

The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

In the Christian year, we are now in the season of Epiphany. Epiphany is a time that helps us to remember Jesus as the long awaited Hebrew Messiah and His mission to the nations. Epiphany has a particular focus on Jesus as the Light of the World and "God with us," and the Church's role in proclaiming that Jesus is Lord.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP & COMMUNION

EVERYONE NEEDS THE GOSPEL

"It is the straight-edge of the Law that shows us how crooked we are." --J.B. Phillips

"If we see that we are guilty, we will understand that for the Gospel to be effective it must clear us of our guilt; if we are alienated from God, we must be reconciled to Him; if we stand under His judicial wrath, that wrath must be propitiated; if the entire created order lies under the curse, the curse must be lifted and the created order transformed; if we are dead, we must be made alive; if the heart of our idolatry is abysmal self-focus and the de-godding of God, God must be restored in our vision and life to His rightful glory. In other words, we gain clarity regarding the Gospel when we discern...what it fixes."

--D.A. Carson

Call to Worship

Psalm 50:1-4, 23 The Mighty One, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

Our God comes; He does not keep silence; before Him is a devouring fire, around Him a mighty tempest.

He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that He may judge His people.

"The one who offers thanksgiving as his sacrifice glorifies Me; to one who orders his way rightly I will show the salvation of God!"

Invocation

Song of Adoration

COME THOU FOUNT

1. Come, Thou Fount of every blessing Tune my heart to sing Thy grace Streams of mercy never ceasing Call for songs of loudest praise Teach me some melodious sonnet Sung by flaming tongues above Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it Mount of Thy redeeming love

2. Here I raise my Ebenezer Here by Thy great help I've come And I hope by Thy good pleasure Safely to arrive at home Jesus sought me when a stranger Wandering from the fold of God He to rescue me from danger Interposed His precious blood 3. Oh to grace how great a debtor Daily I'm constrained to be Let Thy goodness, like a fetter Bind my wandering heart to Thee Prone to wander, Lord I feel it Prone to leave the God I love Here's my heart, Oh take and seal it Seal it for Thy courts above "Then Samuel took a stone and set it up... He named it Ebenezer, saying, 'Thus far has the LORD helped us." I Samuel 7:12

Robert Robinson (1758); Tune: NETTLETON, Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music (1843). Public domain.

Declaring the Faith

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. The Apostles' Creed

Reflecting on the **apostles'** Creed

What do you believe concerning "the forgiveness of sins"?

I believe that God, because of Christ's satisfaction, will no longer remember any of my sins or my sinful nature which I need to struggle against all my life. Rather, by grace God grants me the righteousness of Christ to free me forever from judgment. Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 56 (1563)

Welcome

We are glad you have joined us this morning! If you are visiting our church for the first time, or are a regular attender or church member, we encourage you to use our online or paper "Keep in Touch" form to introduce yourself, request prayer, or request more information about our church. Following the service, please introduce yourself to Pastor Steve Shelby either in the Gallery or on the front sidewalk.

Commissioning (10:30am)

Led by Pastor Kevin Greene

Chris & Janna, Central Asia

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 59:7-9, 14-16, 20

Their feet run to evil, and they are swift to shed innocent blood; their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; desolation and destruction are in their highways. The way of peace they do not know, and there is no justice in their paths; they have made their roads crooked; no one who treads on them knows peace. Therefore justice is far from us, and righteousness does not overtake us; we hope for light, and behold, darkness, and for brightness, but we walk in gloom. Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands far away; for truth has stumbled in the public squares, and uprightness cannot enter. Truth is lacking, and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey. The LORD saw it, and it displeased him that there was no justice. He saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no one to intercede; then his own arm brought him salvation, and his righteousness upheld him. "And a Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who turn from transgression," declares the LORD.

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

The offering isn't just about money. Our response to the Gospel goes much deeper; God demands our whole selves. The act of giving in worship is a part of offering ourselves as "living sacrifices" to God (Romans 12:1).

