



West End
presbyterian church

**The Third 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

DO NOT FEAR WHAT YOU ARE ABOUT TO SUFFER

“Eighty and six years have I served Christ, nor has He ever done me any harm. How, then, could I blaspheme my King who saved Me?....I bless Thee for deigning me worthy of this day and this hour that I may be among Thy martyrs and drink the cup of my Lord Jesus Christ.”

--*Polycarp, 1st century Disciple of John and Bishop of Smyrna, martyred for refusing to pay homage to the emperor (Martyrdom of Polycarp)*

“Discipleship means allegiance to the suffering of Christ, and it is therefore not at all surprising that Christians should be called upon to suffer. In fact, it is a joy and token of his grace...Not recognition, but rejection, is the reward Christians get from the world.”

--*Dietrich Bonhoeffer, The Cost of Discipleship*

“Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.”

--*Revelation 20:6*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Job 19:25-27; Psalm 124:8

The First Word

We believe that God always initiates with sinners, so we begin worship with His Word: His invitation to us to gather in His name.

I know that my Redeemer lives,
and that in the end He will stand on the earth.
And after my skin has been destroyed,
yet in my flesh I will see God;

**I myself will see Him
with my own eyes—I, and not another.**

How my heart yearns within me!

**Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**

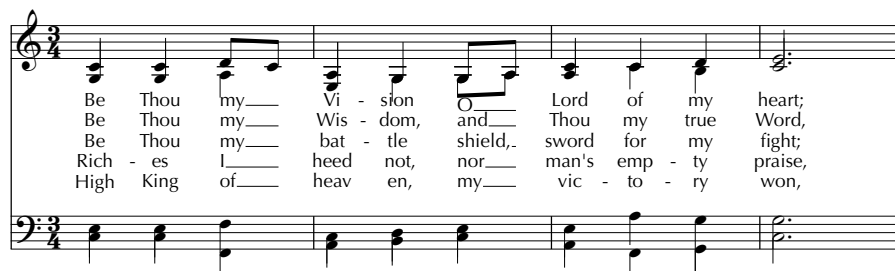
Invocation.

Asking God to be with us.

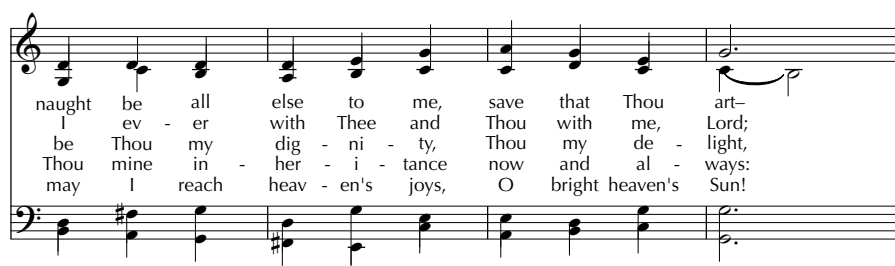
INVOCATION

SONG OF ADORATION

BE THOU MY VISION



Be Thou my Vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 Be Thou my Wis - dom, and Thou my true Word;
 Be Thou my bat - tle shield, sword for my fight;
 Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise,
 High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that Thou art -
 I ev - er with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
 be Thou my dig - ni - ty, Thou my de - light,
 Thou mine in - her - i - tance now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!



Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 Thou my Great Fa - ther I Thy true son;
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, Thou my high tow - er;
 Thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, Thy pre - sence my light.
 Thou in me dwell - ing and I with Thee one.
 Raise thou me heav - n ward, O pow'r of my pow'r.
 High King of heav - en, my trea - sure Thou art.
 still be my Vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Adoration.

The God who meets with us in worship is good and powerful. We recognize His greatness and remember His amazing works together in song.

"Whatever we 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 Kevin Greene either in the Gallery or on the front sidewalk.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 44:6-8

"Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:
'I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.
Who is like me? Let him proclaim it.
Let him declare and set it before me,
since I appointed an ancient people.
Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen.
Fear not, nor be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
And you are my witnesses!
Is there a God besides me?
There is no Rock; I know not any.'"

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

Led by Elder B-J Huff

Pray for God's advancing Kingdom. For our Church, City, and World. This week...

