



West End

presbyterian church

The Second 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

GRIEF

"Who will comfort you?"

--*Isaiah 51:19*

"In this present existence of ours, prizing and loving yield suffering. Love in our world is suffering love. Some do not suffer much, though, for they do not love much. Suffering is for the loving."

--*Nicholas Wolterstorff*

"My Father, I have moments of deep unrest—moments when I do not know what to ask because of the excess of my needs. In these dark hours I have no words for You, no conscious prayers for You...Yet You always accept my unrest as a prayer...You receive the nameless longings of my heart as the inexpressible groans of Your Spirit. They are not yet the intercessions of my spirit. I do not know what I ask. But You know what I ask, my God. You know that need which lies beneath my groans that are not expressed in words. Because I am made in Your image, I can find rest only in what gives rest to You. In Your forgiving mercy You have counted my unrest as righteousness and have received my groaning as Your Spirit's prayer."

--*George Matheson*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Hebrews 12:2-3

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.

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the Author and Perfector of our faith,

**Who for the joy set before Him endured the Cross, scorning its shame,
and sat down at the right hand of God.**

Let us consider Him who endured such opposition from sinful men,

So that we will not grow weary and lose heart.

INVOCATION

Invocation.

Asking God to be with us.

DECLARATION OF FAITH

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth
of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.
And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Nicene Creed

The Nicene Creed originated at the Council on Nicaea (AD 325), and an expanded form was adopted by the Council of Chalcedon (AD 451). It was formulated to answer heresies that denied the biblical doctrine of the Trinity and the Person and Work of Jesus Christ.

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.

*"Whatever was
gain to me I now
consider loss for the
sake of Christ"*
Philippians 3:7

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,

Ancient Irish Hymn
(8th century), trans.
Mary Byrne (1905);
Tune: SLANE,
Traditional Irish
melody.
Public domain

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 dwel - 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.

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.

New Testament Reading

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer. Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort.

II Corinthians 1:2-7

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 Quioccasin 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).

Isaac Watts
(1719); Tune:
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CCLI #708363

HOW LONG, O LORD?

VERSE



1. How long, O Lord, shall I com - plain
2. Shall I for - ev - er be for - got,
3. How long, shall my poor trou - bled breast

— like one that seeks his God in vain? Canst
— as one whom Thou re - gar - dest not? Still
— be with these an - xious thoughts op-pressed? And

Thou Thy face for-ev - er hide, and I still pray and be de-nied?
shall my soul Thy ab - sence mourn, and still des-pair of Thy re-turn?
Sa - tan, my ma-li - cious foe, re-joice to see me sunk so low?

REFRAIN



But I have trus-ted in Thy grace, and shall a-gain be - hold
Thy face, be-hold Thy face. But I have trus-ted in Thy grace,
and shall a-gain be - hold Thy face, be-hold Thy face.

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

SCRIPTURE READING

¹There was a certain man of Ramathaim-zophim of the hill country of Ephraim whose name was Elkanah the son of Jeroham, son of Elihu, son of Tohu, son of Zuph, an Ephrathite. ²He had two wives. The name of the one was Hannah, and the name of the other, Peninnah. And Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children. ³Now this man used to go up year by year from his city to worship and to sacrifice to the Lord of hosts at Shiloh, where the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were priests of the Lord. ⁴On the day when Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to Peninnah his wife and to all her sons and daughters. ⁵But to Hannah he gave a double portion, because he loved her, though the Lord had closed her womb. ⁶And her rival used to provoke her grievously to irritate her, because the Lord had closed her womb. ⁷So it went on year by year. As often as she went up to the house of the Lord, she used to provoke her. Therefore Hannah wept and would not eat. ⁸And Elkanah, her husband, said to her, "Hannah, why do you weep? And why do you not eat? And why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?"

1 Samuel 1:1-8

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

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.

