

#### GOD THE FATHER CALLS US TO WORSHIP HIM

#### The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost: Ordinary Time

We are now in the season after Pentecost, known as "Ordinary Time." Having celebrated the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church at Pentecost, Ordinary Time signals the interim of the Church until Christ comes again in glory. Jesus is faithfully advancing His Kingdom in the power of His Spirit in this season. We anticipate the consummation of all things when Christ comes in His glory as King of all.

## Preparation for Worship & Communion

#### DO YOU LOVE ME?

"In the end your Saviour let you prove That each denial is undone by love." --Malcolm Guite, from "St. Peter"

"This was the way in which, though immortal, He was able to die; the way in which He chose to give life to mortal men: He would first share with us, and then enable us to share with Him.

Of ourselves we had no power to live, nor did He of himself have the power to die.

Accordingly, He effected a wonderful exchange with us:

we gave Him the power to die,

He will give us the power to live.

In taking upon Himself the death that He found in us,

He has most faithfully promised to give us life in Him, such as we cannot have of ourselves.

Brethren, let us then fearlessly acknowledge, and even openly proclaim, that Christ was crucified for us;

let us confess it, not in fear but in joy, not in shame but in o

not in shame but in glory."
--Augustine of Hippo

#### Call to Worship

Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens,

#### Your faithfulness to the clouds.

Your righteousness is like the mountains of God; Your judgments are like the great deep; man and beast You save, O LORD.

How precious is Your steadfast love, O God!

The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of Your wings.

They feast on the abundance of Your house, and You give them drink from the river of Your delights.

For with You is the fountain of life; in Your light do we see light.

Psalm 36:5-9. To the choirmaster. Of David, the servant of the Lord.

#### 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.

#### Invocation

#### Song of Adoration

#### MAY THE MIND OF CHRIST MY SAVIOR





#### Invocation

Asking God to be with us.

#### 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.

"Let this mind be in you which is also in Christ Jesus." Philippians 2:5

Kate B. Wilkinson (1925); Tune: ST. LEONARD (Barham-Gould, 1925). 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 <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.

Throughout this sermon series on *Questions Jesus Asked*, brothers and sisters from our church share the ways Jesus is faithfully at work in His church through many ministries at WEPC. These testimonies will be included in each week's <u>worship study</u> guide.

## STORIES FROM THE CHURCH: Jesus is at work in his church

Jim Black

#### OLD Testament Reading

Ezekiel 34:11-16

For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

#### 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).



#### IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL



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

"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

#### Scripture Reading

John 21:15-19

<sup>15</sup>When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." <sup>16</sup>He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." <sup>17</sup>He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go." <sup>19</sup>(This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "Follow me."

#### 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

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.

I Corinthians 11:23-26

#### Confession of Sin

O Lord, no day of our lives passes that does not prove us guilty in Your sight. Our best services are filthy rags. All things in us call for our rejection. However, all things in Christ plead our acceptance. Grant us to hear Your voice assuring us that by Your stripes we are healed, that You were bruised for our iniquities, that You became sin for us, that we might be robed in Your righteousness. Grant that we might walk in newness of life as followers of our Lord Jesus Christ. 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

I Peter 2:24

He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed.

#### THE Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

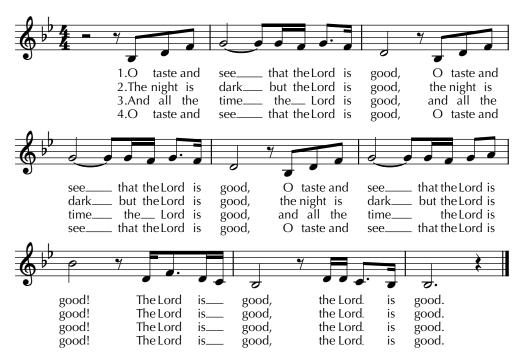
West End Presbyterian Church welcomes all baptized Christians who actively trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, who are willing to forsake their sin and heart-idols, and who are members of congregations that proclaim the Gospel, to participate in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper with us. The Elders 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="https://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

#### **O TASTE AND SEE**



"Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good." Psalm 34:8

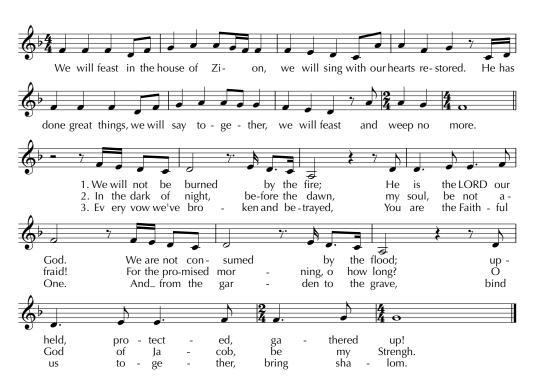
Molly Parden & Dee Wilson, ©2025 The Porter's Gate. Used by permission. CCLI #708363 "How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ." Ephesians 3:18-19

Samuel Trevor Francis (c.1890); Tune: EBENEZER, Thomas J. Williams (1890). Public domain

#### O THE DEEP, DEEP LOVE OF JESUS



#### WE WILL FEAST IN THE HOUSE OF ZION



"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) Used by permission. CCLI #708363 "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.

