

GOD THE FATHER CALLS US TO WORSHIP HIM

The Seventh Sunday of Easter We are now in the season of

Easter—a celebration of Jesus' victory over sin and death.
Followers of Christ are called to a life of dying to sin, rising to the life of the Spirit, and participating in His reign as the Sovereign Lord.
The Church now lives as those

The Church now lives as those who are "risen with Christ," living under His rule.

Preparation for Worship & Communion

ONE BODY IN CHRIST

"Paul begins by making it clear that in view of the wonderful salvation of which he has been writing, believers must respond with wholehearted commitment. Being the servants of a God who loves like that means that the whole life is to be lived in service to God." –Leon Morris

"It is not enough to be nonconformists. Be transformed ones, altogether changed into another form." –Charles Spurgeon

"The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and soberminded for the sake of your prayers. Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." —I Peter 4:7-10

Call to Worship

Jeremiah 9:23-24

Thus says the Lord: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches,

But let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me,

That I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth.

For in these things I delight," declares the Lord.

Invocation

Song of Adoration

THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

- 1. The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord She is His new creation By water and the Word From heav'n He came and sought her To be His holy bride With His own blood He bought her And for her life He died
- 2. Elect from ev'ry nation
 Yet one o'er all the earth
 Her charter of salvation
 One Lord, one faith, one birth
 One holy name she blesses
 Partakes one holy food
 And to one hope she presses
 With ev'ry grace endued
- 3. Mid toil and tribulation
 And tumult of her war
 She waits the consummation
 Of peace forevermore
 Till with the vision glorious
 Her longing eyes are blest
 And the great Church victorious
 Shall be the Church at rest
- 4. Yet she on earth hath union With God the Three in One And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we Like them, the meek and lowly On high may dwell with Thee

"For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ." I Corinthians 3:11

Text: Samuel J. Stone (1866). Tune: AURELIA (S. Wesley, 1864). Public Domain.

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.

Presentation of New Members

David & Deanna Baird (9AM) Suzie Bird (9AM) David & Katie Clark (10:30AM) David Krieger (10:30AM) Mary Krieger (10:30AM) Evelina Long (10:30AM)

Covenant Baptism

Ioanna Ruth Shore (9AM)

OLD Testament Reading

Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the LORD says: Arise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the LORD has an indictment against his people, and he will contend with Israel. "O my people, what have I done to you? How have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD." "With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Confession of Sin

Heavenly Father, loving King, all of our sins are laid bare before Your eyes: We love ourselves, but not those around us. We have nursed anger and envy, and have forsaken Your humility, gentleness, patience, love and unity. We tie our joy to our circumstances, rather than to Your Gospel. We repent of our fruitless wanderings, and ask that You renew us in Jesus Christ. Let us hear Your voice saying: "Awake and rise! His blood is your Peace, His death is your Life, His Spirit is your Power." Restore to us the joy of Your salvation and persuade us that a life lived in Your service is a life of perfect freedom. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

Words of Encouragement

Galatians 6:14-15

Far be it from me to boast except in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation.

Ministry of Prayer

Adapted from The Valley of Vision, "God and Myself"

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.

Offering

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

COME YE SOULS BY SIN AFFLICTED (LOOK TO JESUS)

- 1. Come ye souls by sin afflicted Bowed with fruitless sorrow down By the broken law convicted Through the cross behold the crown Look to Jesus, look to Jesus, look to Jesus Mercy flows through Him alone
- 2. Take His easy yoke and wear it Love will make your obedience sweet Christ will give you strength to bear it While His grace shall guide your feet Safe to glory, safe to glory, safe to glory Where His ransomed captives meet
- 3. Blessed are the eyes that see Him Bless the ears that hear His voice Blessed are the souls that trust Him And in Him alone rejoice His commandments His commandments His commandments Then become their happy choice
- 4. Sweet as home to pilgrims weary Light to newly opened eyes Like full springs in deserts dreary Is the rest the cross supplies All who taste it, all who taste it, All who taste it Shall to rest immortal rise

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).

"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." 1 Peter 5:7

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CHILDRen's Lab Commissioning (10:30am)

Led by Lisa Nelson

CHILDREn'S WORSHIP (10:30am)

Children, age 4 through 1st grade, will be dismissed prior to the sermon for a Bible Lesson, activity, and fellowship. Pick up from the Chapel. www.wepc.org/grow/children

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 12:1-8

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁴Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

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

I Corinthians 11:23-26

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper He took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

Leader: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of the faith:



THE Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

First Communion: David Krieger, Mary Krieger and Evelina Long (10:30AM)

David, Mary, and Evelina recently met with the Elders, who heard her testimony of faith in Jesus Christ. We invite the Krieger and Long families to receive communion first.

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. For a list of ingredients in the wafers, see www.wepc.org/communion.

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

TEACH US YOUR WAYS

- Teach us Your ways
 Teach us Your ways
 As we learn from one another
 Learn to love each other
 Teach us Your ways
- 2. Teach us to give
 Teach us to give
 Give ourselves for one another
 Learn to help each other
 Teach us to give
- 3. Teach us to weep
 Teach us to weep
 Let us weep with one another
 Learn to love each other
 Teach us to weep
- 4. Hallelujah, hallelujah Let us learn from one another Learn to love each other Teach us Your ways

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another." John 13:34

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"Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."