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

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 of mercies and God of all comfort, we confess that we are often weary with doing good. We have been slow to love, weak in faith, hard of heart. We have become rebellious in our affliction instead of waiting for You. We have attempted to flee from You, seeking a comfort of our own design. Forgive our fear and sin born of unbelief. Lead our wandering hearts back to You, strengthen us by the power of Your Holy Spirit: to draw our consolation and courage from the love of Jesus Christ, to share in Christ's sufferings, to comfort the afflicted and to walk joyfully in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

*Heidelberg Catechism
Q&A 1 (1563)*

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

That I am not my own, but belong -- body and soul, in life and in death – to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to Him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me whole-heartedly willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

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. For a list of ingredients in the wafers, see www.wepec.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

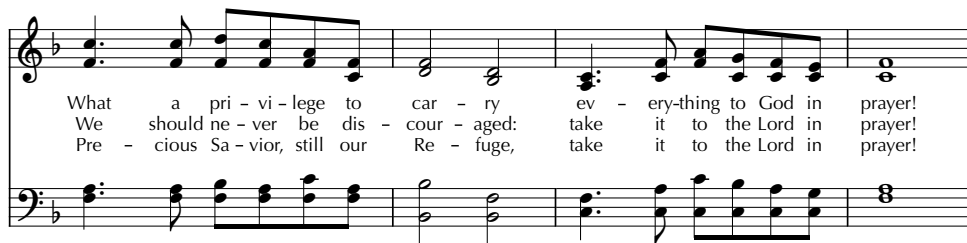
WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS



1. What a Friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 2. Have we tri - als and tem - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
 3. Are we weak and hea - vy - la - den, cum - bered with a load of care?

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."
Philippians 4:6

Joseph Scriven
 (1855); Tune:
 CONVERSE,
 Charles C.
 Converse, (1868).
 Public domain



What a pri - vi - lege to car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!
 We should ne - ver be dis - cour - aged: take it to the Lord in prayer!
 Pre - cious Sa - vior, still our Re - fuge, take it to the Lord in prayer!



O what peace we of - ten for - feit, O what need-less pain we bear,
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful, who will all our sor-rows share?
 Do thy friends de-spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!



all be-cause we do not car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer.
 Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness, take it to the Lord in prayer.
 In His arms He'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a so - lace there.

*"He was despised
and rejected by
men; a man of
sorrows, and
acquainted with
grief." Isaiah 53:3*

MAN OF SORROWS



1. Man of Sor - rows! What a name for the Son of God who came.
2. Bear - ing shame and scof - fing rude, in my place con - demned he stood.
3. Guil - ty, vile, and help - less, we; spot - less Lamb of God was He.
4. When He comes, our glor - ious King, all his ran-somed home to bring.



Ru - ined sin - ners to re - claim:
Sealed my par - don with his blood: Hal - le - lu - jah! What a Sav - ior!
Fill a - tone-ment! Can it be?
Then a - new this song we'll sing:

BY THE SAVIOR'S POWER



1.Oh, the grave that I was in, oh, the crush - ing weight of
 2.With my last and fin - al breath, pass-ing through this world of
 3.Oh the migh - ty Great I Am rules with vic - try in His



sin bear be - neath the crash-ing waves, sink-ing ne'er to rise a -
 death, I will pray, just like Your Son, "Not my will but Yours be
 hands. He will crush the gates of hell and bring us with Him to__



gain. Je - sus pulled me to the shore, grace a - boun-ded all the
 done." As I sail through heav - en's shores, I will trust You all the
 dwell. And with all who've come be - fore, we will praise You all the



more. And I was changed that ve - ry hour, res - cued
 more, and leave this life, this flee - ting flow'r, rest - ing
 more, for death is swal - lowed up for - ev - er, conq'ured



by the Sav - ior's power. Oh, Je - sus, my Re - dee-mer, great De - fen-der, O-ver -
 in the Sav - ior's power.
 by the Sav - ior's power.



com-er, Christ the Vi - ctor, there's no oth - er, praise His name for-ev-er - more. A -



men, a - men, a - men, a - men, a - men, a - men, a - men. a - men. a - men.

*"The reason
 the Son of God
 appeared was to
 destroy the works
 of the devil."
 1 John 3:8b*

Dee Wilson
 Ricky Vazquez
 Stefan Cashwell.
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 Hymns; Common
 Hymnal Digital.
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 CCLI #708363

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

Text: Thomas Ken
(1709) Tune: OLD
HUNDRETH
(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 Steve Shelby preached today's sermon and administered the Lord's Supper. ***Elder B-J Huff*** led worship. ***Pastor Kevin Greene, Sonya & Donald Smith, Deacon Rick McMahon, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, Suzie Bird, Tucker Tetterton and Paul Cho*** led this morning's congregational singing. ***Jay Smith and Chris Malak*** managed today's audio and video live stream. ***Michael Whitman*** 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.

