

#### GOD THE FATHER CALLS US TO WORSHIP HIM

#### The First Sunday in Lent

In the Christian year, we are now in the season of Lent. Lent is a time to ask God to help us confront our own mortality and sinfulness, to ask Him to show us our need for grace, to grow in repentance, and to reflect on the amazing truth of the Church's participation in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The season of Lent—the period between Ash Wednesday and the Saturday before Easter—lasts 40 days (not including Sundays), reminiscent of the 40 days Jesus fasted in the wilderness.

Each Sunday this Lent, we will sing "Have Mercy on Me" and hear stories of how Jesus is leading us to repent to trust Him, becoming like Him in His death, and attaining His resurrection (Phil. 3:10-11).

Psalm 85:1-3, 8-9. To the choirmaster. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah.

# Preparation for Worship & Communion

#### THE GOD OF PEACE, NOT CONFUSION

"The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me..." —John 17:22-23

"To Thee, O God, we turn for peace...but grant us, too, the blessed assurance that nothing shall deprive us of that peace, neither ourselves, nor our foolish, earthly desires, nor my wild longings, nor the anxious cravings of my heart." –Søren Kierkegaard

"The character of one's deity is reflected in the character of one's worship. The Corinthians must therefore cease worship that reflects the pagan deities more than the God whom they have come to know through the Lord Jesus Christ. God is neither characterized by disorder nor the cause of it in the assembly." –Gordon Fee

## Call to Worship

Lord, You were favorable to Your land; You restored the fortunes of Jacob.

You forgave the iniquity of Your people; You covered all their sin.

You withdrew all Your wrath;
You turned from Your hot anger.

Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, that glory may dwell in our land.

## Invocation

## Song of Adoration

#### **BETHOU MY VISION**

- 1. Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art Thou my best thought by day or by night Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light
- 2. Be Thou my Wisdom and Thou my true Word I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord Thou my great Father, I Thy true son Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one
- 3. Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise Thou my Inheritance, now and always Thou and Thou only, first in my heart High King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art
- 4. High King of heaven, my victory won May I reach heaven's joys O bright heav'n's Sun Heart of my own heart, whatever befall Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all

"Whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ." Philippians 3:7

8th century Irish Hymn. Tune: SLANE. 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 Member (10:30am)

Colin Lowery

## STORIES FROM THE CHURCH: Turning to Jesus

Tracy Payne

Each Sunday in Lent we will hear testimonies of how Jesus is leading us to repent to trust Him, becoming like Him in His death, and attaining His resurrection (*Philippians 3:10-11*).

## OLD Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 18:15-22

"The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers —it is to him you shall listen— just as you desired of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.' And the Lord said to me, 'They are right in what they have spoken. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.' And if you say in your heart, 'How may we know the word that the Lord has not spoken?'— when a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, if the word does not come to pass or come true, that is a word that the Lord has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously. You need not be afraid of him.

## Ministry of Prayer

## Offering

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

"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

- 2. 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...
- 3. 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...

# 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. <a href="https://www.wepc.org/grow/children">www.wepc.org/grow/children</a>

# 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

Andrew Peterson ©2005 New Springs (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) Used by permission. CCLI #708363

#### GOD THE SON RENEWS US THROUGH HIS WORD & SACRAMENT

## Scripture Reading

<sup>26</sup>What then, brothers? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up. <sup>27</sup>If any speak in a tongue, let there be only two or at most three, and each in turn, and let someone interpret. <sup>28</sup>But if there is no one to interpret, let each of them keep silent in church and speak to himself and to God. <sup>29</sup>Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said. <sup>30</sup>If a revelation is made to another sitting there, let the first be silent. <sup>31</sup>For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged, <sup>32</sup>and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets. <sup>33</sup>For God is not a God of confusion but of peace.

I Corinthians 14:26-33a

## Sermon

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

# Preparation for the Lord's Supper

## Words of Institution

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."

from Matthew 26:17-29

## 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.

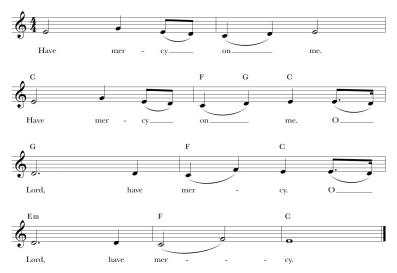
Father in heaven, we confess that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and deeds. You have spoken definitively by Your Son: forgive us for living as if You never act, never hear, never speak. We have grieved Your Holy Spirit, who dwells within us. Rather than be led by You, we have followed the spirit of our age into self-reliance and self-worship. We have acted as if the Cross has no power and as if there is no Spirit of God convicting, encouraging and helping us. Forgive us for living as if You do not care for us, and grant that we might delight in Your will and walk in Your ways. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

Praying to the Lord for mercy is a worship practice with roots in ancient Israel (Psalm 51:1), and heard in the cries of those who came to Jesus in the Gospels (Matthew 15:22, 17:15, 20:30). As a part of confessing our sin in worship this Lent, the followers of Jesus expectantly sing, "have mercy".