- **For West End Presbyterian Church:** For the Holy Spirit to strengthen us for spiritual battle.
- **For Metropolitan Richmond:** For all churches and ministries. For our denomination, the Presbyterian Church in America, our Presbytery (James River), and for church planting in our region. For current church PCA church plants: Iglesia Hispana Presbiteriana (Midlothian), New Creation Presbyterian (Chester), River Run Presbyterian Church (Amelia County), Goochland Presbyterian Church (Goochland County. wepc.org/outreach/church-planting).
- **For God's World Mission:** For South Asians living in the United Kingdom; and for WEPC Mission Partners AM & SM, Matt & Jenn Irvine, and Rob & Rebecca Musser serving with Serge in that country. wepc.org/outreach/missions

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).

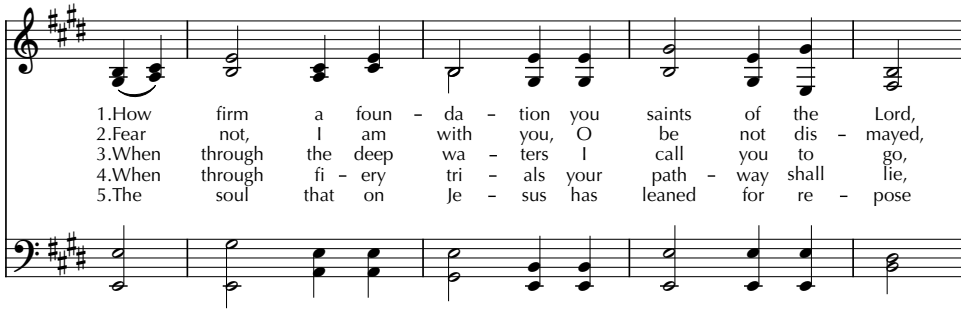
You can place your offering and/or tear-off as the plates pass. Please visit www.wepc.org/giving or scan the QR code for online giving options, or mail your offering to the church office (9008 Quioccasin Road, Henrico, VA, 23229).



HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

"Fear not, for I have
redeemed you"
Isaiah 43:1

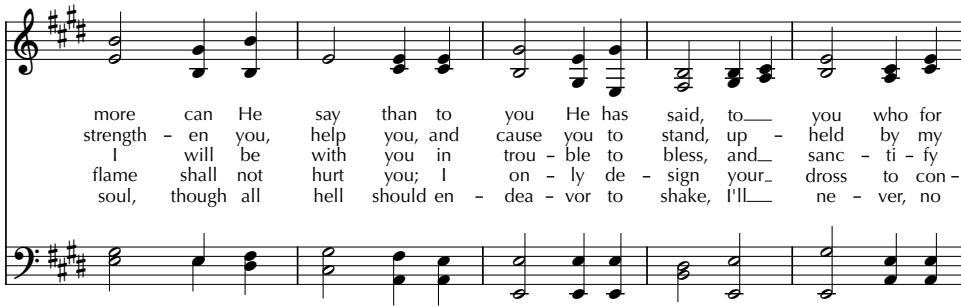
John Rippon's A
Selection of Hymns
(1787). Tune:
FOUNDATION,
American Folk melody.
Public domain.



1. How firm a founda - tion you saints of the Lord,
2. Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
3. When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,
4. When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,
5. The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose



is laid for your faith in His ex - cel - lent Word! What
for the I am your God, and will still give you aid; I'll
the my ri - vers of sor - row shall not be ov - er - flow; for
I grace all - su - ffi - cient shall be your su - pply; the
will not, I will not de - sert to its foes; that



more can He say than to you He has said, to — you who for
strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand, up - held by my
I will be with you in trou - ble to bless, and sanc - ti - fy
flame shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign your_ dress to con -
soul, though all hell should en - dea - vor to shake, I'll — ne - ver, no



re - fuge to Je - sus have fled?
right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.
to you your deep - est dis - tress.
sume and your gold - re - fine.
ne - ver, no ne - ver for - sake!

