

#### The Seventh 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

#### WHO CAN DELIVER US?

"When we, whether Israelites or Christians, operate this way, our concern is not to seek God but to control him, not to submit to God but to use him. So we prefer religious magic to spiritual holiness; we are interested in success, not repentance...Yahweh will suffer shame rather than allow you to carry on a false relationship with him; and Yahweh will allow you to be disappointed with him if it will awaken you to the sort of God he really is."

-Dale Ralph Davis

"The LORD is in his holy temple; the LORD's throne is in heaven; his eyes see, his eyelids test the children of man...For the LORD is righteous; he loves righteous deeds; the upright shall behold his face." —Psalm 11:4, 7

"They trusted the means of their covenant relationship (the ark of the covenant) rather than the God of that relationship....what is missing in all of this is genuine repentance."

—Bill T. Arnold

# Call to Worship

Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

### Psalm 95:1-6

#### 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.

# 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.

"God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name." Philippians 2:9

Edward Perronet (1779), alt. John Rippon (1787; Tune: CORONATION, Oliver Holden (1792). Public domain.

### ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME!



### 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.

# **New Testament Reading**

<sup>24</sup>For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. <sup>25</sup>Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own, <sup>26</sup>for then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. <sup>27</sup>And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, <sup>28</sup>so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Hebrews 9:24-28

# Ministry of Prayer

### Offering

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



"To those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ." Jude 1:1

Taylor Leonhardt, Brent Milligan, Melanie Penn, Dwan Hill; ©2024 Integrity's Praise! Music (BMI), Place Du Pantheon Music (BMI), (all adm at IntegratedRights. com). CCLI #708363

#### **BELOVED**



# CHILDRen's Message (10:30am)

# Scripture Reading

<sup>1</sup>And the word of Samuel came to all Israel. Now Israel went out to battle against the Philistines. They encamped at Ebenezer, and the Philistines encamped at Aphek. <sup>2</sup>The Philistines drew up in line against Israel, and when the battle spread, Israel was defeated before the Philistines, who killed about four thousand men on the field of battle. <sup>3</sup>And when the people came to the camp, the elders of Israel said, "Why has the LORD defeated us today before the Philistines? Let us bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD here from Shiloh, that it may come among us and save us from the power of our enemies." 4So the people sent to Shiloh and brought from there the ark of the covenant of the LORD of hosts, who is enthroned on the cherubim. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the ark of the covenant of God. <sup>5</sup>As soon as the ark of the covenant of the LORD came into the camp, all Israel gave a mighty shout, so that the earth resounded. <sup>6</sup>And when the Philistines heard the noise of the shouting, they said, "What does this great shouting in the camp of the Hebrews mean?" And when they learned that the ark of the LORD had come to the camp, <sup>7</sup>the Philistines were afraid, for they said, "A god has come into the camp." And they said, "Woe to us! For nothing like this has happened before. "Woe to us! Who can deliver us from the power of these mighty gods? These are the gods who struck the Egyptians with every sort of plague in the wilderness. <sup>9</sup>Take courage, and be men, O Philistines, lest you become slaves to the Hebrews as they have been to you; be men and fight." 10So the Philistines fought, and Israel was defeated, and they fled, every man to his home. And there was a very great slaughter, for thirty thousand foot soldiers of Israel fell. 11 And the ark of God was captured, and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, died.

I Samuel 4:1-11

### Sermon

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

# Preparation for the Lord's Supper

## Words of Institution

Luke 22:7-8, 14, 19-20, 29-30

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover."

When the hour came, Jesus and His apostles reclined at the table. And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after the supper He took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you..."

"And I assign to you, as my Father assigned to me, a kingdom, that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom."