I Corinthians 15:58

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YOUR LABOR IS NOT IN VAIN

- 1. Your labor is not in vain
 Though the ground underneath you
 Is cursed and stained
 Your planting and reaping
 Are never the same
 But your labor is not in vain
- 2. Your labor is not unknown
 Though the rocks they cry out
 And the sea it may groan
 The place of your toil
 May not seem like a home
 But your labor is not unknown...

For I am with you, I am with you I am with you, I am with you For I have called you Called you by name Your labor is not in vain

- 3. The vineyards you plant will bear fruit The fields will sing out And rejoice with the truth For all that is old will at last be made new The vineyards you plant will bear fruit...
- 4. The houses you labored to build Will finally with laughter and joy be filled The serpent that hurts
 And destroys shall be killed
 And all that is broken be healed...

"And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:6

Jonny Robinson | Michael Farren | Rich Thompson ©2018 CityAlight Music. Used by permission. CCLI #708363

YET NOT I BUT THROUGH CHRIST IN ME

1. What gift of grace is Jesus my Redeemer There is no more for heaven now to give He is my Joy, my Righteousness And Freedom My steadfast Love My deep and boundless Peace

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus For my life is wholly bound to His Oh how strange and divine I can sing all is mine Yet not I but through Christ in me

2. The night is dark but I am not forsaken For by my side the Savior, He will stay I labor on in weakness and rejoicing For in my need His power is displayed

To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me Through the deepest valley He will lead Oh the night has been won And I shall overcome Yet not I but through Christ in me 3. No fate I dread I know I am forgiven The future sure, the price it has been paid For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon And He was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold, my sin has been defeated Jesus now and ever is my plea Oh the chains are released I can sing, I am free Yet not I but through Christ in me

4. With every breath I long to follow Jesus For He has said that He will bring me home And day by day I know He will renew me Until I stand with joy before the throne

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus All the glory evermore to Him When the race is complete Still my lips shall repeat Yet not I but through Christ in me

Doxology



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

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

What does "doxology" mean? It's derived from two Greek words meaning "glory" and "word." A doxology, then, is a spoken word or song that ascribes glory to God. Today's doxology calls all of creation to praise God as the source of all blessing and acknowledges His Trinitarian (three-in-one) nature.

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. Elder Chris Newlin, Erin Bouknight, Georgia Collier, Buddy Miner, Ford Hendrix, Tim Drummond, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered and Troy Arnold led this morning's congregational singing. Elder Gordon Kuhfuss and Rob MacBride managed today's audio and video live stream. Michael Whitman managed the in-house video system.

The tapestry at the front of the sanctuary is the traditional liturgical color of white for this 50-day season of Easter. The tapestry will return to its many colors during the season of Pentecost. The piece is entitled "Psalm 148," and was created by a team of WEPC artists.

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.

announcements

adult Ministry

www.wepc.org/adults

Adult Sunday School - 9AM, through May 28

- Meaning of Marriage: Facing the Complexities of Commitment with the Wisdom of God Rm 810
- Book of Revelation Rm 21
- Summer Adult Sunday School: Exploring Islam

June 4 - September 3 / Rm 810 What do Muslims believe and how can we speak to them with love and respect? Many Christians have an uninformed opinion about Islam. We will study and discuss the tenets, history, and practices of Islam, facilitated by individuals that are currently involved in outreach to the Muslim community.

Wise Widows Fellowship Lunch

May 31 / 12-2PM

Join us for fellowship and encouragement as we enjoy lunch together, provided at Julie Phillips' house - RSVP to Julie at <u>juliedw77@yahoo.com</u>.

Summer Fellowship 2023 Being Human: A Study of Genesis 1-3

www.wepc.org/summerfellowship Wednesdays beginning June 28 7-8:30 PM / Chapel Join us as we walk through Genesic considering who God is, and what

Join us as we walk through Genesis 1-3, considering who God is, and what it means for us to be made in His image. Outspoken skeptics, new Christians and long-time believers are encouraged to attend. Led by Kevin & Kim Greene and Becca Wethered (kevin@wepc.org, kim@wepc.org, becca@wepc.org)

Wrap-around Ministry

www.wepc.org/outreach/wrap-around-ministry/

Monthly Meeting

TODAY / 9 AM / Rm. 19 Join us for our monthly meeting to learn about the many ways you can support foster families. Contact: Ali Fogarty (alifogarty@gmail.com)

YOUTH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/youth

- Youth Sunday School: 9 AM / Youth Lounge
- Youth Group: Wednesdays / Youth Lounge 6-7:30 PM--Middle School 7:30-9 PM--High School
- May 24 / 6-8 PM: Parent/Student Volleyball
- May 27 / 10:30 AM 12:30 PM: Paint the Ceiling
- Julý 22: Amazing Race
- July 29 Aug 2: The Landing Camp Trip Register <u>HERE!</u>

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
- Children's Worship (4 years-2nd grade); Chapel

Vacation Bible School 2023

June 19-22 / 5:30-8 PM Registration is open!

