

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 "Lord, Have Mercy" and hear stories of how Jesus is revealing Himself to His people, leading us to repent, becoming like Him in His death, and attaining His resurrection (Philippians 3:10-11).

Psalm 1

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.

Preparation for Worship & Communion

THE WAY

"The whole experience of life is designed to enable us to enter into this closest relationship with Jesus Christ. We receive His blessings and know His word, but do we really know Him?"

-Oswald Chambers

"Christ walked with men on earth that He might show them what God is like and make known the true nature of God to a race that had wrong ideas about Him. This was only one of the things He did while here in the flesh, but this He did with beautiful perfection."

-A.W. Tozer

Call to Worship

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Invocation

Invocation.

Asking God to be with us.

Song of Adoration



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.

"Behold your God!" Isaiah 40:9

Meghan Baird, Jonathan Baird, Stephen Altrogge, Ryan Baird ©2011 Sovereign Grace Worship. Used by permission. CCLI #706383

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 <u>Keep in Touch form</u> 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.

STORIES FROM THE CHURCH: Jesus Makes Himself Known

During this season of Lent, brothers and sisters from our church will share the ways Jesus is revealing Himself to us, His people.

Flannery Enneking-Norton

OLD Testament & Gospel Readings

Exodus 26:33

And you shall hang the veil from the clasps, and bring the ark of the testimony in there within the veil. And the veil shall separate for you the Holy Place from the Most Holy.

John 4:46-54

So he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. And at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill. When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. So Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe." The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way. As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. So he asked them the hour when he began to get better, and they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." And he himself believed, and all his household. This was now the second sign that Jesus did when he had come from Judea to Galilee.

Ministry of Prayer

Offering

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 Ouioccasin Road, Henrico, VA, 23229).



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).

"Jesus said to him," I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'" John 14:6

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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

"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

GOD THE SON RENEWS US THROUGH HIS WORD & SACRAMENT

Scripture Reading

John 14:6

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'"

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

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.

Confession of Sin

Almighty God, Holy Father, we confess that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and deeds. We have resisted being led by You. We have followed the spirit of our age into self-reliance, self-worship, and autonomy. We have acted as if the Cross has no power. We have lived as if You did not dwell in us by Your Holy Spirit convicting, encouraging, and helping us. Forgive us, and grant that we might walk in the Spirit and not in our self-directed paths. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

KYRIE ELEISON (LORD, HAVE MERCY)







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.

"God, have mercy on me, a sinner" Luke 18:13; Ancient Greek hymn, 4th century

Kevin Greene, 2017.

Words of Encouragement

Hebrews 10:19-23

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

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



"Come and take the free gift of the water of life." Revelation 22:17

Words: Joseph Hart (1759); Music: Matthew Smith ©2000 detuned radio music. Used by permission. CCLI #708363 "The blood of Jesus, His Son, cleanses us from all sin." I John 1:7

> Robert Lowry, 1876. Public Domain

NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD



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-inone) 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 Mark Crutcher, Rebecca Crutcher, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, Jamison Taggart and Gordon Collier led this morning's congregational singing. Jay Smith and Luke Andrews managed today's audio and video live stream. Michael Whitman 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.

Sermon Notes

announcements

ADULT MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/adults

Adult Sunday School: 1 Peter

9AM / Room 810 / Through Apr 13 In times of suffering where do we find hope? 1 Peter reminds us that hope is offered in Jesus Christ. Join us as we learn that suffering is more than just hardship, it can be an opportunity to see and share the love of Christ. Led by Elder Chris Newlin and Matt Bouknight. (matt@wepc.org).

Young Adult Ministry

Meets every other Thursday / 7 PM Next Meeting: March 13 | Gravitt Home Young Adults at WEPC is for those in their 20s & 30s looking for a space to grow in their faith and connect with others. In this season, we are listening to personal stories of God's redemption in our lives. Contact: Matt (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)

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)

Youth Ministry

www.wepc.org/grow/youth

Sunday School: 9 AM / Youth Lounge
 Homework Time: Tuesdays / 6-8 PM

• MS Overnight: March 14-15

• **High School Modgnik:** April 11-13 Register here!

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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!

Neighborhood Outreach Ministry

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

Volunteers Needed to Help with Tax Ministry March 22 / 10 AM / WEPC Library

Ever used TurboTax? Even a little? A group will be meeting at WEPC to help our neighbors file taxes (many of whom are not familiar with the filing process). No experience necessary- just a very basic understanding of taxes. Contact Nate Carroll (nate.carroll@gmail.com) for more info.

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 12. Official training is each Saturday morning at 8AM. Sign up here to be part of the training team. Contact: Changjwok Deng (changjwok@wepc.org)

Simple English Bible Study

2nd & 4th Sundays / 5-6:30 PM / Room 810 Next Meeting: TONIGHT!

