

The Order of Common Worship

Westminster Presbyterian Church

May 3, 2026
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: “Come, Christians, Join to Sing” *arr.* Wyrzten

Greeting Pastor

Call to Worship: *from* Psalm 92:1-2

It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High,
To proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night.

Prayer of Invocation Pastor

*Hymn of Adoration: “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” Hymn #281

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

Prayers of the People

*Hymn of Thanksgiving: “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us” Hymn #178

*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.

The Offertory: “The Church of God” *by* William Haney

*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: 1 John 4:7-21 Pew Bible p. 1212

Sermon: “LOVE” Rev. Dr. Rhett Payne

Celebration of Holy Communion
Please hold the elements until everyone has received theirs and the pastor will direct you. For the cup, the options are wine in clear glass or grape juice in the stainless cups.

Invitation to the Table

Call to Confession 1 John 1:5-7

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

Corporate Confession of Sin

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon and The Lord’s Prayer: Psalm 103:8,13

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.

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.

Words of Institution

*Hymn of Commitment: “To God Be the Glory” Hymn #349

*Benediction Pastor

*Passing of the Peace

*Postlude: “Holy, Holy, Holy” *arr.* Wyrzten

**If you are able, please stand.*

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the
Glory of God and in memory of
my loving mother, Christine Sack,
on her birthday by Mark and Teresa Alspaugh.*

Please take a moment to complete the registry of fellowship section of this bulletin. Professional 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 - May 3, 2026

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

This Week's Meetings/Events

- Discipleship Formation meeting:** Today after worship
- LifeHouse Youth:** Today at 5 p.m.
- Prayer Group:** Tuesday, May 5 at 10 a.m.
- Mission Committee:** Tuesday, May 5 at 6:30 p.m.
- Alcoholics Anonymous:** Thursday, May 7 at 6 p.m.

Announcements

- Adult Sunday School:** Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in the Library
Study is on 1 Peter, led by Ted Hammer
- Children & Youth Sunday School:** Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in CE Bldg.
- Girl Scouts:** Bridging Ceremony, Monday, May 11 at 6:30 p.m.
Session: Thursday, May 14 at 6 p.m.
- LifeHouse Youth:** Sunday, May 17, 5-7 p.m.
- High School Graduate Recognition:** Sunday, May 17
- 5th Sunday Potluck:** Sunday, May 31
- Vacation Bible School:** June 15-19
See Garnie Dubuisson to volunteer

Financial Report (YTD through March 31, 2026)	
2026 Annual Income Budget.....	\$253,024.00
2026 Annual Expense Budget	\$312,320.00
YTD General Budgeted Receipts	\$ 80,584.87
YTD Budgeted Expenditures	\$ 76,609.85
Last Week's Budgeted Receipts	\$ 1,645.25
Last Week's Future Improvements Receipts.....	\$ 25.00

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

THE SESSION OF WESTMINSTER

<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
Lynda Gary	Mark Alspaugh	Pete Bloss
<i>Discipleship Formation</i>	<i>Stewardship & Finance</i>	<i>Nominating</i>
Scott Winter	Ben Stone	Patrick Gann
<i>Asst. Clerk and Worship</i>	<i>Personnel</i>	<i>Missions</i>
	Pat West	Robert Wood
	<i>Congregational Life</i>	<i>Property</i>

STAFF

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

OTHER CHAIRS

Sam Clark
 Outreach
 Valarie Hammer
 Hospitality
 Chip Westbrook,
 Personnel Committee

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 | Bethel Free Health Clinic |
| GCMS Counselors' Fund | French Camp Academy |
| Medical Benevolence Foundation | 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

May 4 – Chad Bryant
 May 4 – Tristan Mahand
 May 6 – Caroline Underhill
 May 9 – Colt Busby



Missions Spotlight: Our Scout Troops

Westminster Presbyterian Church is proud to support Cub Scout Pack 209, Boy Scout Troop 209, and Girl Scout Troop 3542.

We have chartered the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts since 1961 and have a long history of supporting Scouting in our community. Today, we provide meeting space—most often on Mondays—host Scout Sunday each year, and offer financial support through our Missions Committee.



girl scouts  This partnership is especially meaningful as several of our members serve as leaders and participants in these troops. We are grateful for the opportunity to support and encourage these young people as they grow in character, leadership, and service.

Troop 3542





WESTMINSTER
 presbyterian church | epc

*“Bearing Witness to God’s Love
 for the World In Jesus Christ”*

May 3, 2026



Check in and give online today.

 **TITHE.LY** Online giving available at gulfportchurch.org or through the *Tithe.ly* app.