OFFERING

You can place your offering and/or tear-off as the plates pass. If you miss today's offering, please visit <u>www.wepc.org/giving</u> for online giving options or mail your offering to the church office (9008 Quioccasin Road, Henrico, VA, 23229).

PSALM 130

 From the depths of woe I raise to Thee The voice of lamentation
 Lord, turn a gracious ear to me
 And hear my supplication
 If Thou iniquities dost mark
 Our secret sins and misdeeds dark
 O who shall stand before Thee?
 (Who shall stand before Thee?)
 O who shall stand before Thee?
 (Who shall stand before Thee?)

2.To wash away the crimson stain Grace, grace alone availeth Our works, alas! Are all in vain In much the best life faileth No man can glory in Thy sight All must alike confess Thy might And live alone by mercy (Live alone by mercy) And live alone by mercy (Live alone by mercy) 3. Therefore my trust is in the Lord, And not in mine own merit
On Him my soul shall rest
His word upholds my fainting spirit
His promised mercy is my fort
My comfort and my sweet support
I wait for it with patience
(Wait for it with patience
(Wait for it with patience)
I wait for it with patience
(Wait for it with patience)

4. Though great our sins and sore our woes His grace much more aboundeth His helping love no limit knows Our upmost need it soundeth Our Shepherd good and true is He Who will at last His Israel free From all their sin and sorrow (All their sin and sorrow)

5. O who shall stand before Thee?(Who shall stand before Thee?)And live alone by mercy(Live alone by mercy)I wait for it with patience(Wait for it with patience)From all their sin and sorrow(All their sin and sorrow)

"Out of the depths I cry to you, Lord; Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy." Psalm 130:1-2

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CHILDREN'S WORSHIP (10:30am)

Children, age 4 through 2nd grade, will be dismissed prior to the sermon for a Bible Lesson, activity, and fellowship. Pick up from the Chapel. <u>www.wepc.org/grow/children</u>

CHILDRen's BLessing (10:30am)

Gather round ye children come Listen to the old, old Story Of the power of death undone By an Infant born of glory Son of God, Son of Man "But Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.'" Matthew 19:14

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SCRIPTURE Reading

Romans 3:1-20

¹Then what advantage has the Jew? Or what is the value of circumcision? ²Much in every way. To begin with, the Jews were entrusted with the oracles of God. ³What if some were unfaithful? Does their faithlessness nullify the faithfulness of God? ⁴By no means! Let God be true though every one were a liar, as it is written, "That you may be justified in your words, and prevail when you are judged." ⁵But if our unrighteousness serves to show the righteousness of God, what shall we say? That God is unrighteous to inflict wrath on us? (I speak in a human way.) ⁶By no means! For then how could God judge the world? ⁷But if through my lie God's truth abounds to his glory, why am I still being condemned as a sinner?⁸And why not do evil that good may come?—as some people slanderously charge us with saying. Their condemnation is just. ⁹What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin, ¹⁰as it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one; ¹¹no one understands; no one seeks for God. ¹²All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one." ¹³"Their throat is an open grave; they use their tongues to deceive." "The venom of asps is under their lips." ¹⁴"Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness." ¹⁵"Their feet are swift to shed blood; ¹⁶in their paths are ruin and misery, ¹⁷and the way of peace they have not known." ¹⁸"There is no fear of God before their eyes." ¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

Sermon

A Worship Guide with sermon notes and recordings is posted each Sunday at wepc.org/worship/sermons-media.

Preparation for the Lord's Supper

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

from Mark 14:16-25

The disciples prepared the Passover. And when it was evening, Jesus came with the twelve. And they were reclining at the table and as they were eating, He took bread. And after blessing it, He broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

Confession of Sin

Hear our words and our groanings, O Lord. Give attention to our cry for mercy. You are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with You. The boastful shall not stand before Your eyes; You hate all evildoers. You destroy those who speak lies; You abhor the bloodthirsty and deceitful. Forgive us, good Lord. We have sinned against You and our neighbor. We have sought to justify ourselves before You. We have attempted to atone for our own sins and punish the sins of others. And so, we have boasted in sin and self. By Your mercy alone, by the abundance of Your steadfast love may we enter Your house. Because of Your Son, O Lord, let us find refuge in You. Take away our sins and let us ever sing for joy. Cover us with Your favor as with a shield. For the sake of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen. Based on Psalm 5

Confession & Encouragement

Often we find that our hearts worship something other than God. In confessing our sins, the Holy Spirit probes our hearts and minds and graciously shows us what we mistakenly believe will give us life. Jesus is good to lead us from sorrow over our sin to the sweetness of His grace.

