



**The Twenty-fifth Sunday after
Pentecost: Ordinary Time**

We are now in the season after Pentecost, known as "Ordinary Time." Having celebrated the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church at Pentecost, Ordinary Time signals the interim of the Church until Christ comes again in glory.

Jesus is faithfully advancing His Kingdom in the power of His Spirit in this season. We anticipate the consummation of all things when Christ comes in His glory as King of all.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP & Communion

YOU ARE NOT YOUR OWN

"I 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."

--*Romans 12:1*

"Now God's holy presence is no longer limited to the temple, for he indwells the church of Jesus Christ and even the bodies of individual believers. Since every place where God dwells is holy, believers must be careful not to defile God's temple - that is, their bodies - with sexual sin...Jesus is the master over one's body; he rules over what believers do with their bodies. And he is the Lord over the bodies of believers for their benefit, so that they might flourish."

--*Thomas R. Schreiner*

"What is your only comfort in life and in death?"

That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil."

--*The Heidelberg Catechism, Question 1*

CALL TO WORSHIP

1 Peter 2:4-6

As you come to Him, a Living Stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious,

You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

For it stands in Scripture:

"Behold, I am laying in Zion a Stone, a Cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in Him will not be put to shame."

INVOCATION

SONGS OF ADORATION

NONE OTHER LAMB

1. None other Lamb, none other Name
None other Hope in Heaven or sea
No hiding place from guilt and shame
None beside Thee, none beside Thee

*All who labor
And are heavy laden
Come unto me
And I will give you rest*

2. My faith burns low, my hope burns low
Only my heart's desire cries out in me
By the deep thunder of its want and woe
Cries out to Thee, cries out to Thee...

3. Lord, Thou art life
Though I be dead
Love's fire Thou art, however cold I be
Nor heav'n have I, no place for my head
No home but Thee, no home but Thee...

*"Behold the Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of
the world!" John 1:29*

Words: Christina Rossetti.
Music: Alex Mejias and
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CCLI #708363

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

Tom & Barbara Clark (9AM)
Matthew Milhous (10:30AM)
Christopher & Casey Ryan (10:30AM)

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (10:30 am)

Matthew Mihous
Lilly Jane Ryan

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the Most Holy Place, underneath the wings of the cherubim. For the cherubim spread out their wings over the place of the ark, so that the cherubim overshadowed the ark and its poles. And the poles were so long that the ends of the poles were seen from the Holy Place before the inner sanctuary; but they could not be seen from outside. And they are there to this day. There was nothing in the ark except the two tablets of stone that Moses put there at Horeb, where the LORD made a covenant with the people of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt. And when the priests came out of the Holy Place, a cloud filled the house of the LORD, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD.

1 Kings 8:6-11

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

from the Westminster
Shorter Catechism, 79-81,
reflecting on
Exodus 20:17 and the
Ten Commandments

What is the tenth commandment?

The tenth commandment is, “You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor’s.”

What is taught in the tenth commandment?

We are to be fully content with our own condition, with a correct and charitable orientation of our spirit toward our neighbors and all that is theirs. All manner of discontentment with our own state, envying or grieving at the good state of our neighbors, and all excessive feelings and desires for anything that belongs to them is forbidden.

OFFERING

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).

*“You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.”
1 Corinthians 6:19b-20*

Nick Dahlquist. ©2023
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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).

BODY AND SOUL

Body and soul, I am the Lord’s
All of my life for His worship
Body and soul, I am the Lord’s
All of my life for Him...

*He is good, He is good, He is good to me
Gracious and ever kind
And I know He wants only what’s best for me
So I’ll follow Him all my life*

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. www.wepc.org/grow/children

"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

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

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GOD THE SON RENEWS US THROUGH HIS WORD & SACRAMENT

SCRIPTURE READING

¹³"Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food"—and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?... ¹⁷But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

1 Corinthians 6:13-15a; 17-20

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 Matthew 26:17-29

On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus. They did as He had directed them, and prepared the Passover.

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body."

And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

CONFESSION OF SIN

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.