Sandra McCracken | Thad Cockrell ©2015 Drink Your Tea Music. Used by permission.

#### **HAVE MERCY**



Have mercy on me Have mercy on me O Lord, have mercy O Lord, have mercy O, help my unbelief

O, help my unbelief O Lord, have mercy

O Lord, have mercy

## Words of Encouragement

Romans 5:1-2

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

## 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.

At the center aisle station, wine and grape juice with gluten-free wafers are available in double cups. The gluten-free wafer is found in the bottom cup. Juice is in the purple cup. Wine is in the clear cup. At all the other stations, grape juice is in purple cups, wine is in the clear cups on the outer ring of the tray, and gluten-free bread is served alongside. For a list of ingredients in the wafers, see <a href="https://www.wepc.org/communion">www.wepc.org/communion</a>.

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

#### ALL OF YOUR WAYS ARE PEACE

- 1. All of Your ways are peace All of Your ways are peace Though we are pressed on ev'ry side We trust that You are peace
- 2. All of Your words are true
  All of Your words are true
  Though we have heard so many lies
  We trust Your words are true
- 3. All of Your ways are just
  All of Your ways are just
  Though we may say it through our tears
  We trust that You are just
- 4. All of Your ways are peace All of Your ways are peace All of Your ways are peace

"He is the Rock...and all His ways are just." Deuteronomy 32:4

Jessica Fox, Paul Zach, Latifah Alattas, Isaac Wardell, Liz Vice, Orlando Palmer; ©2020 Integrity Worship Music/PG Songs & Hymns/ ASCAP. Used by permission. CCLI #708363 "We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28

Mary Bowley-Peters (1847), alt. Matthew Smith (2007); Tune: Matthew Smith, ©2007 Detuned Radio Music (ASCAP). Used by permission. CCLI #708363

#### ALL MUST BE WELL

- 1. Through the love of God our Savior
  All will be well
  Free and changeless is His favor
  All is well
  Precious is the blood that healed us
  Perfect is the grace that sealed us
  Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us
  All must be well
- 2. Though we pass through tribulation All will be well Ours is such a full salvation All is well Happy still in God confiding Fruitful if in Christ abiding Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding All must be well
- 3. We expect a bright tomorrow
  All will be well
  Faith can sing through days of sorrow
  All is well
  On our Father's love relying
  Jesus every need supplying
  Yes, in living or in dying
  All must be well

## 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

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, Erin Bouknight, Andi Alberts, Buddy Miner, Donald Smith, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, and Troy Arnold led this morning's congregational singing. Elder Gordon Kuhfuss 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

**Adult Sunday School** 

Addressing Abuse in the Church
Through March 17 / 9AM / Room 810
A six-week study of different kinds of abuse in the church: from spiritual abuse to domestic abuse to sexual abuse. Joe Brown will lead us through a study of the 2022 PCA Paper on Abuse, as well as Michael Kruger's 2022 book, *Bully Pulpit*. Come learn how to protect against abuse, how to help victims of abuse, and what Scripture has to say about this issue.

#### Wednesday Night Fellowship BELOVED: A Study of the letter of FIRST JOHN www.wepc.org/WNF

Wednesdays through March 13 6-7:30 PM / Chapel Join us as we grow in understanding how Jesus loves us, and how His Spirit gives us power

to love God and our neighbor. Led by Kevin Greene, Graham Howell, & Becca Wethered. Contact Kevin (kevin@wepc.org) with questions.

#### Women's Ministry

www.wepc.org/grow/women

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

#### CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/children

#### Sundays

- 9 AM: Nursery (infant-3 years old) & Sunday School (PreK-5)
- 10:30 AM: Nursery (infant-3 years old) & Children's Worship (4 years-2nd grade)

\*Nursing Mom's Room (service audio available during both services)

**Kids¹ Club** (*K-5th grade*) Wednesdays / 6-7:30 PM Join us for Bible teaching, games, crafts, and fellowship!

### 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

• **Upcoming Events:** Feb 23: Bowling

Feb 24: BuffCity Soap (MS Girls)

• HS Modgnik: Registration Open!