Silent Confession of Sin

WORDS OF Encouragement

Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and He will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for Him. Hebrews 9:28

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

West End Presbyterian Church welcomes all baptized Christians who actively trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, who are willing to forsake their sin and heart-idols, and who are members of congregations that proclaim the Gospel, to participate in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper with us. The Elders presiding over the Supper are praying for you as the congregation participates in the sacrament.

If your child is ready to make a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ, please contact the WEPC office.

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT TRANSFORMS US BY HIS GRACE

Songs of Response to God's Grace

"Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" Mark 9:24

Clint Wells | John Newton © Words: Public Domain; Music: 2007 Clint Wells. Used by permission. CCLI #708363

HELP MY UNBELIEF

1. I know the Lord is nigh And would but cannot pray For Satan meets me when I try And frights my soul away And frights my soul away

2. I would but can't repent Though I endeavor oft This stony heart can ne'er relent Till Jesus makes it soft Till Jesus makes it soft...

Help my unbelief Help my unbelief Help my unbelief My help must come from Thee Though wooed by love divine No arguments have power to move A soul as base as mine A soul so base as mine

3. I would but cannot love

I would but cannot rest In God's most holy will I know what He appoints is best And murmur at it still I murmur at it still...

"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

Graham Kendrick © 1989 Make Way Music (ASCAP) Used by permission. CCLI #708363

AMAZING LOVE

1. My Lord, what love is this That pays so dearly That I, the guilty one May go free...

Amazing love, O what sacrifice The Son of God given for me My debt he pays, and my death he dies That I might live, that I might live 2. And so they watched him die Despised, rejected But oh, the blood he shed Flowed for me...

3. And now, this love of Christ Shall flow like rivers Come wash your guilt away Live again...

ARISE MY SOUL, ARISE

1. Arise my soul, arise Shake off your guilty fears The bleeding sacrifice On my behalf appears Before the throne my surety stands Before the throne my surety stands My name is written on His hands...

Arise (arise) arise (arise) Arise, arise my soul arise Arise (arise) arise (arise) Arise, arise my soul arise Shake off your guilty fears and rise

2. He ever lives aboveFor me to intercedeHis all-redeeming loveHis precious blood to pleadHis blood atoned for every raceHis blood atoned for every raceAnd sprinkles now the throne of grace...

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow Praise Him creatures here below Praise Him above ye heavenly host Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost Amen

Benediction

"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality."

A team is available for prayer at the front of the Sanctuary following the 9 & 10:30 AM services.

Pastor Steve Shelby preached today's sermon and administered the Lord's supper. **Pastor Kevin Greene** led worship. **Trey & Jen Wickham**, **Kristy Elliott, Jude Molique, Rick Hepner, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered**, and **Pat Reynolds** led this morning's congregational singing. **Elder Rick McWhorter** and **Scott Hoye** managed today's audio and video live stream. **AJ Anonick** managed the in-house video system.

3. Five bleeding wounds He bears Received on Calvary They pour effectual prayers They strongly plead for me "Forgive him, oh forgive," they cry "Forgive him, oh forgive," they cry Don't let that ransomed sinner die...

4. My God is reconciled His pard'ning voice I hear He owns me for His child I can no longer fear With confidence I now draw nigh With confidence I now draw nigh And "Father Abba Father" cry... "Consequently, He is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them." Hebrews 7:25

Charles Wesley, 1742. ©1996 Twit, Kevin. Used by permission. CCLI #708363

"Let everything that has breath praise the LORD." Psalm 150:6

Text: Thomas Ken (1709) Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH (Bourgeois, 1551)

Romans 12:12-13

The Last Word

God always has the last word in our worship. For those who are in Christ Jesus, these are always words of blessing.