#### Doxology



# 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 Roger Johnson led worship. Pastor Kevin Greene, Sonya Smith, Deacon Rick McMahon, Mya Wilcox, Donald Smith, Tucker Tetterton, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, and David Jackson led this morning's congregational singing. Ross Bruning and Aaron Sutten managed today's audio and video live stream. Deacon Brian Zollinhofer managed the in-house video system.

### Sermon Notes

#### **announcements**

#### **ADULT MINISTRY**

www.wepc.org/adults

#### **Sunday Morning Discipleship: 9 AM**

- November 23: Final Nicene Creed Class / Room 35 Final Parenting Class / Room 810
- November 30: Egypt Mission Team Update Fellowship Hall
- December 7-21: Advent Class

**Young Adult Fellowship** 

December 4 / 7-8 PM / Rm 810 Meets every other Thursday Young Adults at WEPC is a space to grow in your faith and connect with others. Join us for a meal and discussion. Contact: Matt (matt@wepc.org)

#### Women's Ministry

www.wepc.org/grow/women

**Wellspring & Restore Bible Studies:** 

Wellspring: Tuesdays AM Restore: Wednesdays PM Join us for this year's study "SHE IS..." Women as God's Image-Bearers. All women are welcome. Register Now! Contact: Brice Bowman

(brice@wepc.org)

#### The Table Fellowship & Prayer

Resumes December 5 Fridays / 12-1 PM / Room 810

The Table is an informal gathering to pray and fellowship as a church, open to anyone. We'll have a short devotional, pray for the needs of the church and each other, and eat a packed lunch together. Contact: Matt (matt@wepc.org)

#### Youth Ministry

www.wepc.org/grow/youth

• Youth Sunday School: 9 AM

• Youth Group: \*No Youth Group Nov 26

• MS Boys NFL Watch Party: November 30

• **HS Girls Christmas Sleepover:** December 5

• MS Girls Cookie Decorating: December 6

#### FOOD Pantry

www.wepc.org/mercyministry

#### **Food Items Needed**

Please continue to check our weekly list to help keep the shelves stocked for our neighbors.

#### CHILDREn's MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/children

#### **Sundays:**

- **9 AM:** Nursery (infant-3 years old)
- 10:30 AM: Núrsery (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 Mom¹s Room (service audio available during both services)

Wednesdays: Club 4/5 / 6-7:30 PM

#### **Volunteers Needed:**

#### 9AM Nursery (needed every 8 weeks)

• 5 Adult Nursery Voluntéers

#### Sensory Room Volunteers Needed

We are looking to train a small team of people who have a heart to work with friends with special needs, specifically during the 1st service. Older teens are welcome. Contact Audrey: (audrey@wepc.org)

#### **Missions**

www.wepc.org/outreach/missions

**Egypt Mission Team Update** 

November 30 / 9 AM / Fellowship Hall Join us to hear from the Egypt Mission team about how Jesus was at work during their mission trip with WEPC mission partner Mafdi and the local church in Sohag, Egypt.

#### **Angel Tree is Here!**

Please visit the table in the gallery to pick your Angel Tree children. Angel Tree helps to provide gifts to the children of prisoners in the Richmond area. *Gifts needed by Sunday, November 30th.* Contact: Steve Glissman (steveglissman@gmail.com)

#### **STEP Christmas Store**

Collecting donations of new, unwrapped gifts for children living in Gilpin Court. For more information on suggested items or volunteering, please visit <u>STEP's website</u>. *Donations due at WEPC by November 30*.

Seeking Young Life Leaders at Godwin High School

WEPC Missions Parter YoungLife is seeking volunteers 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. To learn more, contact Young Life West End Director Tracy Payne (traypay@gmail.com).

#### Neighborhood Outreach Ministry

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

Simple English Bible Study: The Parables of Jesus Resumes Dec 14 / 5-6:30 PM / Room 810 \*meets on the 2nd & 4th Sundays Join us in the study of the parables of Jesus. Parables are short stories used by Jesus to teach spiritual truths and lessons about the Kingdom of God, God's nature, and how we should live. Contact: Changjwok Deng (changjwok@wepc.org)

**November Language of the Month: Farsi** Visit the "Life in the Neighborhood" bulletin station to grab your learning resources.

