



Pentecost May 19, 2024

A Service of the Word and Sacrament

**Those who are able are invited to stand. Bold text indicates unison readings.*

WE GATHER AT GOD'S INVITATION

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP The Rev. Dr. Robert Wm Lowry, Pastor

PRELUDE *"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"* David Austin, Director of Music

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come and worship!

We will praise the One between, within, and over.

Trust in the One who co-creates the was, the now, and the will-be.

**Our hope is in the One who creates expansive love
calling us to do the same.**

Follow the One who never breaks covenant.

**We follow the One whose extravagant love calls us
to co-create justice for the oppressed,
feed the hungry, unlock prisons,
and welcome strangers, orphans, and widows.**

Praise the One whose justice is grace-full and inclusive.

We praise the Spirit that spans the ages. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Come, Holy Spirit, come!

Come, Holy Spirit, come!

**Holy Spirit,
making life alive,
moving in all things,
root of all being,**

**cleansing the cosmos of every impurity,
effacing guilt,
anointing wounds.
You are lustrous and praiseworthy life,
you waken and re-awaken everything that is. Amen.**

+GATHERING HYMN

“On Pentecost They Gathered”

Purple # 289

CALL TO CONFESSIION

No one wants to look foolish, but what is more foolish? Chasing after the world and all its gaudy trinkets and hollow praise to momentarily flatter our souls, or being a ‘fool for Christ’ imitating him in service to others, offering ourselves in love and joy to the world?

Let us admit to the foolishness of our choices, celebrate in the wonder of God’s choice to love us despite our folly, and cherish the forgiveness that we know in our laughing, loving, living Lord.

PRAYER OF CONFESSIION

**O God, You who are always doing a new thing,
we confess that we sometimes close windows
against the fresh air of new ideas,
against the noise of other people’s worries,
against the winds of change.
God of every place and time,
we confess that we often draw the curtains
against people who are different,
against world news or community concerns.**

**Forgive us our insulation in our locked homes,
our shuttered churches,
the security systems on our hearts.
Open up our lives,
and let your Spirit blow through. Amen.**

Silence is kept.

SUNG RESPONSE

“Glory to God”

Purple #582

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

...in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

+THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *"Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet"* Purple #458
NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 2:1-4
1 Corinthians 12:1-13
SERMON "Gather Around the Pentecost Tree" Dr. Lowry

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

+HYMN OF RESPONSE. *"Gracious Spirit, Heed our Pleading"* Purple #287
+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH A Brief Statement of Faith of the PC(USA)

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

**The same Spirit
who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.**

**In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

Matthew 25 Team

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Spirit Song”

arr. John Wimber

*O let the Son of God enfold you with his Spirit and his love.
Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.
O let him have the things that hold you,
and his Spirit like a dove will descend upon your life and make you whole.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.*

*O come and sing this song with gladness as your hearts are filled with joy.
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name.
O give him all your tears and sadness;
give him all your years of pain,
and you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.*

WE GATHER AT GOD'S TABLE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

WE DEPART IN GOD'S NAME

†CLOSING HYMN

“*Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*”

Purple #291

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†POSTLUDE

Join Us on the Journey!

MAY 19- MAY 25, 2024

Welcome

We are so glad to be worshipping with you today.

If this is your first visit, welcome! If you have been with us before, welcome back! Whether you are a life-long Presbyterian, a brand-new Christian, or someone who is just trying to make sense of this world we share, we hope you will feel at home at Westover Hills Presbyterian.

Let us know you are worshipping with us!

In the pew you will find an information card. Please leave us information on how we might be in touch with you to share more about life at Westover Hills. We would love to share a little about our story and hear more about yours. If you do not see a card in the pew near you, please ask one of the ushers you saw when you came in and we will be sure to get one for you. If you prefer, please scan the QR code to the right to be directed to the contact page of our website.



Speaking of Spring Cleaning...Treats and Treasures Is on the Horizon!

Mark your calendar for these important dates for this year's sale.

- ❖ " Beginning Sunday, June 2nd, Kay Stephens will gladly receive any jewelry donations
- ❖ " Saturday, August 3rd 10-2 Drive-by drop-off
- ❖ " Saturday, August 10th 9-3pm Large Furniture Pick-up (must be scheduled ahead)
- ❖ " Presale Friday, August 16th 4-7pm \$10 at the door
- ❖ " Sale Saturday, August 17th 7-3pm FREE

Have questions or want to lend a hand? Contact co-Chairs Carol Enderlin or Jackie Oakes.

