

READING THE
BIBLE
AGAIN

(Maybe for the first time)



What Do We Do With This?

Rev. Betsy Swetenburg

June 21, 2026

westpreschurch.org



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN

WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER

Wherever you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome here.

At Westminster Presbyterian Church, we are a community learning to follow Jesus together. Our purpose is simple and bold: **Celebrating Grace. Following Jesus. Healing God's World.** We seek to live that out through: inspiring worship, deep belonging, and tangible compassion.

A FEW THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT US:

You will be warmly welcomed and genuinely known.

Westminster is large enough to offer depth and opportunity, yet small enough that relationships matter. We believe faith grows best in community, where people are seen, remembered, and cared for.

Worship here is joyful, thoughtful, and musically rich.

Rooted in the Reformed tradition, our worship engages both heart and mind. We cherish the beauty of tradition while allowing it to breathe through vibrant music, meaningful liturgy, and a spirit of creativity.

Our faith shows up beyond our walls.

We believe following Jesus leads us toward compassion. From caring for neighbors in crisis to working toward deeper healing in our community, Westminster seeks to embody God's love in tangible ways.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

The wiggles, whispers, and wonder children bring to worship only add to the joy. Children are always welcome in the Sanctuary. Worship bags are available in the narthex, and our nursery is open during the service for children age three and under. However you and your children participate today, we're glad you're here.

JOIN US!

We believe the church is a gift everyone deserves to enjoy; a community of people committed to doing life together—enduring heartaches, celebrating joys, seeking out laughter, and pursuing a more just world as we follow the path of Jesus. We welcome new members on the third Sunday of every month. If you think Westminster may be the community for you, please reach out Meredith Spaugh, Director of Community Connections.

*If today is your first visit, or one of many,
we hope you'll come back and learn to follow Jesus with us.*

10 AM SERVICE

GATHERING MUSIC

*All the People Said Amen
Ten Thousand Reasons
You Are My Fortress*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Strength is commanding the wind and sea to obey;

Strength is wielding a slingshot in the face of a raging giant.

Strength is accepting vulnerability from inside the boat;

Strength is standing in solidarity with the powerless.

Strength is turning a cheek;

Strength is loving an enemy.

We come to worship a God who redefines our vision of strength.

*SONG OF PRAISE

Goodness, Love & Mercy

*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

God of Mercy and Grace,

you come to us in Jesus of Nazareth

to break down the dividing walls of hostility between us:

Yet we maintain walls that separate and isolate.

You give us the ministry of reconciliation:

Yet we nurse our wounds and withhold mercy and forgiveness.

You invite us to join with Peter, James, and John

on the mountain of Transfiguration:

Yet we deny the wonders you have worked in our own lives.

You ask us to acknowledge and share our wealth:

Yet we refuse to recognize and relieve the poverty around us.

You bless our lives with boundless love:

Yet we fail to witness to that love, and so keep others from knowing you.

(Silence for personal confession)

Forgive our selfishness, we pray.

Transform us by your Spirit and your Word into that which pleases you,
the image of Christ. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*You are invited to rise in body or spirit.
Bolded font denotes unison speaking & singing.

10 AM SERVICE

*SUNG RESPONSE

Baptized in Water

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ our King;
Born of the Spirit, we are God's children;
joyfully now God's praises we sing.**

SHARING GOD'S STORY WITH OUR CHILDREN

AFFIRMATION OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

adapted from

The Second Helvetic Confession, 1566

We believe and confess the canonical Scriptures of the holy prophets and apostles of both Testaments to be the true Word of God, and to have sufficient authority of themselves, not of humans. For God spoke to the parents, prophets, apostles, and still speaks to us through the Holy Scriptures.

SCRIPTURE

Joshua 6:1-5; 15-17; 20-21

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

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*SONG OF RESPONSE

Great is Thy Faithfulness (Beginning to End)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

OFFERTORY

The Climb

*I can almost see it
That dream I'm dreaming
But there's a voice inside my head saying
You'll never reach it

Every step I'm taking
Every move I make feels
Lost with no direction
My faith is shaking*

*You are invited to rise in body or spirit.
Bolded font denotes unison speaking & singing.