Volunteers Needed: Please sign-up <u>HERE</u>. Contact: Talya Tacosa O'Dea (<u>vbs@wepc.org</u>)

Missions

www.wepc.org/outreach/missions/

Missionaries in Residence: JJ & Susan Foster Connect & EnCourage Lunch

June 4 / 12 PM / Fellowship Hall Join us as we connect and hear from WEPC Missionary in Residence JJ Foster, who serves with his family in Europe. RSVP to Karen (missions@wepc.org)

Patty's Hope Celebration Night

June 1 / 6:30-8 PM / Fellowship Hall Come join WEPC mission's partner Patty's Hope for an evening of fellowship over dinner and a chance to hear testimonies of God's faithfulness from clients and speakers. RSVP to Leila Gunning at <u>leila@pattyshope.org</u>.

Young Lives Metro Richmond Camp

July 13-18 / Rockbridge

Childcare volunteers are needed to support teen moms as they learn Jesus loves them - adults, teens, and family teams are invited to join this mission! Cost and details <u>HERE</u>. Contact: Joyce Lawrence (jcl7577@comcast.net)

Neighborhood Outreach Ministry

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

Track Camp Summer 2023

June 26-30 / 5:30-8 PM Join us for a week of running, learning, and fellowship with neighbors in the community. All levels are welcome. Register <u>HERE</u> for track camp. Volunteers Needed: Please sign up <u>HERE</u>.

 Track Camp Interest Meeting SUN, June 4 / 9 AM / Room 21 For new and returning participants and volunteer leaders to learn more about how the camp week will run.

Contact: Changjwok Deng (<u>changjwok@wepc.org</u>)

General information

Deacons of the Week

Luke Shrader, Tim Andrews, Stephen Hunn, & Karl Kuder

Steve Shelby's Sabbatical

Pastor Steve Shelby will be taking a Sabbatical Leave this summer and will be away from the church from June 1-August 31. The general goals of a Sabbatical Leave are to enhance the personal ministry of our pastors and to further the long-term ministry objectives of the church. Sabbatical time could include, but are not limited to: spiritual renewal, physical rest and restoration, and professional growth.

Other staff members will be covering Steve's routine responsibilities during this time. We look forward to what God is going to do in and through his time away this summer. Please pray for Steve and his family in the coming months!

Congregational Meeting

June 4 / following 10:30 Service / Sanctuary Join us to review the 2023-24 budget, vote on the pastors' terms of call, and elect a new trustee for the church. Everyone is welcome; members will vote.

Celebration Sunday

June 4 / 9 AM / Fellowship Hall Come enjoy breakfast, celebrate our graduating seniors and rising 6th graders. All students and the families of rising 6th graders and of graduating seniors are invited. RSVP HERE.

Worship Arts Summer Book Study:

Liturgy of the Ordinary by Tish Harrison Warren Sundays / June 25-August 6 / 12-1:30PM / Rm 810 Do our seemingly mundane, ordinary actions matter? How do we worship God even when we're not at church? Join us as we consider how our daily, ordinary actions (checking email, brushing our teeth, even losing our keys!) can remind us of our Creator and draw us to worship Him. We'll eat lunch at 12PM and start the study at 12:30PM (lunch provided at our first meeting). Led by Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered & Donald Smith, click HERE to purchase a copy of the book. RSVP to Becca (becca@wepc.org).

Library Volunteers Needed

For as little as 3-4 hours a week at times that are flexible, the library team needs volunteers to come shelve books, process new materials, and welcome visitors. No library experience needed. If you have any questions, or if you would like to help, please email the WEPC librarians at library@ wepc.org

Save the Date: October 6 & 8, 2023 WEPC's 30th Anniversary Celebration Weekend!

"His Love Endures Forevér"

Join us as we reflect on and celebrate God's faithfulness to West End Presbyterian Church over these past 30 years! Friday will include a potluck dinner, followed by a worship service. Sunday will include our weekly worship services (9 & 10:30 AM), followed by a tailgate party in the parking lot, hosted by our Youth Ministry.

Fiscal Year Giving Report (as of 5/14/2023):

Operating gifts YTD: \$2,133,389.72 Forecasted gifts YTD: \$2,098,451.19 % of expected budget received: 101.66%

Prayer & Support Group

Email <u>pray4fam@wepc.org</u> for prayer and support for couples struggling with infertility.

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.

Keep in Touch

Especially if this is your first Sunday with us —welcome! Date: _____ Name: Children's Names: Address:____ City: State: ZIP: 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 ♦ Male ♦ 20 or younger ♦ 21-26 ♦ Female ♦ Single ♦ 27-34 ♦ Student (Grade ____) ♦ 35-49 ◊ 50-64 ♦ Student (College) ♦ 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 Prayer of Belief ♦ Becoming a member of WEPC ♦ Other: Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, ♦ Please include me on the WEPC email list. I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my ◊ I am interested in learning more about

punishment, and forgiving me. I run from my sins—

my old life living for myself—and receive you as

Savior, Amen.

becoming a Christian.