"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

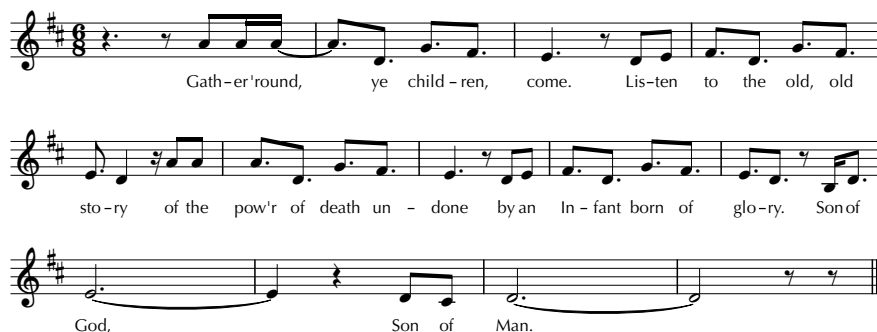
CHILDREN'S WORSHIP (10:30am)

Children, age 4 through 2nd grade, will be dismissed prior to the sermon for a Bible Lesson, activity, and fellowship. Pick up from Room 121. www.wepc.org/grow/children

CHILDREN'S BLESSING (10:30am)

Andrew Peterson
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GATHER ROUND YE CHILDREN, COME



GOD THE SON RENEWS US THROUGH HIS WORD & SACRAMENT

SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 2:8-11

⁸"And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: 'The words of the first and the last, who died and came to life.

⁹I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the slander of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.

¹⁰Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. ¹¹He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.'"

Sermon

A Worship Guide with sermon questions is posted each Sunday at <https://wepc.org/worship/sermons-media>. You can also find the sermon audio on [Apple Podcasts](#) and [Spotify](#) under "West End Presbyterian Church RVA."

PREPARATION FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

1 Timothy 3:9; 1 Corinthians 5:7-8, 10:16-17, 15:3-4; from the Book of Common Prayer

CONFESSION OF SIN

Holy God, we are guilty of rejecting Your commands, of doubting Your promises, of proud self-reliance, of neglect to rest in You. Daily we fail to love You and our neighbor as we ought. We praise You for providing the Savior in Jesus, who takes our sin and gives us His righteousness! Lord, continue the work of salvation in us: conquer our weakness with Your strength, blot out our self-centeredness with Your glory. Meet us in our suffering and disappointments, refine us as You see fit. Keep us from returning to sin's bondage, brighten our hearts with Your grace. Redirect our desires so that we delight deeply in You. Amen.

Silent 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.

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:14-16

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 each communion station, grape juice is served in purple cups, wine is served in clear cups, and gluten-free bread is served in a separate tray.

At the center aisle station, double-cups are also available, where the small gluten-free wafer is found in the bottom cup. Again, grape juice is in the purple cups and wine is in the clear cups. 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.

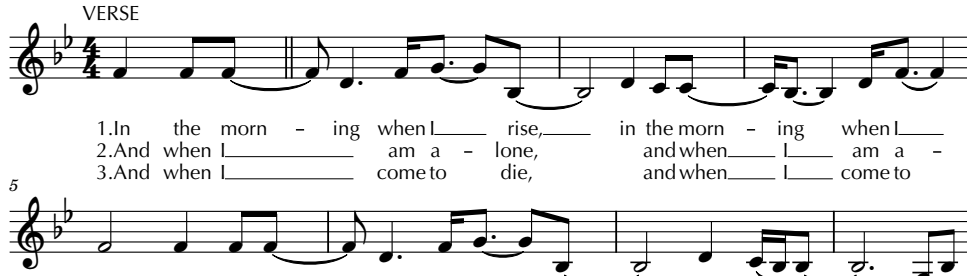
Songs of Response to God's Grace

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*

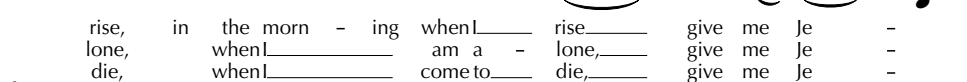
African-American
Spiritual

VERSE



1. In the morn - ing when I _____ rise, _____ in the morn - ing when I _____
2. And when I _____ am a - lone, _____ and when I _____ am a -
3. And when I _____ come to die, _____ and when I _____ come to

5



rise, in the morn - ing when I _____ rise _____ give me Je -
lone, when I _____ am a - lone, _____ give me Je -
die, when I _____ come to die, _____ give me Je -

9

REFRAIN



sus. Give me Je - sus, give me Je - sus. _____ You can
sus.
sus.