10 AM SERVICE

*But I, I gotta keep trying
Gotta keep my head held high
There's always gonna be another mountain
I'm always gonna wanna make it move
Always gonna be an uphill battle
Sometimes I'm gonna have to lose
Ain't about how fast I get there
Ain't about what's waiting on the other side
It's the climb
The struggles I'm facing
The chances I'm taking
Sometimes might knock me down, but
No, I'm not breaking
I may not know it
But these are the moments, that
I'm gonna remember most, yeah
Just gotta keep going
And I, I gotta be strong
Just keep pushing on, 'cause*

*There's always gonna be another mountain
I'm always gonna wanna make it move
Always gonna be an uphill battle
Sometimes I'm gonna have to lose
Ain't about how fast I get there
Ain't about what's waiting on the other side
It's the climb
There's always gonna be another mountain
I'm always gonna wanna make it move
Always gonna be an uphill battle
Sometimes you're gonna have to lose
Ain't about how fast I get there
Ain't about what's waiting on the other side
It's the climb
Keep on moving, keep climbing
Keep the faith,
It's all about, it's all about the climb
Keep your faith, keep your faith*

*DOXOLOGY

Thomas Ken

**Praise for the Father, Praise for the Father, Praise for the Son and Holy Ghost
Praise God from Whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly host
Praise for the Father, Praise for the Father, Praise for the Son and Holy Ghost**

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Let Us Be Known By Our Love

**Go out into God's world in peace; Have courage;
Hold on to what is good; Return no one evil for evil;
Strengthen the fainthearted; Support the weak;
Help the suffering; Honor all persons;
Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

**You are invited to rise in body or spirit.
Bolded font denotes unison speaking & singing.*

WORSHIP LEADERS

PREACHING

Rev. Betsy Swetenburg

LITURGISTS

Rev. Sam Perkins

Lucy Jefferies

MUSIC

Clint Whitlow, Director of Music

Ashley Allred, Vocals

Kim Harrison, Vocals

Jane Whitlow, Vocals

Dave Vutetakis, Guitar

Tyson Baker, Bass

Ethan Mayon, Drums



SUMMERTIME SOUNDS - Dear Maribella & The Pig Kickers

Summertime Sounds returns on Thursday, June 25 at 6:30 p.m. with Dear Maribella and The Pig Kickers on the Outdoor Stage.

Bring a chair or blanket and gather with friends, family, and neighbors for an evening of live music under the summer sky. Come early to enjoy a hot dog supper and sweet treats before the concert begins.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
3906 W. Friendly Ave, Greensboro, NC 27410
336-299-3785 | westpreschurch.org

COMING UP AT WESTMINSTER

SUMMER SERMON SERIES: Reading the Bible Again (Maybe for the first time)

This summer, we'll journey through the major genres of scripture, exploring what it means to read the Bible with holy curiosity. This Bible is not a single book. It's a library of poetry, prophecy, letters, laws, gospels, wisdom, apocalyptic writings and more. We'll discover how the types of biblical literature inform what we know of God. Throughout the summer, our affirmations of faith will be words from our confessions about the authority and purpose of scripture.

SUMMER FAITH FORMATION

During June and July, we're pleased to offer faith formation for all ages at 9 am. We'll explore the scripture text of the day through reflection, connection, and action. Come once or come every week! If you're traveling, our summer faith formation resources will be linked in Wednesday's eNews so you can continue to engage your faith even as you travel this summer.

LEMONADE & COOKIES FOR FELLOWSHIP TIME

Sundays, Through September 6

Join us after worship for cookies and lemonade on the patio for fellowship! It's a shady, relaxing time to enjoy socializing with your church family.

This week's host will be Irene Linford.

SUMMER CHOIR

Sunday, July 5, 9am | Room 206 (Choir Room)

On select Sundays during the summer months, all are welcome to come that morning to learn a simple anthem to sing at the 10am worship service. No experience or commitment necessary! Contact Eby Buschner, elizabethabuscher@gmail.com

DID YOU KNOW?

Healing God's world is part of our calling.

God is at work bringing hope, justice, reconciliation, and renewal to this world and invites us to join that work. Many of our staff ministries support healing in unseen ways. Whether coordinating volunteers, preparing communications, maintaining facilities, or organizing programs, every role contributes to the church's mission of sharing God's love with the world.



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WESTMINSTER STAFF

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*Currently on Sabbatical.