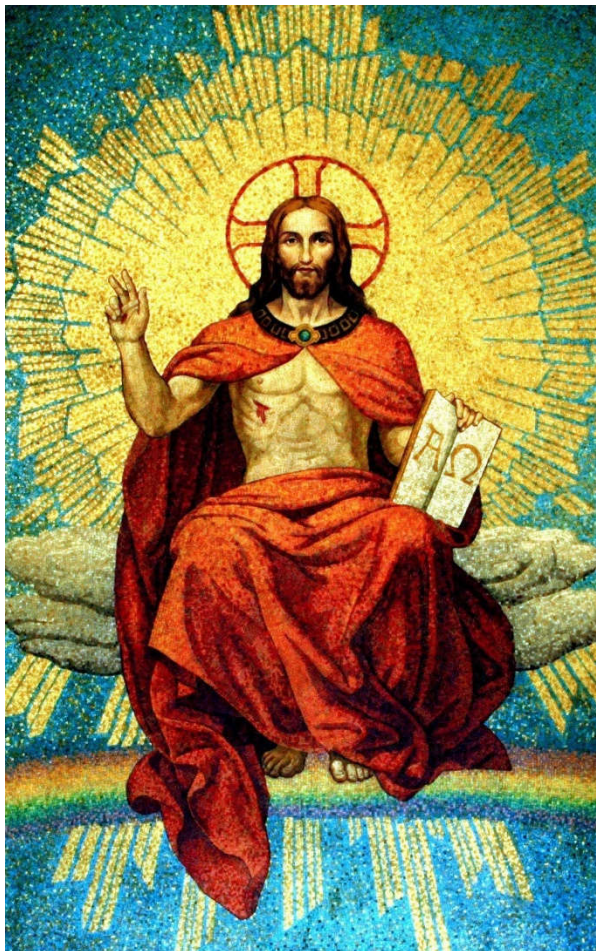


WESTOVER HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)



Sixth Sunday After Epiphany

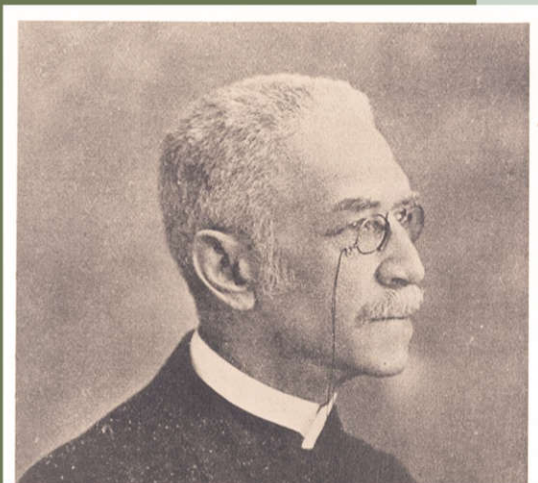
February 16, 2025

10:30am

OUR MISSION

Westover Hills Presbyterian Church exists to worship & learn, welcome & celebrate, advocate & serve with people open to a faith shaped by practice to be a congregation recognized as a safe place and a resource for action, acceptance, and joy.

Adopted May 2024



WESTOVER HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

**FRANCIS JAMES
GRIMKE**

Black History Month
Celebrating the Legacy of
Black Presbyterians

WE GATHER AT GOD'S INVITATION

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

WELCOME & INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Rev. Dr. Robert Lowry

PRELUDE

David Austin, Director of Music

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shirley Garlington, Liturgist

Who among you is seeking the wisdom of God?

We long to hear God's Word spoken to our hearts.

Who among you is seeking God's bright and holy truth?

We long to learn the ways of wisdom and righteousness.

Who among you is seeking a Spirit-filled life?

We long to live lives of holiness and light.

God grants God's wisdom generously to all who ask.

Come near, people of God!

Let us worship in wisdom and truth.

OPENING PRAYER

God of gentle rains and warm sun, God who encourages growth;
we are creatures who sometimes grow quickly, and sometimes get stuck.

God of freedom, of liberation, of binding ropes being cut;
we are bound in ways we don't always understand or recognize.

God of exodus and exile and homecoming,
God who calls us to leave where we are and come home;
**help us to have the courage to make the journey
and to trust in the path.**

God of health and healing,
God who wants us to be made whole;
**we come as people who are wounded in body and in spirit,
people who seek healing.**

God who has laid out a way for us to live,
who has given us rules for living in community;
**we come as people who sometimes go astray,
people who stretch the rules.**

God of Grace, we come as people who live through that Grace.
**And so we praise you for the growth,
we rejoice in being set free,
we dance along the path that leads us home,
we give thanks for the healing we have received,
we relax in the knowledge that we are forgiven
and we live as people of Grace. Amen.**

+GATHERING HYMN

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Purple #275

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jesus, teacher and Lord,
when we hear your criticism of the behaviour
of the scribes and the Pharisees in the gospel today,
we wonder what has changed.

People still place unwarranted burdens on others,
still demand preferential treatment,
still abuse positions of leadership.
We are ashamed to confess that this does not only happen
in society at large,
it happens also within the church.

**Forgive our participation in practices
which inflate our egos at the expense of others.**

Silence is kept

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

+SUNG RESPONSE

“Alleluia!”

