



The Third 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 who are “risen with Christ,” living under His rule.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP & COMMUNION

FRUITFUL & OPPRESSED

“In a word, Exodus cannot be described simply as the book of the holiness of the Lord, nor simply as the book of the presence of the Lord, but as the book of the holy God present in all His holiness at the heart of His people’s life, their provident Savior and Friend, who makes provision whereby they, in all their unworthiness, may live safely with Him.”

--J.A. Motyer

“The Exodus was not a movement from slavery to freedom, but from slavery to covenant. Redemption was for relationship with the Redeemer, to serve His interests and His purposes in the world.”

--Christopher Wright

“Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe.”

--Jude 1:5

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 71:1-5

In You, O LORD, do I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame!

**In Your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;
incline Your ear to me, and save me!**

Be to me a rock of refuge,
to which I may continually come;

**You have given the command to save me,
for You are my rock and my fortress.**

Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,
from the grasp of the unjust and cruel man.

**For You, O LORD, are my hope,
my trust, O LORD, from my youth.**

INVOCATION

SONG OF ADORATION

AND CAN IT BE THAT I SHOULD GAIN

1. And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Savior's blood
Died He for me who caused His pain
For me who Him to death pursued
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me

2. He left His Father's throne above
So free, so infinite His grace!
Humbled Himself so great His love
And bled for Adam's helpless race
Tis mercy all, immense and free
For O my God, it found out me
'Tis mercy all, immense and free
For O my God, it found out me

3. Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light
My chains fell off, my heart was free
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee
My chains fell off, my heart was free
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee

4. No condemnation now I dread
Jesus and all in Him is mine
Alive in Him, my living Head
And clothed in righteousness divine
Bold I approach th'eternal throne
And claim the crown, through Christ my own
Bold I approach th'eternal throne
And claim the crown through Christ my own

"While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

Charles Wesley
(1738); Tune:
SAGINA, Thomas
Campbell (1825).
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.

GOSPEL READING

And He lifted up His eyes on His disciples, and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets."

Luke 6:20-23

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 www.wepc.org/giving for online giving options or mail your offering to the church office (9008 Quioccasin Road, Henrico, VA, 23229).

DECLARATION OF FAITH

Westminster Larger
Catechism (1643),
Q&A 85

Since death is the wages of sin, why are the righteous not delivered from death, if all their sins are forgiven in Christ?

The righteous will be delivered from death itself at the last day, and even in death they are delivered from the sting and curse of it, so that, although they die, yet in God's love He frees them perfectly from sin and misery and makes them capable of further communion with Christ in glory, which they then enter.

"Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

Hebrews 4:16

James Cummins (1839); Music by Greg Thompson;
© 2004 Greg Thompson Music.
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BY THY MERCY

1. Jesus, Lord of life and glory
Bend from Heav'n Thy gracious ear
While our waiting souls adore Thee
Friend of helpless sinners, hear...

*By Thy mercy, O deliver us
Good Lord, good Lord
By Thy mercy, O deliver us
Good Lord, good Lord*

2. From the depth of nature's blindness
From the hardening power of sin
From all malice and unkindness
From the pride that lurks within...

3. When temptation sorely presses
In the day of Satan's power
In our times of deep distresses
In each dark and trying hour...

4. In the weary hours of sickness
In the times of grief and pain
When we feel our mortal weakness
When all human help is vain...

5. In the solemn hour of dying
In the awful judgment day
May our souls, on Thee relying
Find Thee still our Rock and Stay...

"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 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

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

Andrew Peterson
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SCRIPTURE Reading

Exodus 1:1-14

¹These are the names of the sons of Israel who came to Egypt with Jacob, each with his household: ²Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah, ³Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin, ⁴Dan and Naphtali, Gad and Asher. ⁵All the descendants of Jacob were seventy persons; Joseph was already in Egypt. ⁶Then Joseph died, and all his brothers and all that generation. ⁷But the people of Israel were fruitful and increased greatly; they multiplied and grew exceedingly strong, so that the land was filled with them. ⁸Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. ⁹And he said to his people, “Behold, the people of Israel are too many and too mighty for us. ¹⁰Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply, and, if war breaks out, they join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.” ¹¹Therefore they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with heavy burdens. They built for Pharaoh store cities, Pithom and Raamses. ¹²But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and the more they spread abroad. And the Egyptians were in dread of the people of Israel. ¹³So they ruthlessly made the people of Israel work as slaves ¹⁴and made their lives bitter with hard service, in mortar and brick, and in all kinds of work in the field. In all their work they ruthlessly made them work as slaves.