Father in heaven, we confess that in our thoughts, words, and deeds, we have sinned and grieved Your Holy Spirit, who dwells within us. Rather than be led by You, we have followed the spirit of our age into self-reliance and self-worship. You created us for fellowship with Yourself and one another; but we rebelled, and made enemies of our Maker and each other. We have acted as if the Cross of Christ had no power to reconcile us to God. We have lived as if there was no Spirit of God convicting, sanctifying, encouraging, and helping us. Forgive us, good Lord. And give us grace that we might eagerly forsake our self-directed paths and keep in step with Your Spirit. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Psalms 32:1, 5

Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. I acknowledged my sin to You and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"—and You forgave the guilt of my sin.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

First Communion: Matthew Mihous (10:30AM)

Matthew recently met with the Elders, who heard his testimony of faith in Jesus Christ. We invite the Mihous family 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

JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE

1. I am weak but Thou art strong
Jesus, keep me from all wrong
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee...

*Just a closer walk with Thee
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea
Daily walking close to Thee
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be*

2. Through this world of toil and snares
If I falter, Lord, who cares
Who with me my burden shares
None but Thee, dear Lord
None but Thee...

3. When my feeble life is o'er
Time for me will be no more
Guide me gently, safely o'er
To Thy Kingdom shore, to Thy shore...

*"While we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight."
II Corinthians 5:6-7*

Traditional
American Hymn
(19th century).
Public domain

GIVE ME JESUS

1. In the morning when I rise
In the morning when I rise
In the morning when I rise
Give me Jesus...

*Give me Jesus
Give me Jesus
You can have all this world
But give me Jesus*

2. And when I am alone
And when I am alone
When I am alone
Give me Jesus...

3. And when I come to die
And when I come to die
When I come to die
Give me Jesus...

*"I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God; incline your ear to me; hear my words."
Psalm 17:6*

African-American
Spiritual

*“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
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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

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Fa - ther Son and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

“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

A team is available for prayer at the front of the Sanctuary following the 9 AM & 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, Sonya & Donald Smith, Georgia Collier, Buddy Miner, and Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, and led this morning’s congregational singing. Elder Gordon Kuhfuss, Greg Stiles, and Scott Hoye managed today’s audio and video live stream. Scott Dicken managed the in-house video system.

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

Fall Adult Sunday School

What Is a "Good Church"?

9 AM / Room 810

What are the marks of a "good" church? Join us as we explore the different aspects of what should be part of a good church: prayer, missions, worship, preaching, discipline, leadership, and fellowship. We will focus on how to do these things both individually and corporately. Led by Joe Brown (joe@wepc.org)

Women's Ministry Fall Bible Studies

www.wepc.org/grow/women

Wellspring: Tuesday AM

Restore: Wednesday PM

Register now for our study through the book of Jonah. Contact: Brice Bowman (brice@wepc.org)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/children

9 AM

- Nursery (infant-3 years); upstairs
- Sunday School (PreK-5); downstairs
- Nursing Mom's Room (service audio available)

10:30 AM

- Nursery (infant-3 years old); upstairs
- Children's Worship (4 years-2nd grade); Chapel
- Nursing Mom's Room (service audio available)

Kids Club

Wednesdays through December 13

6-7:30 PM / Downstairs classrooms

Children grades K-5 are invited to join us for Bible teaching, games, crafts, fellowship and more! Runs concurrently with other Wednesday night ministries.

YOUTH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/youth

- **Sunday School:** 9 AM
- **Youth Group:** Wednesdays
6-7:30 PM--Middle School
7:30-9 PM--High School
- **Homework Time:** Tuesdays / 6-8 PM
- **Community Groups:** visit website for more information

MISSIONS

www.wepc.org/outreach/missions

Angel Tree is Here!

Please visit the table in the gallery to pick your Angel Tree children. Angel Tree helps to provide gifts to the children of prisoners in the Richmond area. Gifts needed by Sunday, December 3rd. Contact: Steve Glissman (steveglissman@gmail.com) for more information.

STEP Christmas Store

Collecting donations of new, unwrapped gifts for children living in Gilpin Court. For more information on suggested items or volunteering, please visit STEP's website. Donations due at WEPC November 29.