### 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.

Almighty God, You are full of grace and truth, but our faith is weak and we have not understood Your sovereign rule in our lives. We have occupied ourselves with our own concerns instead of submitting to Your Word. We have sought our own glory instead of obeying Your Law. We have not waited to find Your will for us. We have been given to the fear of man, and rocked by uncertainty. We have not noticed the needs of others around us. We have not trusted Your favor. Father, forgive us for our sins against You. Lord Jesus, lead us to follow you as Lord. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that Your good hand might be upon us. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

### Words of encouragement

He is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

Hebrews 7:25

# 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 <a href="www.wepc.org/communion">www.wepc.org/communion</a>.

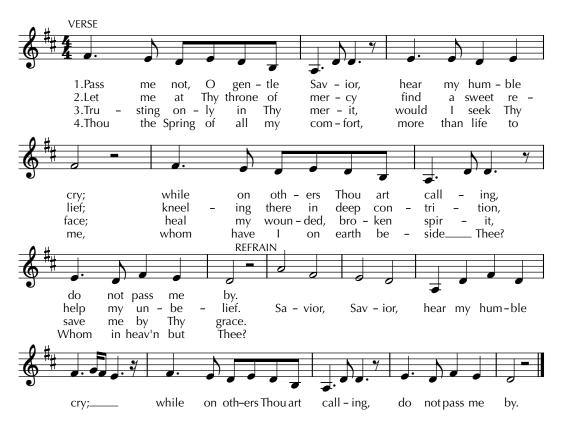
If your child is ready to make a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ, please contact the WEPC office.

# Songs of Response to God's Grace

"They told him, 'Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.' And he cried out, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!'" Luke 18:37-38

> Fanny Crosby (1868); Tune: William Doane (1870). Public domain.

### PASS ME NOT, O GENTLE SAVIOR



#### YET NOT I BUT THROUGH CHRIST IN ME



"And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:6

Jonny Robinson Michael Farren Rich Thompson ©2018 CityAlight Music. Used by permission. CCLI #708363 "Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise." Psalm 48:1

Carl Gustav Boberg (1885), Stuart K. Hine (1949); Tune: O STORE GUD, Swedish folk melody. Public domain.

#### **HOW GREAT THOU ART**



# 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. Elder & Neighborhood Outreach Director Changjwok Deng led worship. Pastor Kevin Greene, Sonya & Donald Smith, Deacon Rick McMahon, Kim Forquer, Suzie Bird, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, and Elder Tom Krieger led this morning's congregational singing. Tim Drummond and Deacon Chris Scoggins managed today's audio and video live stream. Micah Andrews managed the in-house video system. Children's Ministry Director Audrey Snyder gave the Children's Message at the 10:30AM service.

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

### **ADULT MINISTRY**

www.wepc.org/adults

Adult Sunday School: The Gospel Pursues
Sundays through June 29 / 9 AM / Room 810
Join us as we seek to gain a deeper
understanding of the good news and discuss
how God has chosen our lives as one of the
ways He communicates his grace to a broken
and hurting world. Finally, we'll help you gain
confidence in sharing the good news with those
around you. Led by Matt Bouknight (matt@
wepc.org).

Women's Ministry Summer Women's Fellowship

Mondays, June 30-July 28 / 6-8 PM / Rm 810 Please join us as we share a simple meal and consider a passage of Scripture together. All are welcome! Contact: Heather Oberle (hoberle@wepc.org)

**Young Adult Ministry** 

Young Adults at WEPC is for those looking for a space to grow in their faith and connect with others. Want to know what's going on this summer? Contact: Matt (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. Nursing Mom's Room (service audio available during both services)

#### **Vacation Bible School**

June 23-26 / 5:30-8 PM

Join us for a fun-filled week of Bible teaching, games, crafts, and fellowship! REGISTER your child <a href="here">here</a> by June 1 to guarantee your child a t-shirt. Many VOLUNTEERS are needed - sign up to volunteer <a href="here">here</a>!