Women's Luncheon Today Following Worship

All women of the church are invited to a salad luncheon on Sunday, May 19th immediately following church services. Sponsored by Westover's Presbyterian Women (PW) the complementary luncheon requires no RSVP and; will be in the Fellowship Hall. Learn about PW and; programs they support with volunteers and/or funds. Come to the table for fellowship, visit with new church members and; those considering Westover as a church home. A chance for all women of the church to share time together and; enjoy a salad luncheon

Westover Hills Preschool Graduation

The Westover Hills Preschool held graduation on Friday, May 10th at 10 AM in the sanctuary of Westover Hills Presbyterian Church. Ten young graduates marched across the stage, received their diploma, and answered some questions asked by Ms. Allison, their teacher. She asked each graduate what they wanted to be when they grow up, how much money they would make, what kind of car they would drive, if they

would get married, if they would have children, what they liked most about the preschool and what would they miss most about leaving Westover Hills preschool. A lot of funny answers resulted in a lot of laughter from the crowd. Many of them answered “Ms. Allison” for the question about what they would miss most about leaving the preschool. I think I saw a few tears in Ms. Allison’s eyes. A large crowd of parents, siblings, and grandparents attended the graduation. It was both a fun and bittersweet time for all. A special thanks to the Preschool Board for attending the graduation and welcoming the parents and the grandparents.

Good News from the Garden!

The WHPC Farmers market is open every Tuesday afternoon from 3:30 – 6:00 p.m. in the WHPC parking lot. Some of the current items available include fresh vegetables (carrots, onions, lettuce, yellow and zucchini squash, strawberries) fresh honey, fresh flowers, and numerous bread and bakery items. Check it out!!!!

Midweek Manna

Midweek Manna meets weekly in the Hardie Conference Room in the office building at noon on Wednesday. We are currently studying the portrayals of evil in scripture. May 22 and 29 we will be considering the role of evil in the book of Job.

Yoga

Yoga meets weekly in the chapel Thursday mornings at 10.

New Office Hours

The Westover office is staffed by a volunteer and open on Wednesdays from 10 AM to 3 PM. To volunteer, please contact Liz Branch at erbranch@comcast.net or Bill Smith at wsmigh425@hotmail.com

CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER

Prayer and Meditation

There are two important traditions at Westover Hills that join our voices in prayer every week. The first is *Prayer on the 9's*. Every day you are able, join us in taking a minute to pause at 9am and 9pm to offer a short prayer for the church, the world, or someone you know who needs comfort.

Every Sunday in the bulletin and every Wednesday in the Careline e-newsletter, we share the list of pastoral care concerns known to the church. Members and friends are invited to pray for those people and world issues named on the list. Prayers of comfort, for healing, and for peace are always appropriate ways to remember our friends and neighbors. This week we remember:

The residents and staff at Women and Children First;

Molly Jensen (Robert’s cousin) following quadruple bypass surgery;

Susan Mauney following hand surgery;

Rev. Brian Wyatt (friend of Robert’s) following Achilles’ tendon surgery;

The family of Anna Grace Clark who died of brain cancer;

Robin Appleton - kidney tumor (sister-in-law of Rosemary & Paul McGinnis)

Zoe Travis - surgery and treatment for LCH (great niece of Rosemary & Paul McGinnis)

The family of Mary Jane Gentry who passed away early this week (husband Tom is maintenance supervisor at Ferncliff);

Mary Chrisman (recovering from a fall);

Kathleen Murphre (niece of Mary Chrisman);

Jennifer Garlington (Shirley’s niece) dealing with breast cancer;

Anna Grace Clark undergoing brain cancer treatment;
The people of Baltimore after the collapse of the Key Bridge;
Helen Hughes and family following the death of her grandson Matthew on March 21;
Cherry Starling (home from hospital following a cardiac incident);
Beth Duvall (Ann Patterson's cousin);
Suzanne Carroll (Tammy Miller's mother) following a TBI;
Bobbie Carlton (mother of Max Snowden and Ann Patterson's sister-in-law);
Ron Matney;
Prayers of joy for Lila Quinn following successful cancer treatment;
Family of Stan Whisnant (died recently of brain cancer - friend of Judi King);
The WHPC Staff: Robert, Tammy, David, Ulysses, and Shawn

Bold indicates new additions or updates.

