



West End
presbyterian church

The Sixth 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

ETERNAL LIFE

"Your God in Christ will never un-son you, nor un-spouse you...No good either in you, or done by you, moved Him to justify you and give you eternal life. So, no evil in you, or done by you, can move Him to take it away from you."

—Edward Fisher

"This is the promise that He made to us—eternal life."

—1 John 2:25

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lord, You have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

**Before the mountains were born
or You brought forth the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting You are God.**

Let Your work be shown to Your servants,
and Your glorious power to their children.

**Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,
and establish the work of our hands upon us;
yes, establish the work of our hands!**

INVOCATION

Invocation

Asking God to be with us.


Psalm 90:1-2, 16-17; A Prayer of Moses, the man of God.

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.

SONG OF ADORATION


BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE




Be-fore the throne of God a - bove, I have a strong, a per - fect
When Sa - tan tempts me to de - spair, and tells me of the guilt with-
Be-hold Him there the ris - en Lamb, my per - fect, spot - less Right-eous-



plea, a great High Priest whose name is "Love," who ev - er lives and pleads for
in, up - ward I look and see Him there, who made an end to all my
ness, the great un change - a - ble I AM, the King of glo - ry and of



me. My name is gra - ven on His hands, my name is writ - ten on His
sin. Be - cause the sin - less Sav - ior died, my sin - ful soul is count - ed
grace! One with Him - self I can - not die, my soul is pur - chased by His



heart; I know that while in heav'n He stands, no tongue can
free; for God, the Just, is sat - is - fied, to look on
blood; My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my



bid me thence de - part. No tongue can bid me thence de - part.
Him and par - don me. To look on Him and par - don me.
Sav - ior and my God. With Christ my Sav - ior and my God.

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.

"These are they which follow the Lamb... they are without fault before the throne." Revelation 14:4-5

Charitie Lees Bancroft (1863);
Tune: Hubert Parry (1916). 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 Steve Shelby either in the Gallery or on the front sidewalk.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,
of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

And He will swallow up on this mountain
the covering that is cast over all peoples,
the veil that is spread over all nations.

He will swallow up death forever;
and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces,
and the reproach of His people He will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.

It will be said on that day,
"Behold, this is our God; we have waited for Him, that He might save us.
This is the Lord; we have waited for Him;
let us be glad and rejoice in His salvation."

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

Hear the words of Christ, our Sa - vior: "Come to me." "Come to me."_

All you wear - y and hea - vy la - den: "I will give you rest." God so loved the

world He gave His on - ly be - go - tten Son. That who - ev - er be - lieves in Him shall

have e - ver - las - ting life._ Hear the words of Christ, our Sa - vior: "Come to me."

"Come to me."_ All you wear - y and hea - vy lad - en: "I will give you rest."

"The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost."
1 Timothy 1:15

During our current sermon series from John 3, we will sing "The Comfortable Words" to open the Ministry of Prayer each Sunday. The Comfortable Words are drawn from the Book of Common Prayer to remind us of Jesus' encouragement in Matthew 11:28 and John 3:16. He provides rest for the weary, and in Him we have eternal life.

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MINISTRY OF PRAYER

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.



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

HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US

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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (10:30am)

Children, ages 4 through 2nd grade, are invited to the front of the Sanctuary prior to the sermon for a Bible lesson. Children's Worship is on break for the summer and will resume with the beginning of fall Sunday School classes.

SCRIPTURE READING

¹⁶For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

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

The disciples prepared the Passover. And when it was evening, Jesus came with the twelve. And they were reclining at the table and as they were eating, He took bread. And after blessing it, He broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

from Mark 14:16-25

CONFESSION OF SIN

*based on Heidelberg Catechism
Q & A, 58-61 (1563)*

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.