**Nursery Volunteers Needed** 

The nursery is in need of 11 Adult Volunteers for the 9 AM service to serve on rotation, once every 8 weeks. If interested, contact Audrey Snyder (audrey@wepc.org)

### Neighborhood Outreach Ministry

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

#### 2025 WEPC Track Camp

June 9-13 / 5-8 PM

WEPC Track Camp is a family-friendly ministry for rising 1st through 12th grade students. Come have fun with relays, sprints, baton handoffs, birthday push-ups, and more! This camp is FREE! Sign up to register <a href="here">here</a>. Contact: Rylee Blevins (rylee@wepc.org)

### Youth Ministry

www.wepc.org/grow/youth

- Celebration Sunday: TODAY!
- Summer Youth Group: June 4
- HS Putt Putt: June 6
- The Landing Camp: June 12-16

### 1823 College-Aged Ministry

ALL younger adults (post high school, approx. ages 18-23, in college, working, taking a gap year) are invited to join us for some summer bi-weekly gatherings on Thursday evenings 7-8:30 PM. Visit our website for the exact dates and more information or contact Kristin Tetterton (kristin@wepc.org). Join the 1823 GroupMe HERE.

### 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 / BYOL 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).

### **Missions**

www.wepc.org/outreach/missions

**Missions Lunch: Matt Irvine** 

June 8 / 12 PM / Fellowship Hall Join us for a lunch and update with WEPC Mission Partner, Matt Irvine, who serves with Serge in Harrow, London, UK. Hear what Jesus is doing in outreach and church planting in British South Asian communities. RSVP to Karen Howe (karen@wepc.org).

# WEPC Short Term Mission Team Egypt: October 18-29, 2025

Interested in hearing more about staffing a vision clinic in partnership with WEPC Supported Mission Partner, Mafdi (SeeJesus Arab World Trainer) and a local church in Sohag, Egypt? Visit WEPC's Missions page for more information, or contact Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org).

**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).

### FOOD Pantry

www.wepc.org/mercyministry

#### **Volunteers/Families Needed**

Our food pantry rotating teams are in need of additional volunteers to serve our neighbors on Sundays after worship from 12-1PM. This is a great opportunity for families to serve together. 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**

Tim Andrews, Stan Cover, Davison Long, & Matt Mailloux

#### Welcome to our Summer Interns!

Join us in welcoming and praying for our Youth Ministry interns Anna Roe Brown, Charlie Bowman, & Caroline Daugherty and Worship Arts Ministry intern Jude Molique! They will be helping with youth ministry and worship arts ministry events such as The Landing, VBS, music teams, and Bible studies throughout this summer.

Congregational Meeting: Budget Presentation & Election of Officers

Please join us for a congregational meeting as we present the FY 2025-26 church budget, vote on the Pastors' Terms of Call, and re-elect church officers. Everyone is welcome, members will vote. Deacon Re-election: Mike Glasgow, Stephen Hunn, Rick McMahon Elder Re-election: Richard Campbell, Roger Johnson, Glenn Smith, Gary Witthoefft

The Life of Samuel Spotify Playlist

Check out <u>The Life of Samuel Spotify Playlist</u> 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."

# WCPC Community 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 wepc.org/preschool or contact Casey Zollinhofer (casey@wepc.org).

# Keep in Touch

## Especially if this is your first Sunday with us —welcome!



Date:			
Name:			
Children's Names:			
Address:			
City:			
Phone:			
Email:			
Who invited you to WEPC? I	How did you	first hear abou	ıt us?

♦ Check if this is <u>NEW</u> contact information for you.

### Please check the appropriate boxes:

- ♦ Visitor <u>Age:</u>
- ♦ Male ♦ 20 or younger
- ♦ Female
   ♦ Single
   ♦ Student (Grade \_\_\_)
   ♦ Student (College)
   ♦ 50-64
- $\Diamond$  Student (College)  $\Diamond$  50-64  $\Diamond$  Married  $\Diamond$  65 and older
- ♦ Parent♦ Widowed

#### I would like info about:

- ♦ WEPC
- ♦ Women's Ministry
- ♦ Men's Ministry
- ♦ Young Adult 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.

<b>Prayer Requests:</b>
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### **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.