



West End
presbyterian church

The Third 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

ADOPTION

"To be loved but not known is comforting but superficial...
To be known and loved is our deepest need.
This is what it means to be adopted by God."

—*Tim Keller*

"Your place in God's family is not fragile...
it is anchored in Christ's finished work."

—*Dane Ortlund*

"The greatest part of our inheritance is the presence of God Himself."

—*John Owen*

CALL TO WORSHIP

1 Chronicles 29:10-13

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.

Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever.

**Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power
and the glory and the victory and the majesty,
for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is Yours.**

Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and You are exalted as head above all.

**Both riches and honor come from You,
and You rule over all.**

In Your hand are power and might, and in Your hand it is to make great
and to give strength to all.

**And now we thank You, our God,
and praise Your glorious name.**

Invocation

Asking God to be with us.

INVOCATION

SONG OF ADORATION

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

1 Great is Thy faith - ful-ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring-time and harv - est sun, moon, and
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, Thy own dear

sha - dow of tur - ning with Thee; Thou chang - est not, Thy com -
stars in their cour - ses a - bove; join with all na - ture in
pre - sence to cheer and to guide, strength for to - day and bright

pas-sions, they fail not; as Thou hast been Thou for - e - ver wilt be.
ma - ni - fold wit - ness to Thy great faith - ful-ness, mer - cy, and love.
hope for to - mor - row— bles-sings all mine, with ten thou-sand be - side!

Great is Thy faith - ful-ness! Great is Thy faith - ful-ness! Mor - ning by

mor - ning new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed Thy

hand hath pro - vi - ded. Great is Thy faith - ful-ness, Lord, un - to me!

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.

"Great is Your faithfulness"
Lamentations 3:23

Thomas O.
Chisholm
(1923); Tune:
FAITHFULNESS,
William Marion
Runyan (1923).
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 Isaiah Thomas either in the Gallery or on the front sidewalk.

Covenant BAPTISM (10:30am)

Lydia Constance Cho

PRESENTATION OF New Member (10:30am)

Emmeline Irwin

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Hosea 11:1-4, 8-9

When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. The more they were called, the more they went away; they kept sacrificing to the Baals and burning offerings to idols. Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk; I took them up by their arms, but they did not know that I healed them. I led them with cords of kindness, with the bands of love, and I became to them as one who eases the yoke on their jaws, and I bent down to them and fed them. How can I give you up, O Ephraim? How can I hand you over, O Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I treat you like Zeboiim? My heart recoils within me; my compassion grows warm and tender. I will not execute my burning anger; I will not again destroy Ephraim; for I am God and not a man, the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come in wrath.

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory forever and ever.
Amen.**

OFFERING

You can place your offering and/or tear-off as the plates pass. Please visit www.wepc.org/giving, scan the QR code for online giving options, or mail your offering to the church office. All checks will be converted to electronic deposit.



NOTHING TO FEAR

"Fear not, for I am with you."
Isaiah 41:10

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VERSE



1. When you pass through the wa - ters, I will be with you,
2. In the depths of your sor - row, I wept be - side you.



and the depths of the ri - vers shall not ov - er - whelm.
When you walked through the shad - ow, I drew you near.



When you walk through the fi - re, you will not be
Yest - er - day, to - day, to - mor - row, al - ways the

REFRAIN



burned: I am the Lord, I am the Lord. And there is noth - ing to fear,
same, I am the Lord. I am the Lord. And there is



noth - ing to fear, there is noth - ing to fear, noth - ing to fear, for I am

BRIDGE



with you al - ways. What can sep - a - rate you from My per - fect



love? What can sep - a - rate you from My per - fect love?



What can sep - a - rate you from My per - fect love? Do not fear.



Do not fear. Do not fear.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP (10:30am)

Children, age 4 through 1st 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

GOD THE SON RENEWS US THROUGH HIS WORD & SACRAMENT

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:14-17

¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

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

*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

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone what we ought to have done, and we have done what we ought not to have done, and there is no health in us. Yet, good Lord, have mercy on us: restore those who repent, according to Your promises declared to us in Jesus Christ our Lord. And grant, merciful Father, for His sake, that we may live a godly, righteous, and obedient life, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

From the Book of Common Prayer

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

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

1 John 3:1

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.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

HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US

"See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God." I John 3:1

Stuart Townend
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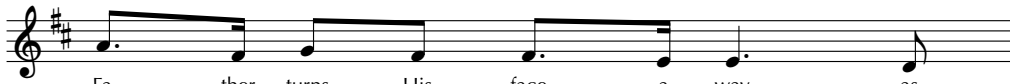
1. How deep the Fa - ther's love for us, how
2. Be - hold the Man u - pon a cross, my
3. I will not boast in an - y - thing; no



vast be - yond all mea - sure that He should give His on - ly Son to
sin up - on His shoul - ders. A - shamed, I hear my mock - ing voice call
gifts, no pow'r, no wis - dom. But I will boast in Je - sus Christ: His



make a wretch His trea - sure. How great the pain of sear - ing loss. The
out a - mong the scof - fers. It was my sin that held Him there un -
death and res - ur - rec - tion. Why should I gain from His re - ward? I



Fa - ther turns His face a - way as
til it was ac - com - plished; His
can - not give an an - swer. But



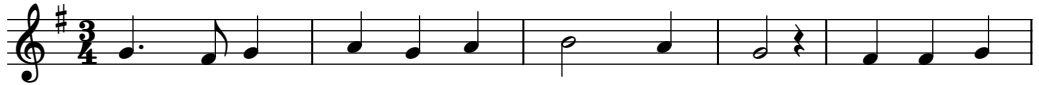
wounds which mar the Cho - sen One bring man - y sons to glo - ry.
dy - ing breath that brought me life. I know that it is fin - ished.
this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ran - som.

"Where sin increased,
grace abounded all the
more." Romans 5:20

GRACE GREATER THAN OUR SIN

Julia H.
Johnston (1911); Tune:
MOODY, Daniel B.
Towner (1910).
Public domain.

VERSE



1. Mar - ve - lous grace of our lov - ing Lord, grace that ex -
2. Sin and de - spair, like the sea waves cold, threat - en the
3. Dark is the stain that we can - not hide; what can a -
4. Mar - ve - lous, in - fi - nite, match - less grace; free - ly be -



ceeds our sin and our guilt; yon - der on Cal - va - ry's mount out -
soul with in - fi - nite loss; grace that is great - er, yes, grace un -
vail to wash it a - way? Look, there is flow - ing a crim - son
stowed on all who be - lieve; you that are lon - ging to see His



REFRAIN

poured, there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt. Grace, grace,
told, points to the ref - uge, the migh - ty Cross.
tide; whit - er than snow you may be to - day.
face, will you this mo - ment His grace re - ceive?



God's grace. Grace that will par - don and cleanse with - in. Grace,



grace, God's grace. Grace that is great - er than all our sin.

COME TO THE FEAST

*“Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled.”
Luke 14:23*



1. Go to the high - ways and hed - ges, go to the far - thest of fields,
2. Go to the streets_ of the ci - ty, bring in the crip - pled and blind,
3. (In the robe of the Lamb_ you'll be co - vered, dressed in His pure_ right - eous - ness.



go and com - pel, the sick and the well_ for our Fa - ther's house will be
all who would taste this ban - quet of grace must come and waste no more
All of your guilt, His blood it was spilt_ so, come by your Fa - ther be



filled. Come to the feast,___ come to the ta - ble, the great and the least,___
time.
blessed.



___ the rich and the poor. ___ Come to the feast, ___ come to the ta - ble.



Come, and hun - ger no more.

Jeff Lawson
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Lawson
Music. Used
by permission.
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"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-in-one) nature.

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.

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 Isaiah Thomas preached today's sermon and administered the Lord's Supper. Pastor Kevin Greene led worship. Elder Chris Newlin, Sonya & Donald Smith, Buddy Miner, Doug Cherrington, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, and Pastor Kevin Greene led this morning's congregational singing. Deacon Luke Shrader and Rob MacBride managed today's audio and video live stream. Cody Hahn 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

Sunday Morning Discipleship: 9AM / Room 810 **Mark: Immediately**

The word "immediately" shows up 35x in Mark's 16 chapters. Mark is fast paced, filled with action, and centers on Jesus. This class will help us understand the significance of Jesus' identity as the Son of God AND the Suffering Servant.

Women's Ministry

www.wepc.org/grow/women

- **Wellspring & Restore Bible Studies**
Wellspring: Tues AM / Restore: Wed PM
All women are welcome to join us for our study "SHE IS..." Register [HERE](#) 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. 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)

Young Adult Fellowship

Young Adults at WEPC is a place to grow in your faith and connect with others. We have small groups that meet weekly and gather for events throughout the year. Contact: Matt Bouknight (matt@wepc.org)

DivorceCare Spring 2026

Through May 5 / 6:30-8:30 PM / Room 810
DivorceCare is a 13-week Christ-centered program addressing the complexity of life when facing marital separation or divorce. Register [HERE](#). Contact: Gordon Collier (gcollier.pss@gmail.com)

YOUTH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/youth

- **Youth Sunday School:** 9 AM / Youth Lounge
- **Youth Group:** April 22
Middle School: 6-7:30 PM
High School: 7:30-9 PM

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

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

Worship Lab

April 19, 26 & May 3, 17 (in-service commissioning)
Chapel / 10:30 AM

Second Graders are invited to join us for a five week program where we will go through the various elements of the worship service, as well as hear from a few of the worship leaders. The purpose of this time is to give the children helpful tools to use as their hearts mature toward worship!