Sermon

A Worship Guide with sermon questions is posted each Sunday at <https://wepc.org/worship/sermons-media>.

PREPARATION FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.”

From Mark 14:16-25

Leader: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

People (sing): Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again

I Timothy 3:9
I Corinthians 15:3-4
John 14:3

Musical notation for the hymn "Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again". The music is in common time (indicated by a '4') and consists of four measures. The lyrics are aligned under the notes: "Christ has died," "Christ i - s ri-sen," "Christ will come," and "a - gain." The melody uses quarter and eighth notes on a single-line staff.

Kevin Greene, 2024

CONFESSiON OF SiN

adapted from The Valley of Vision, "Resting on God"

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.

O God Most High, Most Glorious; I am toiling, troubled, and distressed, but You are forever at perfect peace. Your power knows no bound, Your goodness no end. You bring order out of confusion, and my defeats are Your victories. The Lord God omnipotent reigns. I come to You as a sinner with cares and sorrows, to leave every concern entirely to You, every sin calling for Christ's precious blood; revive deep spirituality in my heart. Let me live near to the great Shepherd, hear His voice, know its tones, follow its call. Keep me from deception by causing me to abide in You; keep me from harm by helping me to walk in the power of the Spirit. Give me more intense faith in the eternal Truth, burning into me by experience the things I know; Let me never be ashamed of the truth of the Gospel, that I may bear its reproach, vindicate it, see Jesus as its essence, know in it the power of the Spirit. Lord, help me, for I am often lukewarm and cold; unbelief mars my confidence, sin makes me forget You. Restore my withered heart. Grant me to know that I truly live only when I live to You, that all else is trifling. Your presence alone can make me holy, devout, strong and satisfied. Abide in me, gracious God, and grant me rest.

Silent Confession of Sin

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Hebrews 2:14-15

Since the children share in flesh and blood, He himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

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 www.wepc.org/communion.

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

SONGS OF RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

1. When peace, like a river, attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say
It is well, it is well with my soul...

*It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul/*

*"The peace of God...
will guard your hearts
and your minds in Christ
Jesus." Philippians 4:7*

Horatio G. Spafford
(1873); Tune: VILLE DU
HAVRE, Philip Bliss
(1876). Public Domain

2. Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come
Let this blest assurance control
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate
And has shed His own blood for my soul...

3. My sin—O the joy of this glorious thought
My sin, not in part, but the whole
Is nailed to the Cross and I bear it no more
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul...

4. O Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend
Even so, it is well with my soul...

*"Your life is hidden with
Christ in God."*
Colossians 3:3

Jonny Robinson & Rich
Thompson ©2015 City Alight
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CHRIST IS MINE FOREVERMORE

1. Mine are days that God has numbered
I was made to walk with Him
Yet I look for worldly treasure
And forsake the King of kings

*But mine is hope in my Redeemer
Though I fall, His love is sure
For Christ has paid for every failing
I am His forevermore*

2. Mine are tears in times of sorrow
Darkness not yet understood
Through the valley I must travel
Where I see no earthly good

*But mine is peace that flows from heaven
And the strength in times of need
I know my pain will not be wasted
Christ completes His work in me*

3. Mine are days here as a stranger
Pilgrim on a narrow way
One with Christ I will encounter
Harm and hatred for His name

*But mine is armor for this battle
Strong enough to last the war
And He has said He will deliver
Safely to the golden shore
And mine are keys to Zion city
Where beside the King I walk
For there my heart
Has found its Treasure
Christ is mine forevermore
Christ is mine forevermore
Christ is mine forevermore*

*"For a people shall
dwell in Zion, in
Jerusalem; you shall
weep no more. "*
Isaiah 30:19

Sandra McCracken and
Joshua Moore © 2015
Drink Your Tea (ASCAP),
Joshmooreownsthis
Music (ASCAP)
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WE WILL FEAST IN THE HOUSE OF ZION

*We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
"He has done great things," we will say together
We will feast, and weep no more*

1. We will not be burned by the fire
He is the Lord our God
We are not consumed by the flood
Upheld, protected, gathered up...