Everlasting God, may I now experience in my heart the beginnings of eternal joy in Christ. He alone secures my perfect blessedness such as no eye has seen, no ear has heard, no human heart has ever imagined: a blessedness in which to praise You forever. Forgive me for believing I secure my own blessedness. You alone have authority to declare that I am right with God and heir to everlasting life. I confess that I have grievously sinned against You and all Your commandments. I have never kept any of them. I am inexcusably still inclined toward all evil. Nevertheless, without my deserving it at all, out of sheer grace, You grant and credit to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never sinned nor been a sinner, as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me. Heavenly Father, grant me the gift of a believing heart, resting in the eternal peace Jesus secured for me by His Cross. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Romans 6:23

The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

WOOD AND NAILS

"Your dead shall live; their bodies shall rise. You who dwell in the dust, awake and sing for joy!" Isaiah 26:19a

Keith Watts | Isaac Wardell | Madison Cunningham
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VERSE

1.O hum-ble car - pen-ter, down on Your hands_ and_ knees,
 2.O lo-ving la - bor-er with the sweat u - pon Your face,



look on Your han - di-work and build a house so You may dwell in
 O build a ta - ble that I too may join You in the Fa - ther's



REFRAIN

me, so You may dwell in me. The work was done
 place, Oh, in the Fa - ther's place! The king-dom's come
 The dead will rise
 The curse is done,



with no-thing but_ wood and nails_ in Your scar - borne hands_
 and built u - pon_ wood and nails_ gripped with joy - ful - ness_
 and give You praise;_ wood and nails_ will not hold them down!
 the bat - tle won,_ swords bent down_ in - to plow - shares_



— O show me how to work and praise_ trus - ting that_
 — So send me out with - in Your ways_ know - ing that_
 — These wood - en tombs, we'll break them soon_ and fa - shion them_
 — Your scar-borne hands, we'll join with them,_ ser - ving at_



— I am Your in - stru - ment_
 — the task is fi - nished_
 — in - to flo - wer_ beds_
 — the ta - ble You've pre - pared_
 —

"Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."
 Psalm 46:10

BE STILL MY SOUL (IN YOU I REST)

Words: Kathrina Amalia von Schlegel (1752).
 Music: Jane Laurie Borthwick | Jason Ingram
 Jean Sibelius | Kari Jobe
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VERSE



1. Be still, my soul, the Lord is on thy side, bear pa-tient -
 2. Be still, my soul, thy God does un - der - take, to guide the
 3. Be still, my soul, the hour is hast - ening on, when we shall



ly the cross of grief or pain. Leave to thy
 fu - ture as He has the past. Thy hope, thy
 be - for - ev - er with the Lord. When dis - a -



God to or - der and pro - vide in ev - ery
 con - fi - dence, let no - thing shake all now my -
 ppoint - ment, grief, and fear are gone, sor - row for -



change, He faith - ful will re - main. Be still, my
 ster - ious shall be bright at last. Be still, my
 got, love's pur - est joys res - tored. Be still, my



soul, thy best, thy heav'n - ly Fri - end, through thorn - y
 soul, the waves and winds still know His voice Who
 soul, when change and tears are past, all safe and

REFRAIN



ways leads to a joy - ful end. In You I rest, in You I
 ruled them while He dwelt be - low.
 bless - ed, we shall meet at last.



found my hope, in You I trust, You ne-ver let me go, I placemy



life with-in Your hands a - lone. Be still, my soul.

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)
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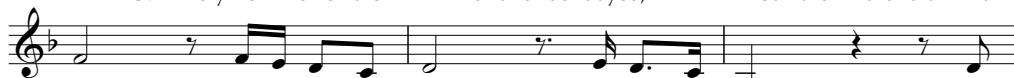
We will feast in the house of Zi- on, we will sing with our hearts re- stored. He has



done great things, we will say to - ge - ther, we will feast and weep no more.



1. We will not be burned by the fire; He is the LORD our
2. In the dark of night, be-fore the dawn, my soul, be not a -
3. Ev ery vow we've bro - ken and be-trayed, You are the Faith - ful



God. We are not con - sumed by the flood; up -
fraid! For the pro-mised mor - ning, o how long? O
One. And_ from the gar - den to the grave, bind



held, pro - tect - ed, ga - thered up!
God of Ja - cob, be my Strength.
us to - ge - ther, bring sha - lom.

"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 blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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. Pastor Kevin Greene led worship. Robin Huff, Mya Wilcox, Chris Alberts, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, Mollie Bowman, Donald Smith, and Jamison Taggart led this morning's congregational singing. Deacon Luke Shrader, Nissie Mukora, and Scott Hoyer managed today's audio and video live stream. Ethan Molique managed the in-house video system. Director of Adult Discipleship Matt Bouknight gave the Children's Message at the 10:30 AM service.