#### Neighborhood Outreach Ministry

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

**Neighborhood Outreach Prayer Walk** 

March 3 / 12:15-1:30 PM / Fellowship Hall Join us after the second service for a quick snack and orientation on participating in a prayer walk. We will break into small groups, choose a prepared walking route in a neighborhood around the church, and spend 45 minutes together walking, observing, connecting and praying. Questions? Contact: Lori Bowman (Jori@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 20. Official training is each Saturday morning at 8AM. For more information and to sign up, visit our website. Contact: Misti Procious (misti@wepc.org) with questions.

### FOOD Pantry

www.wepc.org/mercyministry

Please continue to check our <u>weekly list</u> or join a <u>Food Item Team</u> to help keep the shelves stocked for our neighbors.

#### General information

#### Deacons of the Week

Tim Andrews, Matt Wilks, Brian Zollinhofer, & Cory Payne

Inquirer's Weekend

March 1-3 / WEPC Fellowship Hall For those interested in learning more about our church and the possibility of membership in the future. Come meet our pastors in a group setting and learn some foundations of Christianity, our church's worship, and opportunities for connection and service with others. Questions or to RSVP: Karen Howe (karen@wepc.org)

#### WEPC Community Preschool Run for the FUNd 5K

Join us on **March 23** as the WEPC Community Preschool brings back the Run for the FUNd 5K event - open to all! Visit <u>our website</u> for more information - <u>Registration</u> now open!

WEPC Preschool Enrollment is Now Open!

If you're considering preschool for the upcoming school year, we'd love your little ones to join us at WEPC. Classes available for 1-5 year olds! For more info, visit <a href="weepc.org/preschool">wepc.org/preschool</a>, contact Casey (<a href="mailto:casey@wepc.org">casey@wepc.org</a>), or pick up an enrollment packet outside the WEPC Community Preschool office in the gallery.

Sunday Morning Volunteers Needed! We are looking for 5 new communion preparation team members and we are looking to add 5 lower/side door greeters ahead of 1st service. Contact: Karen Howe (karen@wepc.org)

#### Sandra McCracken in Concert

May 2 / 7:30PM

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church Sandra McCracken is coming to Richmond for a concert that will support Sandra's latest album, "Light in the Canyon." Opening the evening will be her latest side project, Paper Horses, including Taylor Leonhardt. Tickets available online at http://tinyurl.com/mccrackentickets.

**Fiscal Year Giving Report (as of 2/11/2024):** Operating gifts YTD: \$1,625,649.06

Forecasted gifts YTD: \$1,597,957.96 % of expected budget received: 101.73%

**Prayer & Support Group** 

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

## Lent & Caster 2024 at WCPC

www.wepc.org/lent-and-easter

"I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead." Philippians 3:10-11

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14, and ends on the Saturday before Easter, March 30. Lent, a tradition from the early centuries of church history, is a season of preparation preceding the celebration of Easter, focused on repentance. Speaking biblically, to repent means to make a change in our attitudes, words, and lifestyle. Those who follow Jesus must learn that we must die before we rise. Beginning when we first trust Christ, and continuing throughout our lives, we turn more and more away from sin and self-centeredness and instead turn more and more to our Lord and Savior lesus Christ.

#### **Worship Services**

- Maundy Thursday / March 28 / 7 PM
- Good Friday / March 29 / 7 PM
- Easter Sunday / March 31 / 9 & 10:30 AM

#### **Personal Retreat**

Saturday, March 9 / 8:30 AM-12:30 PM Roslyn Retreat Center Join us for a time alone in prayer, reflection, Scripture readings, and communion. Register <a href="here">here</a>. Contact: Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org)

**Eyes for the Kingdom Conference** 

March 16 / 8:30 AM - 3 PM / WEPC Fellowship Hall Join us as we learn about Kingdom-centered prayer and Christ's mission, led by Carl & Karen Ellis. Register now at <a href="http://tinyurl.com/eyesforthekingdom">http://tinyurl.com/eyesforthekingdom</a>

**Lenten Hymn Sing** 

March 24 / 9AM / Chapel Join us in singing Lenten hymns and hymns of praise, followed by food and fellowship in room 810.

#### **Lent 2024 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 online and in the church gallery.

WEPC Lent 2024 Playlist

Listen to this soundtrack to sing along with Lenten songs of repentance and dependence on God. Many of these songs are sung in our worship services and are also used in our Lent 2024 Devotional.

## 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

my old life living for myself—and receive you as

Savior, Amen.

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

becoming a Christian.

◊ I am interested in learning more about