Sermon Notes

Announcements

ADULT MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/adults

Adult Sunday School: 9 AM / Room 810

- **April 27:** Responding to Your Heart's Burdens
Hear a testimony from Joyce Minor and learn practical ways to move forward with the burdens God has placed on your heart.
- **May 4:** Mission Update with the Mussers in the Fellowship Hall

Young Adult Ministry

Meets every other Thursday / 7 PM

Next Meeting: May 8

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)

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

- **Youth Sunday School:** 9 AM / Youth Lounge
- **Homework Time:** Tuesdays / 6-8 PM
- **Youth Group:** April 30

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

Kids Club

Wednesdays / 6-7:30 PM / K-5th Grade

Join us for Bible teaching, games, crafts, and fellowship!

Missions

www.wepc.org/outreach/missions

WEPC Short Term Mission Team Interest Meeting Egypt: October 2025

TODAY! / 12 PM / Room 160

Join us for an interest meeting to hear about staffing a vision clinic in partnership with WEPC Supported Mission Partner, Mafdi (SeeJesus Arab World Trainer) and a local church in Sohag, Egypt. Contact: Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org)

CrossOver Saturday Mission Clinic

May 3 / 8 AM - 12 PM

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 Quiocasin Road Clinic? Contact: Amanda Stark (amandablairstark@gmail.com)

Irish Vision & Prayer Summit

July 26-August 3, 2025 / Dublin, Ireland

Join us for a week in Dublin, Ireland in which participants will hear about God's work in Ireland, learn about Irish culture, and travel across Ireland to listen to, encourage, and pray with Irish Pastors and ministry leaders. In partnership with WEPC supported mission agency, Serge. Ages 18 and older; 14+ with adult. Contact: Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org)

Young Lives Childcare Team Needed

July 5-9 / Rockbridge, VA

A team of WEPC men and women, teens through adults, is forming to do childcare at a Young Lives (WEPC Missions Partner) camp, impacting teen parents and their children with the Gospel. Contact: Joyce Lawrence (jcl7577@comcast.net) or Heather Oberle (hoberle@wepc.org).

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

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: Changjwok Deng (changjwok@wepc.org)

WEPC Community PRESCHOOL

www.wepc.org/preschool

Preschool Scholarship Fundraiser - The Giving Grid

Each year we give scholarships so children from our church and neighborhood can attend preschool - to learn and hear about Jesus. We're launching a new fundraiser called The Giving Grid! Our goal is to fill every block. Claim a number (or multiple) and donate that amount. Thank you in advance for your support!

www.wepc.org/preschool/giving-grid

Preschool Enrollment - Still Open

Classes available for 1-5 year olds! Come join us! Visit www.wepc.org/preschool or contact Casey Zollinhofer (casey@wepc.org).

GOSPEL & RACE

www.wepc.org/resources/gospel-race

Summer 2025 Gospel & Race Book Discussion **Swing Low: A History of Black Christianity in the United States (vol. 1), by Walter Strickland**

Sundays, June 29 - August 17 / 12:30 - 2 PM
The dynamic witness of the Black church in the United States is an essential part of Christian history. In this history of African American Christianity, we'll explore five theological anchors of Black Christianity. Author Walter Strickland will join WEPC in September to lead a conference on this same material. To register for the study, contact Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org)

FOOD PANTRY

www.wepc.org/mercyministry

Volunteers Needed

Our food pantry rotating teams are in need of additional volunteers to serve our neighbors on Sundays after worship from 12-1PM. Contact: Jim and Chris Black (jim_black@verizon.net)

Food Items Needed

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

General Information

Deacons of the Week

Brian Zollinhofer, David Creasy, Bryan Meeks, & Matt Mailloux

Fiscal Year Giving Report (as of 4/20/2025):

Operating gifts YTD: \$2,009,370.11

Forecasted gifts YTD: \$2,150,608.51

% of expected budget received: 93.43%

More ONE AND DONE Greeters Needed!

WEPC greeting teams are looking for 3 (1st service only) greeters to join our 10 rotating teams. These "one and done" greeters would welcome folks at the side door and finish up at 9:30 AM. Contact: karen@wepc.org

The Life of Samuel Spotify Playlist

Check out [The Life of Samuel Spotify Playlist](#) to sing along to songs that remind us of God's kingship, sovereignty, and faithfulness to His people. You can find it by searching "The Life of Samuel Sermon Series" or "West End Presbyterian Church RVA + playlists."

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.