



West End

presbyterian church

**The Eighth 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

INCREASING & DECREASING

"The more I am occupied with Christ, the less shall I be occupied with myself. Humility is not the product of direct cultivation, rather it is a by-product. The more I try to be humble, the less shall I attain unto humility. But if I am truly occupied with that One who was meek and lowly in heart, if I am constantly beholding His glory in the mirror of God's Word, then shall I be changed."

--A.W. Pink

"Upon a life I have not lived, upon a death I did not die, Another's Life, Another's Death, I stake my whole eternity."

--Horatius Bonar

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalms 34:1-3

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.

I will bless the Lord at all times;

His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

My soul makes its boast in the Lord;

Let the humble hear and be glad.

Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together!

Invocation

Asking God to be with us.

INVOCATION

SONG OF ADORATION

COME THOU FOUNT

1. Come, thou Fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my heart to sing Thy
2. Here I raise my Eb - en - ez - er hith - er by Thy help I've
3. Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to

grace; streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for
come; and I hope, by Thy good plea - sure, safe - ly
be! Let Thy good - ness, like a fet - ter, bind my

songs of lou - dest praise. Teach me some me - lo - dious
ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a
wan - dering heart to Thee: prone to wan - der, Lord, I

son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the
strang - er, wan - dering from the fold of God; He, to
feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my

mount— I'm fixed up - on it mount of God's re - deem - ing love.
res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
heart, O take and seal it; seal it for Thy courts a - bove.

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.

*"Then Samuel took a stone and set it up...He named it Ebenezer, saying, 'Thus far has the LORD helped us.'"
1 Samuel 7:12*

Robert Robinson
(1758); Tune:
NETTLETON,
Wyeth's Repository
of Sacred Music
(1843). 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.

PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBER (9 am)

Adel Bottros

YOUTH SUMMER SERVICE TRIPS COMMISSIONING (10:30 am)

Led by Chris & Allison Hearn

Middle School Service Team (*Next Step Ministries, Knoxville, TN*)

High School Service Team (*Appalachia Service Project, Jonesville, VA*)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 9:23-24

Thus says the Lord: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the Lord."

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.



"I will turn their
mourning into joy; I
will comfort them, and
give them gladness for
sorrow." Jeremiah 31:13

Chris Brown, Mack
Brock, Steven Furtick,
Wade Joye. ©2015
Elevation Worship.
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O COME TO THE ALTAR

VERSE



1.Are you hur - ting and bro - ken with-in?____ Ov - ver - whelmed____
2.Leave be-hind your re-grets and mis-takes.____ Come to-day,



— by the weight of your sin?____ Je - sus is call - ing.
there's no rea - son to wait.____ Je - sus is call - ing.



Have you come to the end of your-self?____ Do you thirst____
Bring your sor - rows and trade them for joy,____ from the ash -



— for a drink from the well?____ Je - sus is call-ing. O come to the al-tar,
- es a new life is born.____ Je - sus is call-ing.



the Fa-ther's arms are o - pen wide. For-give-ness was bought with



the pre-cious blood of Je - sus Christ. O what a Sa - vior, isn't He



won - der - ful, sing a He - lu - lia! Christ is ri - sen!____ Bow down be -



fore Him, for He is Lord of all, sing a He - lu - lia! Christ is ris - en!____

CHORUS

BRIDGE

SCRIPTURE Reading

²²After this Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside, and he remained there with them and was baptizing. ²³John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because water was plentiful there, and people were coming and being baptized ²⁴(for John had not yet been put in prison). ²⁵Now a discussion arose between some of John's disciples and a Jew over purification. ²⁶And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, he who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you bore witness—look, he is baptizing, and all are going to him." ²⁷John answered, "A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. ²⁸You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.' ²⁹The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. ³⁰He must increase, but I must decrease."

John 3:22-30

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

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."

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

CONFESSION OF SIN

*based on Psalm 5,
a Psalm of David*

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.