Purple #587

+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”

Purple #458

SCRIPTURE READING

Colossians 2:6-19

SERMON

“Full Rich Lives”

Rev. Dr. Robert Lowry

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

+HYMN OF RESPONSE

“Baptized in Water”

Purple #482

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Do we believe?

Yes, in spite of ourselves, we do believe!

**While some follow fad and fashion,
changing with the seasons in Paris, London and New York,
we follow the man from Nazareth.**

**While some put their hope in a big lotto win,
or chase profits at no matter what cost to family,
we put our hope in loving one another as our Christ has loved us.**

**While some may give in to a sophisticated cynicism,
or some fall into apathy or despair,
we put out faith in the God who has given us his only true son.**

**While some may boast of their superior education,
culture, race, or living standard,
we boast in the self-giving of that Son on a Cross.**

**While some try to justify themselves by prizing fame or power,
or by claiming superior morals,
we allow the grace of our Lord to Jesus to be our best prize.**

**Because of Jesus, yes, we believe in the living God
by whose Holy Spirit all things are open to change and renewal.
And that includes us and the church,
thanks be to God!**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

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 today our daily bread.
And forgive our debts as we forgive our debtors.

Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WE DEPART IN GOD'S NAME

†CLOSING HYMN

"Baptized in Water"

Purple #306

†CHARGE AND BENEEDICTION

†POSTLUDE



THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

JOIN US ON THE JOURNEY!

FEB. 16 – FEB. 22, 2025

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 below to be directed to the contact page of our website.



Digital Visitor Card

Support The Presbyterian Village

The Presbyterian Village Auxiliary Board is beginning the new year by asking Westover Hills members to consider becoming "Friends of the Presbyterian Village Auxiliary" for 2025. You just make a donation of your choosing!! This enables us to financially supplement activities and events for our senior residents.

Charlotte Frith and Shirley Garlington will be in the foyer after church today, Sunday, Feb. 16th to take donations if you wish to become a friend of the Village. Or you can mail or drop off a check to the Village.

Deacon Luncheon & Workshop

Deacons Class of 2025 and Class of 2026, please join us after worship today, February 16, for a luncheon and workshop in The Chapel. We will work on plans for serving our congregation in the coming months.

Westover Hills Preschool Registration 2025-26

Registration for Westover Hills Preschool is now open for current students and any interested church members who have children or grandchildren ages 18 months to four years (in September). Call Director Shawn Mittledorf at (501) 666-0880 or email westoverhillspreschool@gmail.com for more information. Registration opens to the public in February.

2nd Wednesday Workgroup at Ferncliff

Each fall through spring, Westover Hills serves in mission at Ferncliff checking Gifts of the Heart disaster kits for accuracy and packing them ready for shipment to survivors in need of assistance. More than ever, extra hands are needed for this task. Our next work date is March 12 from 9am-12noon. No experience is necessary & everyone is welcome. We always have great conversation and a lot of laughter. If you need a ride, please contact Kay Stephens, (501) 765-1661, rayandkaystephens@att.net.

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:

From Max Snowden: "I want to thank everyone for your prayers, cards, food and constant concern and support that you have shared with Ann and me during the past few months. In January, I received a good report from my PET scan thanks to my medical team and the outstanding care and companionship of Ann & my family. After 3 chemo treatments, the tumor in my lung had shrunk substantially. My oncologist said, 'you must have a lot of people praying for you' and we assured him that yes, we do. Though I'm recovering slowly, I am making progress. My next treatment plan includes daily radiation therapy for 6 weeks beginning in mid-February, along with concurrent chemo therapy every three weeks that started last week and will continue

until mid-April. We are hopeful that another PET scan - scheduled for 8 weeks after my last radiation treatment - will show even greater improvement. (Perhaps it will show I'm cancer-free!) Thanks again for the prayers. ”;

Donna Warmack; Tammy Miller's brother Robin as he is in Hospice; Anna Morgan - Grandniece of Kathy Phillips - Suffering from cystic fibrosis, and in ICU; Charlie Frith, recovering from surgery; Liz Gath, undergoing chemo; Jennifer Garlington, Shirley Garlington's niece, started new treatments to combat renewed cancer growth;

Survivors, responders, and communities impacted by wildfires, especially in the LA area;

John Bowyer, friend of Ann & Max, bone biopsy procedure;

Judi King, ongoing health concerns;

Max Snowden, undergoing treatment for cancer;

Sam Highsmith, in hospice care at Presbyterian Village;

Beth Highsmith, in memory care in Alabama near her daughter;

Isatu Lebbie continuing to recover from a stroke;

Ellen Dreyfuss, Nancy's friend, just had emergency brain surgery;

Rene Thompson, friend of Joyce Smith, dealing with cancer treatments;

Stacy Harter dealing with cancer;

Monroe Flucas, Jr., Julie Gaffney, Martin Gaffney, Richard Gaffney, Eunice Holdcroft as they deal with health issues (friends of Judi King);

Our members and friends at Presbyterian Village;

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 February are Shirley Garlington and Mary Henry

Westover Hills Presbyterian Church

6400 Richard B. Hardie Drive

Little Rock, AR 72207

501-663-6383