2. In the dark of night before the dawn
My soul be not afraid
For the promised morning, Oh how long
O God of Jacob, be my strength...

3. Every vow we've broken and betrayed
You are the faithful One
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together, bring shalom....

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. **Director of Neighborhood Outreach Changjwok Deng** led worship. **Pastor Kevin Greene, Sonya & Donald Smith, Kristy Elliott and Suzie Bird** led this morning's congregational singing. **Ross Bruning and Rob MacBride** managed today's audio and video live stream. **Deacon Brian Zollinhofer** 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.

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

The underlined words, email addresses, and websites on these two pages are active hyperlinks that can be accessed through our **online bulletin** found on the home page of our website (www.wepc.org) as an orange button labeled "Weekly Bulletin."

ADULT MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/adults

Adult Sunday School: The Life of Jesus

Weekly through June 30 / 9 AM / Room 810
Join us as we study the life of Christ. Using videos from the great 20th century theologian RC Sproul's "Dust to Glory" series, we will examine the moment in redemptive history when the second Person of the Trinity revealed Himself to His people in the most profound way.

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)

Third Saturday Mature Singles Fellowship

www.wepc.org/MASFellowship

April 20 / 4:30-6 PM / WEPC Library

Join us for fellowship, devotional study, prayer, and dinner afterwards. Newcomers welcome!

Contact: Janice Sharp (lolanice727@gmail.com)

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)

Kids' Club (K-5th grade)

Wednesdays through May 15 / 6-7:30 PM
Join us for Bible teaching, games, crafts, and fellowship!

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

Simple English Service will NOT MEET for the month of April or May. Please continue to check back for meeting times during the summer.

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. Contact: Misti Procious (misti@wepc.org) with questions.

MISSIONS

www.wepc.org/outreach/missions

Patty's Hope Celebration Dinner

April 26 / 6:30-9 PM / Fellowship Hall

Join us in celebrating God's faithfulness to the mission of WEPC Missions Partner Patty's Hope with an evening of worship, prayer, fellowship, & more! Contact: Leila Gunning (Leila@pattyshope.org).

At Ease Volunteers Needed

WEPC Missions Partner At Ease Ministry at Fort Gregg-Adams is looking for volunteers to help with a literature table at the post's main exchange, one Saturday a month, 11AM-2PM. Experience with the military is helpful, but not essential. Contact: Steve Zachry (atease1@verizon.net)

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

FOOD PANTRY

www.wepc.org/mercyministry

Please continue to check our weekly list or join a Food Item Team (listed below) to help keep the shelves stocked for our neighbors.

Food Item Teams:

Reach for Team Peach!
Give the Fry Team a try!
Team Garbanzo, you rock!
Way to Go, Team Tomato!
Shine! Join Team Star Baker!

General INFORMATION

Deacons of the Week

Chris Perry, Ben Bacon, Luke Shrader, & Ed Bowman

SAVE THE DATES!

Congregational Meeting #1

May 19 / Following the 10:30 AM Service

Join us to elect new and returning officers of the church. Everyone is welcome; members will vote.

Deacon Re-Election: David Creasy,

Davison Long

Deacon Election: Bryce Allison, Stan Cover, EJ Fogarty

Elder Election: Matt Bouknight, Mark Crutcher, Brian Wilcox, Matt Wilks

Congregational Meeting #2

June 2 / Following the 10:30 AM Service

Join us as we present the budget for the 2024-25 Fiscal Year.

Goochland County Church Plant

Do you live in Goochland County, VA? Are you, or someone you know, interested in hearing more about a new Presbyterian Church in America church plant in Goochland County? Contact: Pastor Joe Brown (joe@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 4/7/2024):

Operating gifts YTD: \$1,989,577.62

Forecasted gifts YTD: \$1,989,496.63

% of expected budget received: 100.00%

Prayer & Support Group

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

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 | |

Prayer Requests:

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 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.