To include a person or group on the Prayer List, please contact the church office at office.westoverhills@gmail.com **and** Robert at robertwilliamlowry@gmail.com

Deacon's Ministry

Deacons for May are Alice Ahart and Kay McCollum.

STAY CONNECTED

Careline and Bulletin *IMPORTANT UPDATES*

Stay up to date with news and pastoral care updates with the Careline. If you do not already receive this now once-weekly email newsletter, please contact the church office to add your name to the distribution.

Beginning the week of April 14, the Careline will be produced by our "virtual assistant" contractor who will be drafting all publications and social media. Please note the following deadlines and procedures:

- ❖ **For Events in the Life of the Church:** Event information and invitations should be sent to our contractor (contact info below) no later than noon on Tuesday of the first week that the information should be included. Please include the following information:
 - The text of the announcement/invitation as you want it published;
 - A contact person with contact information;
 - The first date you want the information included and for how many weeks (maximum 4 weeks).
 - Include any art or graphics you want to accompany the text.
- ❖ **For Community Events Outside the Church:** Event information and invitations should follow the same procedures as those for events in the life of the church. Please note that the standard will be to advertise outside events for two weeks.
- ❖ **For the Prayer List:** Prayer requests should be sent no later than noon on Tuesday. If there is an urgent need or last minute detail that needs to be communicated, contact Robert and the office with the information and we will make every effort to include it if possible or, if appropriate, send a special Careline with the information.

The contact information for our virtual assistant, Caleb, is jones.caleb.a.34@gmail.com Please use only email to contact him. If you have questions or concerns, please let Robert know.

The Careline will be sent in the late afternoon on Wednesday.

Calendar Updates

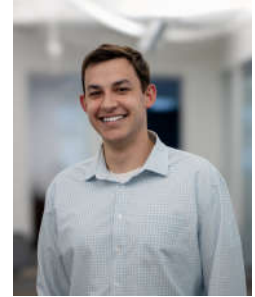
While we are in the process of setting up our new database and calendar, all events and space requests should be sent to the office, Robert, and Candice.

Session Reports

All updates to the church calendar and any information for the church session should be sent to the office and copied to Robert.

Greetings from your Virtual Assistant!

Hello All! My name is Caleb Jones, I have been assigned as your virtual assistant through Ministry Architects! Part of my draw to work with your ministry was my own background in the Presbyterian Church. My father is a reverend of the Presbyterian church and I find the tradition and community refreshing. A bit about me - I enjoy all things sports and outdoors, specifically fishing, golf and basketball. It is an honor to serve Westover Hills and I appreciate everyone's help and feedback already.



STAFF AND MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

Dr. Robert Wm Lowry Pastor/Head of Staff

David Austin Director of Music

Shawn Mitteldorf Preschool Director

Tammy Pflug Treasurer

Ulysses Neyland Sexton

Elder Liz Branch Recording Clerk
& Christian Education

Elder Candice Misenheimer

Corresponding Clerk &
Matthew 25 (Yard Sign
Ministry)

Elder Ray Stephens Worship and Arts

Elder Bob Quinn Building and Grounds

Elder Debbie Cooper Stewardship and Finance

Elder Ann Patterson Preschool Committee

Sally Browder Matthew 25 (Church Vitality)

Betty Glenn Presbyterian Women

Alice Ahart Presbyterian Women

Elder Bill Smith Personnel

Alice Ahart Kitchen

Deacons Shirley Garlington and Kay McCollum

Deacons Co-Moderators

Affiliated Ministries

Dr. Robert Wm Lowry The Table

Rev. Marie Mainard O'Connell The Central
Arkansas Queer
Collective

Rev. Deacon Carol-Ann Blow Sister Thea
Bowman
Ecumenical
Catholic Church

Church Calendar and Website

Westover Hills Presbyterian Church

6400 Richard B. Hardie Drive
Little Rock, AR 72207