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

Missions

www.wepc.org/outreach/missions

Young Life Leaders Needed

WEPČ Missions Partner, Young Life, is a non-profit organization that aims to introduce adolescents to Jesus and help them grow in their faith. This relational ministry needs at least one male and female adult leader to restart this great work at Godwin High School. Contact: Tracy Payne (travpay@gmail.com) or Becky Bruning (travpay@gmail.com) for more info.

Lunch with Chris & Janna Lee (MTW)

March 16 / 12 PM / Fellowship Hall You are invited to come to a missions-focused lunch of encouragement with Chris and Janna Lee upon their return from Central Asia after 2 years. Please RSVP to Karen (karen@wepc.org).

CrossOver Saturday Mission Clinic May 3 / 8AM - 12PM

Are you a doctor, nurse, or Spanish language interpreter who would be willing to give a Saturday morning to serve our neighbors through WEPC supported missions partner, Crossover's Quioccasin Road Clinic? Contact: Amanda Stark (amandablairstark@gmail.com)

General information

Deacons of the Week

Brian Zollinhofer, EJ Fogarty, & Cory Payne

Volunteer Greeters Needed

We are looking for 12 Greeters to fill upcoming team openings on Sunday mornings. Commitment is approximately once every 10 weeks. Contact: Karen Howe (karen@wepc.org)

Goochland Presbyterian Church "Send-off" Celebration & Potluck

March 23 / 12 PM / Fellowship Hall All are invited! Join us as we celebrate with the Goochland Presbyterian Church Core Group as they prepare to launch their first public worship service on Easter! We will share a meal together and spend time praying and thanking God for His provision for GPC. Please bring a food item to share for the potluck lunch. Contact: Kristin Tetterton (kristin@wepc.org)

Our Lives for Christ: While We're Together & When We're Apart March 28-29

A conference and time of fellowship, worship, and Biblical teaching for Christians experiencing same-sex attraction. For more information or to register, visit https://tinyurl.com/4wa5pktx.

2025 DivorceCare Men & Women's Group Tuesdays through May 6 / 7-9 PM / Room 810 Join us for a Christ-centered program addressing the complexity of life when facing marital separation or divorce. Register at www.divorcecare.org/findagroup. Contact: Bryan Finch (Bryanlfinch@gmail.com) or Matt Osenga (Osengam@hotmail.com)

Fiscal Year Giving Report (as of 3/2/2025):

Operating gifts YTD: \$1,676,262.31 Forecasted gifts YTD: \$1,802,039.40 % of expected budget received: 93.02%

Lent & easter 2025 at WePC

www.wepc.org/lent-and-easter

The season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday, March 5, and ends on the Saturday before Easter, April 19. 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 / April 17 / 6 PM / FH

Join us as we gather for a simple, church-wide meal and worship service to remember Christ's work on the cross, to celebrate communion, and to respond to Christ's mandate to serve each other.

•Good Friday / April 18 / 7 PM / Sanctuary

This service of corporate prayer, Scripture reading, confession, and celebration of our Lord's death helps us consider and respond to the crucifixion and atonement of Jesus Christ for us.

• Easter Sunday / April 20 / 9 & 10:30 AM

Personal Retreat

March 22 / 8:30 AM-12:30 PM

Roslyn Retreat Center

Join us for a time alone in prayer, reflection, Scripture readings, and communion. Register here. Contact: Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org)

Lent 2025 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 in the Gallery & online.

WEPC Lent 2025 Playlist

Listen to <u>this soundtrack</u> 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 2025 Devotional.

FOOD Pantry

www.wepc.org/mercyministry

We have some CRITICAL food item needs. 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.

Keep in Touch



Especially if this is yo	ur first Sunday with	us —welcome!	30962H332H4 40329H333640
Date:			
Name:			
Children's Names:_			
Address:			
City:	State:	ZIP:	
Phone:			
Email:			
Who invited you to			us?
\Diamond Check if this is <u>NE</u>	<u>W</u> contact informa	tion for you.	
Please check the app	propriate boxes:	Prayer Requests	:
♦ Visitor ♦ Male ♦ Female ♦ Single ♦ Student (Grade) ♦ Student (College) ♦ Married ♦ Parent ♦ Widowed	Age: ♦ 20 or younger ♦ 21-26 ♦ 27-34 ♦ 35-49 ♦ 50-64 ♦ 65 and older		
I would like info about: \$\forall \text{WEPC}\$ \$\forall \text{Women's Ministry}\$ \$\forall \text{Men's Ministry}\$ \$\forall \text{Childrens Ministry}\$ \$\forall \text{Youth Ministry}\$ \$\forall \text{Adult Classes}\$ \$\forall \text{Home Groups}\$ \$\forall \text{Neighborhood Outread}\$ \$\forall Becoming a member of the control	of WEPC	Prayer of Belief	
♦ Other:		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.

becoming a Christian.

 \Diamond Please include me on the WEPC email list.

♦ I am interested in learning more about