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

Simple English Bible Study: The Parables of Jesus

April 26 / 5 PM / Room 810

Join us in the study of the parables of Jesus.
Contact: Changjwok Deng (changjwok@wepc.org)

2026 WEPC Track Camp: Save the Date!

June 1-5 / 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 hand-offs, birthday push-ups, and more! This camp is FREE! Sign up to register [here](#) or to volunteer [here](#).
Contact: Talya Tacosa-O'Dea (talya@wepc.org)

MISSIONS

www.wepc.org/outreach/missions

STEP Richmond Summer Enrichment - Volunteers Needed

June 29-July 30 / 1-5 PM

New Life Baptist Church

Do you have a free afternoon this summer? Join STEP at Summer Enrichment to mentor children from Gilpin Court! Volunteers are needed to teach or help with skill-building activities and to chaperone field trips. Sign up to volunteer at steprichmond.org/summer.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Deacons of the Week

Sean Winterhalter, EJ Fogarty, Chris Perry, & Taylor Miller

WEPC Easter 2026 Playlist

Check out our [Easter 2026 Spotify Playlist](#) as we celebrate Christ's victory over death. You can find it by searching "WEPC Easter 2026" or "West End Presbyterian RVA + playlists."

Congregational Meeting: Election of Officers

May 17 / Following the 10:30 AM service
Please join us for a congregational meeting as we elect and re-elect church officers.
Everyone is welcome, members will vote.

Deacon Re-election: Rob Musser

Deacon Election: Peter Goodrich, Ryan Shallow, Brock Snyder, Kurt Zebley

Elder Re-election: Paul Howe

Inquirers' Weekend: FRI, May 1-SUN May 3

The pastors of WEPC extend a warm invitation to those interested in our church and the possibility of membership in the future (*membership does give an individual a vote in all congregational meetings*). Inquirers' Weekend is a wonderful time to meet our pastors in a group setting and learn some foundations of Christianity, foundations for our church's worship, and opportunities for connection and service with others. (Please note that the Friday and Saturday sessions serve as the first step towards membership.)

Friday: 6:30–9 PM (dinner included)

Saturday: 9 AM–12 PM (breakfast included)
No childcare provided for Friday & Saturday.

Sunday: 7 PM: Dessert at the Shelbys' home.
Children welcome.

RSVP by MON, April 27 to Karen Howe (karen@wepc.org) or mark your tear-off.

Video Tech Volunteer Needed

Would you be interested in serving the church by helping run worship slides on a Sunday morning? Minimal training is required. Contact: Becca Wethered (becca@wepc.org)

WEPC Assessment and Care Team

As part of the work to find a new senior pastor, please see the weekly email on Wednesdays for updates from the WEPC Assessment and Care team. If you are not already receiving the Wednesday emails, please sign up [HERE](#).

WEPC CHRISTIAN Seasons Calendar

2026-2027 Calendar Submissions Now Open!

We are now accepting submissions for our 2nd edition of the WEPC Christian Seasons Calendar, which tells the story of Jesus and His Church through a calendar with Scripture, liturgical themes, and artwork from WEPC artists.

Whether you create through painting, drawing, baking, photography, woodworking, needlework, or more, we invite you to join us and submit your creation as we seek to reflect our Creator and worship Jesus as we remember His birth, death, resurrection, ascension, & His call to follow Him. Please visit our website to see the specific requirements for submissions, and contact Becca Wethered (becca@wepc.org) with questions.

The deadline for submissions is August 30, 2026.

There is no age requirement; we encourage both children & adults to submit their art!

Each WEPC household will be gifted a calendar at the beginning of the Advent season. If you have not yet received your 2025-2026 calendar, or would like to purchase additional calendars, contact Becca (becca@wepc.org). To access the free devotional that accompanies the calendar, visit wepcchristianseasons.com.

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.

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
- ◇ Young Adult Ministry
- ◇ Childrens Ministry
- ◇ Youth Ministry
- ◇ Adult Classes
- ◇ Small 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.