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

ESL Kids' Club Wish List

Please consider helping the Neighborhood Outreach team refresh the games, toys and supplies used during the Tuesday night ESL Kids Club program by purchasing items from our Amazon Wish List. We are truly grateful for your support! Contact: Misti Prociuous (misti@wepc.org) with questions.

GOSPEL & RACE

www.wepc.org/resources/gospel-race

Interested in serving on the WEPC Gospel & Race Discipleship Team?

This team seeks to offer Biblical resources and training opportunities regarding the Gospel, race, reconciliation, and justice. More information at www.wepc.org/resources/gospel-race. Contact Kevin Greene: kevin@wepc.org.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Deacons of the Week

Bryan Meeks, Ben Bacon, Brian Zollinhofer,
& Matt Mailloux

WEPC Library

Stop by the library to check out our new additions or get inspired by our monthly theme featuring resources on praise and thanksgiving. At the end of the month, we'll begin to highlight Advent themed books and devotionals. Don't forget to check the due dates on your library books! If you need a reminder or would like to renew a book, contact library@wepc.org.

PCA General Assembly Richmond 2024

Our denomination, The Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), will be conducting its 51st General Assembly next summer in Richmond, VA. From June 10-14, 2024, thousands of representatives from around the country and beyond will be gathering at the Richmond Convention Center for denominational business and fellowship. Contact Joe Brown (joe@wepc.org) if you are interested in helping.

Prayer & Support Group

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

Fiscal Year Giving Report (as of 11/12/2023):

Operating gifts YTD: \$858,601.45
Forecasted gifts YTD: \$832,897.36
% of expected budget received: 103.09%

Inclement Weather Reminder

For updates on closings and delays, visit wepc.org or call the office at (804) 741-6562. You may also visit the "Community Closings" page at nbc12.com. In case of inclement weather on a Sunday morning, WEPC will meet for the 10:30 AM service.

FOOD PANTRY

www.wepc.org/mercyministry

EXTRA FOOD & FINANCIAL DONATIONS are needed! The food pantry has seen an increase in the number of visitors recently and we need HELP IN STOCKING OUR SHELVES. Please check our [weekly list](#) for needed items.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS at WEPC

Advent Worship Service: *Every Longing Heart*

December 3 / 7PM / Chapel

Advent is a season of waiting. As we look forward to celebrating Christ's birth, we all know grief, loss, and longing. Join us as we gather for a service of remembrance, redemption, and hope. At this service we will lament the losses experienced in this broken world, and look expectantly in hope to Jesus, the Desire of every nation, the true Joy of every longing heart.

Advent 2023 Devotional

A weekly worship devotional to guide the church in celebrating the coming of our Savior through Scripture, prayer, and song. Available December 3 online and in the church gallery.

Neighborhood Caroling

Dec 14 / 6PM / Fellowship Hall

Join us for a night of fellowship and Christmas caroling with your WEPC family! We'll go caroling near the church and then enjoy some dessert together - so bring some cookies to share! Contact Becca Wethered (becca@wepc.org) with any questions.

Christmas Eve Services

- **10:30AM:** We will have ONE morning worship service on Christmas Eve with nursery services provided. The following ministries will NOT meet: Adult, Youth, & Children's Sunday School, and Children's Worship.
- **4PM: Family-friendly Service** celebrating our Savior's Advent through Scripture and song. Children are encouraged to bring an offering of non-perishable food for the WEPC Food Pantry.
- **7PM: Communion Service of Lessons & Carols** celebrating our Savior's Advent through Scripture and song.
- **Scripture Readers Needed:** If you are interested in reading Scripture at the 4PM or 7PM Christmas Eve services, please contact Becca Wethered (becca@wepc.org).

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 NEW contact information for you.

Please check the appropriate boxes:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| ◇ Visitor | Age: |
| ◇ Male | ◇ 20 or younger |
| ◇ Female | ◇ 21-26 |
| ◇ Single | ◇ 27-34 |
| ◇ Student (Grade ____) | ◇ 35-49 |
| ◇ Student (College) | ◇ 50-64 |
| ◇ Married | ◇ 65 and older |
| ◇ 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.

Prayer Requests:

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment, and forgiving me. I run from my sins—my old life living for myself—and receive you as Savior. Amen.