Hear our words and our groanings, O Lord. Give attention to our cry for mercy. You are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with You. The boastful shall not stand before Your eyes; You hate all evildoers. You destroy those who speak lies; You abhor the bloodthirsty and deceitful. Forgive us, good Lord. We have sinned against You and our neighbor. We have sought to justify ourselves before You. We have attempted to atone for our own sins and punish the sins of others. And so, we have boasted in sin and self. By Your mercy alone, by the abundance of Your steadfast love may we enter Your house. Because of Your Son, O Lord, let us find refuge in You. Take away our sins and let us ever sing for joy. Cover us with Your favor as with a shield. For the sake of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

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

THE BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you, make His face shine u-pon_

_ you and be gra-cious to you. The Lord turn His face toward you

and give you peace. A - men, a - men, a - men.

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

"The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace."
Numbers 6:24-26

Words & Music by
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Carnes | Kari Jobe
Steven Furtick
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ALL TO JESUS I SURRENDER

1. All to Je-sus I sur-ren-der, all to Him I free-ly give,
2. All to Je-sus I sur-ren-der, Lord, I give my-self to Thee,

may I ev-er love and trust Him, in His pres-ence
fill me with Thy love and pow-er, let Thy bles-sing

dail-y live. I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all.

All to Thee, my bles-sed Sav-ior, I sur-ren-der all.

"See, we have left everything and followed you."
Mark 10:28

Words: Judson
W. VanDeVenter;
Music: Winfield S.
Weeden (1896),
Tune: SURRENDER.
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*"Know therefore that the
Lord your God is God, the
faithful God who keeps
covenant."
Deuteronomy 7:9*

Aaron Moses | Dante
Bowe | Joe L. Barnes Keila
Alvarado Lemuel Marin
Philip Carrington Gaines
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PROMISES

VERSE

1. God of Ab-ra - ham, You're the God of cov - e - nant, of faith-ful prom-i - ses.
2. God, from age to age, though the earth may pass a - way, Your word re-mains the same.

Time and time a - gain You have pro - ven You'll do just what You
And his - tor - y can prove there's no - thing You can't do, You're faith - ful and

PRE-CHORUS

said. Though the storms may come, and the winds may blow, You'll re - main stead -
true.

CHORUS

fast. And let my heart learn when You speak a word, it will come to pass. Great it Your
faith - ful - ness to me. Great is Your faith - ful - ness to me. From the
ri - sing sun to the set - ting same, I will praise Your name. Great is Your faith - ful -
ness to me. I put my faith in Je - sus, my an - chor to the ground. My
hope and firm foun - da - tion, He'll ne - ver let me down. He'll ne - ver let me down.

TO CHORUS

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
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What gift of grace is Je - sus, my Re - deem - er. There is no
The night is dark, but I am not for - sak - en, for by my
No fate I dread, I know I am for - giv - en, the fu - ture
With ev - ery breath I long to fol - low Je - sus, for He has
more for heav - en now to give. He is my joy, my right - eous - ness and
side the Sav - ior, He will stay. I lab - or on in weak - ness and re -
sure, the price, it has been paid. For Je - sus bled and suf - fered for my
said that He will bring me home. And day by day I know He will re -
free - dom, my stead - fast love, my deep and bound - less peace. To this I
joi - cing, for in my need, His pow - er is dis - played. To this I
par - don, and He was raised to ov - er - throw the grave. To this I
new me un - til I stand with joy be - fore the throne. To this I
hold: my hope is on - ly Je - sus. For my life is whol - ly bound to
hold: my Shep - herd will de - fend me. Through the deep - est val - ley He will
hold: my sin has been de - feat - ed. Je - sus now, and ev - er, is my
hold: my hope is on - ly Je - sus. All the glo - ry ev - er - more to
His. Oh how strange and di - vine, I can sing: all is mine! Yet not
lead. Oh the night has been won, and I shall ov - er - come! Yet not
plea. Oh the chains are re - leased, I can sing: I am free! Yet not
Him. When the race is com - plete, still my lips shall re - peat: Yet not
I, but through Christ in me.
I, but through Christ in me.
I, but through Christ in me.
I, but through Christ in me.