14



have all this world, but give me Je - sus. _____

*"Know therefore that
the Lord your God is
God, the faithful God
who keeps covenant."
Deuteronomy 7:9*

Aaron Moses | Dante
Bowe | Joe L. Barnes
Keila Alvarado
Lemuel Marin | Philip
Carrington Gaines
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PROMISES

VERSE

1. God of Ab-ra - ham, You're the God of cov - e - nant, of faith-ful prom-i - ses.
2. God, from age to age, though the earth may pass a - way, Your word re-mains the same.

Time and time a - gain You have pro - ven You'll do just what You
And his - tor - y can prove there's no - thing You can't do, You're faith - ful___ and

PRE-CHORUS

said. Though the storms may come, and the winds may blow, You'll re - main stead -
true.

CHORUS

fast. And let my heart learn when You speak a word, it will come to pass. Great is Your
faith - ful - ness to___ me. Great is Your faith - ful - ness to me. From the
ri - sing sun to the set - ting same, I will praise Your___ name. Great is Your faith - ful -
ness to me. I put my faith in Je-sus, my an-chor to the ground. My
TO CHORUS
hope and firm foun - da-tion, He'll ne-ver let me down. He'll ne-ver let me down.

HOLY FOREVER

And the an-gels cry, "Ho - ly." All cre-a-tion cries, "Ho - ly." You are lift - ed high, Ho - ly, Ho-ly for-e - ver.

Hear Your peo-ple sing, "Ho - ly," to the King of Kings, "Ho - ly." You will al-ways be ho - ly, ho-ly for-e - ver.

You will al-ways be ho - ly, ho-ly for-e - ver.

"Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!"

Revelation 4:8

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

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

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all bles - sings flow; Praise Him, all crea - tures
here be - low Praise Him a - bove ye heavn - ly host; Praise
Fa - ther Son and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

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.

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.

Benediction

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

*Pastor Kevin Greene preached today's sermon and administered the Lord's
Supper. Elder B-J Huff led worship. Elder Chris Newlin, Erin Bouknight, Andi
Alberts, Buddy Miner, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, Donald Smith,
and Paul Cho led this morning's congregational singing. Greg Stiles, Elder
Gordon Kuhfuss and Deacon Chris Scoggins managed today's audio and
video live stream. Cody Hahn managed the in-house video system.*

Sermon Notes

Announcements

ADULT MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/adults

Adult Sunday School: 9 AM / Room 810

Batter My Heart

January 26 & February 2

Join us as we look at the poetry of John Donne, a 17th century English writer and pastor. Donne uses beautiful verse to explore the topics of faith and mortality, helping us see even more clearly the beauty of the gospel.

Led by Steve Shelby (steve@wepc.org).

Young Adult Ministry

Meets every other Thursday / 7 PM

Next Meeting: January 30 / Huff Residence

Young Adults at WEPC is for those in their 20s & 30s looking for a space to grow in their faith and connect with others. Contact: Matt Bouknight (matt@wepc.org)

Wednesday Night Fellowship: The Cross-Shaped Life

www.wepc.org/WNF

Wednesdays through April 2 / 6-7:30 PM / Chapel
The Cross of Christ is the heart of God and the way we live as disciples. Led by Kevin Greene, Brian Wilcox, and Becca Wethered.

Contact: Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org)

Women's Ministry

www.wepc.org/grow/women

Wellspring & Restore Bible Studies

Join us as we continue studying the Sermon on the Mount. New women are welcome.

Wellspring: Tuesdays / 9:15-11:30 AM

Restore: Wednesdays / 6-7:30 PM

Contact: Brice Bowman (brice@wepc.org)

2025 Women's Retreat

www.wepc.org/grow/women

March 1 at 9 AM - March 2 at 11 AM

Roslyn Retreat Center

Registration is now open!

\$150 (Early Registration) through Jan. 31

\$180 (Late Registration - price increase)

Feb.1 - Feb.14

Contact: Heather Oberle (hoberle@wepc.org)

The Table Fellowship & Prayer

Fridays / 12 - 1 PM / Room 810

The Table is an informal gathering to pray and fellowship as a church, open to anyone that would like to attend. We'll have a short devotional, pray for the needs of the church and each other, and eat lunch together. Please bring a packed lunch. No need to RSVP.