<u>Announcements</u>

ADULT MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/adults

Adult Sunday School

Meaning of Marriage: Facing the Complexities of Commitment with the Wisdom of God

Feb 12 - May 28 / Rm 19 / 9 AM Join us for a discussion of the video series by Timothy and Kathy Keller, facilitated by couples John & Anne McGurn, John & Joyce Minor, and Gary & Kitty Witthoefft.

Book of Revelation

Feb 12 - May 28 / Rm 810 / 9 AM Have you ever been confused about Revelation? Do you wonder whether this book of the Bible is relatable to your life? Join Joe Brown and Matt Bouknight for a study of this often misunderstood book to be encouraged and challenged in your faith.

Wednesday Night Fellowship: The Believing Life

Weekly through March 29 / Chapel / 6-7:30 PM Whether you consider yourself to be a longtime Christian or a skeptic, The Believing Life is designed to help you grow in and through the power of the Gospel.

Contact: Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org)

Praying Like Paul Prayer Group

Sundays through Feb 19 / 9AM / Room 21 Join us as we pray for God's work in our church, community, and world. Contact: Mary McWhorter (<u>marymcw1@gmail.com</u>)

Women's Ministry

www.wepc.org/grow/women

Wellspring & Restore Bible Studies

Join us as we continue studying the book of Ephesians. New women are welcome. Wellspring: Tuesdays / 9:15-11:30 AM Restore: Wednesdays / 6-7:30 PM Contact Brice Bowman (<u>brice@wepc.org</u>) or visit <u>our website</u> to register.

Women's Retreat / Feb 25-26, 2023

Join us at Roslyn Retreat Center for a weekend of rest and refreshment in the Gospel, while growing in community with the women of WEPC. <u>Register now</u> or contact Heather Oberle (<u>hoberle@wepc.org</u>).

Men's Ministry - Second Monday

www.wepc.org/grow/men February 13 / 6:30 PM / FH Join us for our monthly gathering of men from WEPC and the community for food, fellowship, and Gospel teaching. Contact: Mike Glasgow (atfmanhokie89@yahoo.com)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/children

9 AM

- Nursery (infant-3 years); upstairs
- Sunday School (PreK-5); downstairs

10:30 AM

- Nursery (infant-3 years old); upstairs
- Childrén's Worship (4 years-2nd grade); Chapel

Kids' Club (K-5th grade) Wednesdays / 6-7:30 PM / Room 25

Vacation Bible School

June 19-22 / 5:30- 8 PM

Youth Ministry

www.wepc.org/grow/youth

- Youth Sunday School: 9AM / Youth Lounge
- Youth Group: Wednesdays / Youth Lounge 6-7:30 PM--Middle School 7:30-9 PM--High School
- Summer Internships: We are now accepting applications for WEPC Youth Ministry Interns for the 2023 Summer season! Read the job description and to apply, complete the <u>employment</u> <u>application</u>. Contact: Isaiah Thomas (isaiah@wepc.org)

Missions

www.wepc.org/missions

Missions Lunch with the Opeduns

March 5 / 12 PM / FH Join us for fellowship and updates from WEPC missions partners Boas & Jenna Opedun serving in Uganda. Please RSVP <u>here</u>.

STEP Interest Meeting

Feb 22 / 6-8 PM

WEPC Missions Partner, STEP (Strategies to Elevate People), is looking for mentors for two adult programs serving the Gilpin Court public housing community. If you would like to learn more about what it looks like to mentor, please RSVP <u>here.</u>

Neighborhood Outreach IIInistry

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

Tutoring Ministry Meeting Feb 19 / 9AM / Library

Join us if you are a current, new, or potential tutor for a great opportunity to hear more about our tutoring ministry and learn some practical tools for guiding and helping your students. Contact: Évelyne Cubahiro (evelyne@wepc.org)

10K Training Team

Join the Good News Can't Lose Team if you are interested in running, jogging, or walking the Monument Avenue 10k on Saturday, April 22. Official training begins Saturday, February 11 at Deep Run Park at 8AM. All levels are welcome as well as middle and high school students. For more information and entry fee, contact Changjwok Deng (changjwok@wepc.org).