*"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 Steve Shelby preached today's sermon and administered the Lord's Supper. Pastor Kevin Greene led worship. Elder Chris Newlin, Lauren Newlin, Evangeline Bouknight, Cora Snyder, Riley Molique, Emily Long, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, and Pastor Kevin Greene led this morning's congregational singing. Greg Stiles and Deacon Tim Andrews managed today's audio and video live stream. Cody Hahn managed the in-house video system.

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.

Wednesday Night Summer Fellowship: LOVE

www.wepc.org/WNF

Wednesdays through August 26 / 6:30-8 PM
WEPC Chapel

Join us for a look what God says 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)

Adult Trivia Night

August 14 / 7-8:30 PM / Fellowship Hall

Join us for an adults-only Trivia Night! Bring your best guesses, enjoy relaxed conversation, and munch on some snacks while we laugh our way through the evening. Registration to come. Contact: Matt (matt@wepc.org) or Joy (joy@wepc.org). Childcare will not be available.

YOUTH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/youth

- **Youth Sunday School:** 9 AM / Youth Lounge
- **HS Girls Prayer & Pancakes:** July 21 / 10 AM
- **Graduates' Launch:** July 21 / 7 PM
- **Summer Youth Group:** July 22 / 6:30-8 PM
- **HS Pickleball Tournament:** July 24 / 7-9:30 PM
- **Paint the Ceiling:** July 27 / 1-3 PM

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

2026 West End Community Cup: Volunteers Needed TODAY! / 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](#). Contact: Ligdabeth (wepccommunitycup@wepc.org)

Neighborhood Outreach Interest Luncheon

August 2 / 12-1:30 PM / Library

Join us for fellowship, good food, an opportunity to hear about N.O. ministries through the testimonies of volunteers and Q&A time. If you have been interested or volunteered years ago and want more information about how N.O. ministries reach our community, we would love for you to join! Contact: Heather Glissman (heatheresl@wepc.org)

WORSHIP ARTS MINISTRY

Lectio Visio: The Life of Christ

Sundays through August 16 / 12-1:45 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 and resurrection—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 (bring your own lunch) and begin our time of reflection at 12:30 PM. Contact: Becca Wethered (becca@wepc.org)

1823 COLLEGE-AGED MINISTRY

Last 2 meetings: July 26 & Aug 2 / 12:30-2 PM
ALL younger adults (post high school, approx. ages 18-23, in college, working, taking a gap year) are invited to join us for our final summer gatherings! Contact: Kristin Tetterton (kristin@wepc.org or 804-350-6153).

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/children

Sundays:

- **9 AM:** Nursery (infant-3 years old)
- **10:30 AM:** Nursery (infant-3 years old) &
- **Nursing Mom's Room** (service audio available during both services)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Deacons of the Week: Kurt Zebley, Matt Mailloux, Mike Glasgow, & Sean Winterhalter

WEPC Family Day

TODAY! / 4-6 PM / Deep Run Park (Shelter #3)
Everyone is welcome to join us as we gather for our first ever WEPC family day! This is an opportunity to be together as a church family and for us to invite our friends to be introduced to the church outside of the church walls. Bring your own snacks and any lawn games that you would want to have!

Service Sampler: A taste of how we serve and belong together

August 9 / Following both services / Gallery
Interested in serving at WEPC, but not sure what ministries are available? Come explore the service opportunities available, learn what each ministry needs, and find the place where your gifts can make a difference. We'd love to help you connect, serve, and belong!

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)

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 (use QR code to the right) 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 Shelys' home. *Children welcome.*

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

MISSIONS

STEP Richmond Ministry School Supply Drive

Help us collect school supplies for children in Gilpin Court. A collection bin can be found just outside the WEPC church office through **August 5**. Visit steprichmond.org/back2school for a list of needed supplies.

WEPC COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL

www.wepc.org/preschool

WEPC Community Preschool is hiring!

We have an assistant position open for the 2026-2027 school year. Are you, or someone you know, interested in working at the WEPC Community Preschool? If so, please visit our website at wepc.org/preschool/about/employment or reach out to the preschool director, Casey Zollinhofer (casey@wepc.org), for more information.

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.

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!

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.