Contact: Matt Bouknight (matt@wepc.org)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/children

Sundays

- **9 AM:** Nursery (infant-3 years old)
- **10:30 AM:** Nursery (infant-3 years old) & Children's Message or Worship (4 years-2nd grade; Children's Worship does not meet on the 1st Sunday of the month. Instead, there will be a Children's Message during the 10:30 AM worship service.)
- **Nursing Mom's Room** (service audio available during both services)

Kids Club

Wednesdays / 6-7:30 PM / Kindergarten-5th Grade
Join us for Bible teaching, games, crafts, and fellowship!

Volunteers Needed: 1-2 Female Nursery Workers for 9 AM Service (*1x every 8 weeks*)

YOUTH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/youth

- **Sunday School:** 9 AM / Youth Lounge
- **Youth Group:** January 29
- **Homework Time:** Tuesdays / 6-8 PM
- **SuperBowl Party:** Feb 9 / 6:15 PM

Parent/Teen Book Club

Sundays through Feb 23 / 12 PM / Youth Lounge
Join us as we discuss the book Mere Christianity. Bring your own lunch. Contact: Joy Andrews (joy@wepc.org)

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

Simple English Bible Study

2nd & 4th Sundays / 5-6:30 PM / Room 810

Next Meeting: TODAY

Join our multicultural community twice a month as we meet to study the Bible using the book of Acts. Contact: Changjwok Deng (changjwok@wepc.org)

General Information

Deacons of the Week

Chris Hennesey, Ed Bowman, Sean Winterhalter, & Wes Farkas

WEPC Revelation Sermon Series Spotify Playlist

Check out our [Revelation Sermon Series Spotify Playlist](#) to sing along to songs that remind us of the glory of Jesus, our King, His faithfulness to His Church, and His coming Kingdom. You can find it by searching "WEPC Revelation Sermon Series" or "West End Presbyterian RVA + playlists."

Join us for the James River Presbytery Church Planting Summit!

Feb 2 / 5:30-7:15 PM / City Church of Richmond

Interested in hearing more about our ministry of starting new churches across Metro Richmond and the surrounding region? Everyone is welcome to join us as we learn about church-planting initiatives, collaborate on future opportunities to reach communities with the Gospel, and pray for the Spirit's leading in multiplying congregations. Food and drink provided. RSVP: Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org)

Night to Shine 2025

February 7 / 6 PM / WEPC

Join us in volunteering for a prom-night experience centered on God's love for people with disabilities. Volunteers needed for decorating, snacks, set-up, clean-up, and parking. Contact: Blair Brown (blairmb@gmail.com) or Heather Jarvis (heather.p.jarvis@gmail.com) or visit the table in the Gallery to learn more! www.nighttoshinerva.com

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.

FY24 Giving Statements

FY24 Giving Statements went out via email (if WEPC had an email for you on file) on Tuesday, 1/21/25. Please contact the church at finance@wepc.org if you did not receive it (or check your spam folder).

2025 DivorceCare Men & Women's Group

Tuesdays, Feb 4 - Apr 29 / 7:30-9 PM / Room 810
Join us for a 13-week Christ-centered program addressing the complexity of life when facing marital separation or divorce. The program includes video teaching from over 50 leading Christian counselors, teachers, and pastors, group discussion, and personal Bible study. Register at www.divorcecare.org/findagroup, and click on the "More Info" tab for West End Presbyterian Church. Contact: Bryan Finch (Bryanlfinch@gmail.com) or Matt Osenga (Osengam@hotmail.com)

Inquirer's Weekend

February 21-23 / Fellowship Hall

wepc.org/about-us/learn-more

For those interested in learning more about our church and the possibility of membership in the future. Come meet our pastors and learn some foundations of Christianity, our church's worship, and opportunities for connection and service with others. Questions or to RSVP (due by Feb 17): Karen Howe (karen@wepc.org)

Fiscal Year Giving Report (as of 1/19/2025):

Operating gifts YTD: \$1,459,105.64

Forecasted gifts YTD: \$1,541,035.95

% of expected budget received: 94.68%

FOOD PANTRY

www.wepc.org/mercyministry

Please continue to check our [weekly list](#) to help keep the shelves stocked for our neighbors.

Food Item Teams:

Reach for Team Peach! (canned peaches)

Give the Fry Team a try! (oil & salt)

Team Garbanzo, you rock! (dry or canned)

Way to Go, Team Tomato! (canned tomatoes)

Shine! Join Team Star Baker! (flour & sugar)

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.