General Information

Deacons of the Week

Matt Wilks, Stephen Hunn, & Bryan Meeks

Fiscal Year Giving Report (as of 2/5/2023):

Operating gifts YTD: \$1,587,242.63 Forecasted gifts YTD: \$1,476,451.26 % of expected budget received: 107.50%

WEPC Preschool Enrollment is Now Open!

Enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year is now open! We'd love your family to join us next year! For more info, visit wepc.or/preschool, contact Casey (casey@wepc.org) or pick up an enrollment packet outside the WEPC Community Preschool office in the gallery.

2022 Contribution Statements

WEPC emailed end-of-year contribution/tax statements on January 23. If you did not receive a statement electronically or via USPS by January 30, or if you feel that your statement has errors, please contact AmyCaroline Wilks (acwilks@ wepc.org).

You are invited to a Movie Night!

Feb 18 / 4:30 PM / FH

Join us for the movie Through the Shadowlands (1993), by C. S. Lewis, followed by dinner (bring your own) and discussion. Everyone is welcome! Sponsored by the Third Saturday Mature Singles Ministry. Contact: Janice Sharp (loljanice727@ gmail.com) or Beth Childress (chi42@henrico.us)

March Marriage Madness

March 25 / 4-8 PM / WEPC Join us for an evening of teaching, discussion, dinner, and fellowship as we gather to hear how the Gospel is the foundation for our marriages. Childcare available. Cost: \$20/individual & \$40/couple. <u>Register now!</u>

Prayer & Support Group

Email pray4fam@wepc.org for prayer and support for couples struggling with infertility.

Counseling

Lara Finnie, Licensed Professional Counselor at WEPC, is available by appointment. Visit Abiding Branches for more information.

Lent & Caster 2023

www.wepc.org/lent-and-easter

Lent 2023 Devotional

A weekly worship devotional to guide the church in practicing repentance as we prepare to celebrate Christ's victory over death through Scripture, prayer, and song. Available February 19 online and in the church gallery.

Worship Services

- Ash Wednesday / February 22 / 6:30PM
- Maundy Thursday / April 6 / 7PM
- Good Friday / April 7 / 7PM
- •Easter Sunday / April 9 / 9 & 10:30AM

Register Now for the Personal Retreat

Saturday, March 18 / 8:30AM-12:30 PM Roslyn Retreat Center Join us for a time alone in prayer, reflection, Scripture readings, and communion. Registration is open. Contact: Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org)

FOOD PANTRY

www.wepc.org/mercyministry

There are <u>3 ways</u> to donate to our food pantry:

- Use the CURRENT NEEDS list from the website.
- Join a FOOD ITEM TEAM described on the website for list-free giving.
- Designate MONETARY GIFTS to the food pantry.

Кеер іп Тоисн

| Especially if this is your first S | Sunday with us | -welcome! |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Date: | | |
| Name: | | |
| Children's Names: | | |
| Address: | | |
| City: | | |
| Phone: | | |
| Email: | | |
| Who invited you to WEPC? | How did you | first hear about us? |

(Check if this is <u>NEW</u> contact information for you. Please check the appropriate boxes: **Prayer Requests:** ◊ Visitor Age: $\langle \bar{2}0 \text{ or younger} \rangle$ ♦ Male ◊ Female ◊ 21-26 ♦ Single ◊ 27-34 \$ Student (Grade ____) ♦ 35-49 ♦ Student (College) ♦ 50-64 ♦ 65 and older ♦ Married ◊ Parent ◊ Widowed I would like info about: **WEPC** ♦ Women's Ministry ♦ Men's Ministry ♦ Childrens Ministry ♦ Youth Ministry ♦ Adult Classes ♦ Home Groups ♦ Neighborhood Outreach Becoming a member of WEPC ♦ Other:_____ ◊ Please include me on the WEPC email list. ◊ I am interested in learning more about becoming a Christian.