and disinfecting wipes for Pass Road Elementary School, now through the end of August. Donations can be placed in the shopping cart in the Narthex.



• Cardboard Tube Collection: We're collecting empty cardboard tubes for the Genesis Project. We have a collection box in the narthex. Empty tubes from paper towels, toilet paper, wrapping paper, etc. are all welcome.



• Paperback books collection for Mississippi Prisons: We are accepting donations of paperback books for the Mississippi Prison System. A box has been placed in the Library for donations. See Pat West for additional information.



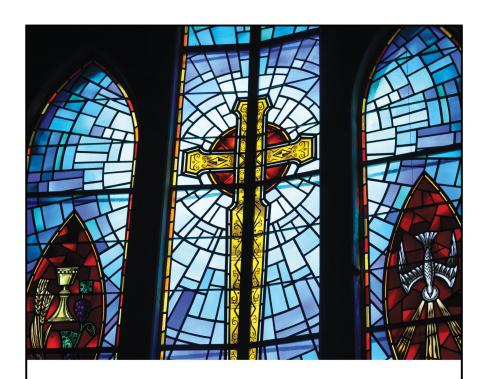
• Toiletry Collection for Gulf Coast Center for Non-violence: Westminster continues to collect toiletry items for

Non-violence: Westminster continues to collect toiletry items for the Gulf Coast Center for Non-violence. However, they do not accept any other types of donations. Please donate items of clothing or other goods to your favorite thrift store (i.e. Youth For Christ, Humane Society, Good Will, etc.). See Rachel Price for additional information.



Check in and give online today.







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

August 17, 2025