SERMON NOTES

Announcements

ADULT MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/adults

Sunday Morning Discipleship: 9 AM / FH

TODAY! Missions Update with Lauren Davis

Join us in the Fellowship Hall as we hear from WEPC Missions Partner Lauren Davis about her ministry with Bridges in New York City.

Wednesday Night Summer Fellowship: LOVE

www.wepc.org/WNF

Wednesdays through August 26 / 6:30-8 PM

WEPC Chapel

Join us this summer for a look at the theme of LOVE in the Bible. What does God say about love and being loved? Let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Outspoken skeptics, new Christians and long-time believers are encouraged to attend. Feel free to bring others, and drop in whenever you are in town! Led by Kevin & Kim Greene and Becca Wethered. Contact: Kevin (kevin@wepc.org)

Summer Women's Book Study:

Even Better Than Eden

Wednesdays through August 19 / 6:30 PM
Room 810

All women are invited to a book study this summer! Join us as we consider how each of our stories is shaped by the gospel story. Contact: Sarah Shrader (library@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)

1823 COLLEGE-AGED MINISTRY

Sundays / July 12, 26, Aug 2

12-2 PM / (visit [1823 GroupMe](#) for location)

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 gatherings! Our time together will include fellowship, a devotional time, and prayer. Contact: Kristin Tetterton (kristin@wepc.org or 804-350-6153).

YOUTH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/youth

- **First Sunday Breakfast & Missions Update:** TODAY / 9 AM / Fellowship Hall
- **Game Night:** July 6 / 6:30-8 PM
- **Girls Potluck Dinner:** July 7 / 6-8 PM
- **9th & 10th Grade girls Breakfast:** July 8 / 9 AM
- **Summer Youth Group:** July 8 / 6:30-8 PM
- **Upperclassmen Hang out:** July 9 / 7 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 (4 years-2nd grade)
- **Nursing Mom's Room** (service audio available during both services)

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

2026 West End Community Cup: Volunteers Needed July 19 / 3 PM / Fellowship Hall

Join us for our final FIFA World Cup watch party this summer! This is an opportunity to share the gospel, fellowship, and strengthen our relationships with our ESL students and their families. To volunteer, please [CLICK HERE](#). Also, we invite all families to participate in the [World Cup Trivia Challenge!](#) Contact: Ligdabeth (wepccommunitycup@wepc.org)

WORSHIP ARTS MINISTRY

Lectio Visio: The Life of Christ

July 12-August 16 / 12-1:30 PM / Room 810

Join us as we seek to grow in our love for our Savior as we journey through key events in Christ's life by meditating on passages from God's Word and reflecting on selected works of art. From Christ's incarnation and earthly ministry to His death, resurrection, and ascension—participants will have the opportunity to see familiar Gospel accounts from fresh perspectives and behold Christ through His Word. We'll eat together at 12 PM (lunch provided) and begin our time of reflection at 12:30 PM. Contact: Becca Wethered (becca@wepc.org)

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.

Missions

www.wepc.org/outreach/missions

Open House for Lauren Davis

July 7 / 5:30-7:30 PM / Davis Home

Join us as we hear from WEPC Missions Partner Lauren Davis about what God is doing in her ministry with Bridges in New York City at the Davis Home (2214 Grainmill Court). No need to RSVP, just drop by! Contact: Monica Davis (804-615-2332 or monica.davis99@gmail.com).

General Information

Deacons of the Week: David Creasy, Ed Bowman, Stan Cover, Stephen Hunn

WEPC Employment Opportunity:

ESL Assistant Director

WEPC is currently seeking those who desire to build relationships with our neighbors and love to work on a team that supports church ministry. This position is part of the Neighborhood Outreach Ministry and is essential to the administration and function of the ESL Ministry - read the job description [HERE](#). Contact: Heather Glissman (heatheresl@wepc.org)

John 3 Sermon Series Playlist

Check out our [John 3 Spotify Playlist](#) as we give thanks for God's love for us in sending His Son that we might live. You can find it by searching "WEPC John 3" or "West End Presbyterian RVA + playlists."

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](#).

We highly encourage all members and regular attenders to take the congregational survey below (use QR code) to help inform us as we create a church profile.



Inquirers' Weekend: FRI, Sept 18-SUN Sept 20

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, September 14 to Karen Howe (karen@wepc.org) or mark your tear-off.

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.

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.