#### General information

#### **Deacons of the Week**

Tim Andrews, Mike Glasgow, Luke Shrader, & Jon Greenhill

WEPC Office Closed November 27th & 28th The office will reopen Monday, December 1st following the Thanksgiving break.

**Hiring for ESL Nursery Coordinator** 

The Neighborhood Outreach Team is looking for an ESL Nursery Coordinator to manage ESL Nursery and care for little ones while their mothers learn English. It is a paid position for 10-12 hours a week, mostly Tuesdays/ Thursdays. However, there is room for discussion of added hours and responsibilities. For a position description, visit our website and for more info, contact Heather Glissman (heatheresl@wepc.org).

**Wreath Making Workshop** 

December 5 & 6 (4 sessions / 10 spots each) 307 Santa Clara Drive, 23229 Join us for a Wreath Making Workshop to make your own Christmas wreath! No prior experience is needed. You can bring your own greens (\$25) or have them provided for you (\$50). This event is held outdoors, rain or shine. Pre-registration is required and spots are limited. We hope you can join us for this festive and fun event! RSVP & SIGN UP HERE Contact: Brice (brice@wepc.org)

#### **advent & Christmas at Wepc**

WEPC Christian Seasons Calendar & Art Gallery Join us as we reflect on the story of Jesus and His Church through a Christian Seasons Calendar & Weekly Devotional during 2025-2026. From His Advent to the ascension of Christ, this unique calendar unfolds the Christian story through Scripture, liturgical themes, and artwork from WEPC artists. Each WEPC household is gifted a calendar, available in the church gallery during the season of Advent. Visit the Fellowship Hall to see the original artwork of WEPC artists contributed to the calendar project. Contact: Becca Wethered (becca@wepc.org)

**Advent Worship Service:** *Every Longing Heart* November 30 / 7 PM / Chapel

Advent is a season of waiting as we look forward to celebrating Christ's birth. Join us as we gather for a service of remembrance, redemption, and hope. At this service we will lament the losses experienced in this broken world, and look expectantly in hope to Jesus, the Desire of every nation, the Joy of every longing heart.

**Neighborhood Caroling** 

Dec 4 / 6 PM / Fellowship Hall Join us for a night of fellowship and Christmas caroling with your WEPC family! We'll go caroling near the church and then enjoy some dessert together, so bring some cookies to share! Contact: Becca Wethered (becca@wepc.org)

**WEPC Advent 2025 Spotify Playlist** 

Check out our <u>Advent 2025 Spótify Playlist</u> to sing along to Advent hymns and songs as we celebrate Christ's first coming and wait expectantly for Him to come again. You can find it by searching "WEPC Advent 2025" or "West End Presbyterian RVA + playlists."

#### **Christmas Eve Services**

- 4 PM: Family-friendly Service celebrating our Savior's Advent through Scripture and song. Children are encouraged to bring an offering of non-perishable food for the WEPC Food Pantry.
- 7 PM: Communion Service of Lessons & Carols celebrating our Savior's Advent through Scripture and song.
- Scripture Readers Needed: If you are interested in reading Scripture at the 4 PM or 7 PM Christmas Eve services, please contact Becca Wethered (becca@wepc.org).

#### Keep in Touch



Especially if this is your first Sunday with us —welcome!			
Date:			
Name:			
Children's Names:_			
Address:			
City:	State	e:ZIP:	
Phone:			
Email:			
Who invited you to	WEPC? How did y	you first hear about us?	
$\Diamond$ Check if this is NE	<u>W</u> contact inform	nation for you.	
Please check the appropriate boxes:		Prayer Requests:	
♦ Visitor ♦ Male ♦ Female ♦ Single ♦ Student (Grade) ♦ Student (College) ♦ Married ♦ Parent ♦ Widowed			
I would like info about:  ⟨ WEPC ⟨ Women's Ministry ⟨ Men's Ministry ⟨ Young Adult Ministry ⟨ Childrens Ministry ⟨ Youth Ministry ⟨ Adult Classes ⟨ Small Groups ⟨ Neighborhood Outrea	ch	Prayer of Belief	
♦ Becoming a member o ♦ Other:	f WEPC _	Lord Jesus Christ, I admit tha sinful than I ever before belie I am more loved and accepte	eved, but, tl
♦ Please include me on the	e WEPC email list.	hone I thank you for naving	

ker and more hrough you, er 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.

 $\lozenge$  I am interested in learning more about