



West End

presbyterian church

**The Ninth 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

ALL THINGS IN JESUS' HANDS

"To have the Son is to have life; to reject the Son is to remain in death already present."

--*Augustine of Hippo*

"Christ is King of all; there is not a single square inch of creation over which He does not cry, 'Mine!'"

--*Abraham Kuyper*

"For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together."

--*Colossians 1:16-17*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 24:1-6, 9-10

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.

The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein,

for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place?

He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.

He will receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

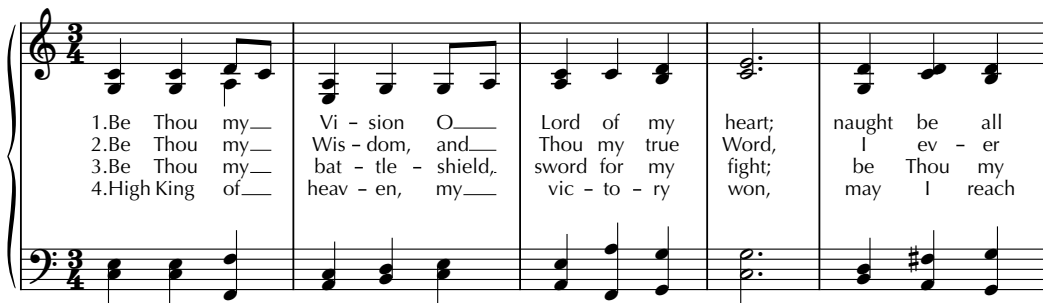
Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory!

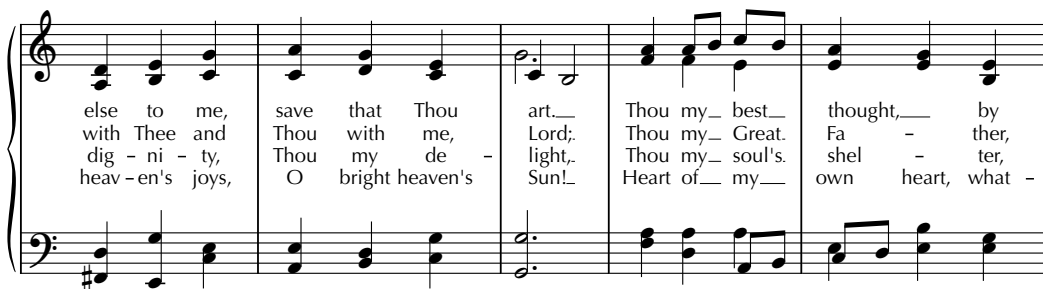
INVOCATION

SONG OF ADORATION

BE THOU MY VISION



1. Be Thou my_ Vi - sion O___ Lord of my heart; naught be all
2. Be Thou my_ Wis - dom, and_ Thou my true Word, I ev - er
3. Be Thou my_ bat - tle - shield, sword for my fight; be Thou my
4. High King of_ heav - en, my_ vic - to - ry won, may I reach



else to me, save that Thou art___ Thou my_ best_ thought,___ by
with Thee and Thou with me, Lord; Thou my_ Great. Fa - ther,
dig - ni - ty, Thou my de - light, Thou my_ soul's. shel - ter,
heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun! Heart of_ my_ own heart, what -



day or by night,___ wak - ing or sleep - ing, Thy_ pres - ence my Light.
I Thy true son;___ Thou in me dwell - ing and_ I with Thee one.
Thou my high tow - er; raise Thou me heav'n-ward, O_ pow'r of my pow'r.
ev - er be fall,___ still be my Vi - sion, O_ Rul - er of all.

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.

*"Whatever was
gain to me I now
consider loss for
the sake of Christ"*
Philippians 3:7

Ancient Irish
Hymn (8th
century), trans.
Mary Byrne (1905);
Tune: SLANE,
Traditional Irish
melody. 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 42:1-7

Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break,
and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
He will not grow faint or be discouraged
till he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his law.
Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people on it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
"I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;
I will take you by the hand and keep you;
I will give you as a covenant for the people,
a light for the nations,
to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness."

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.



"Behold, I am coming soon." Revelation 22:12

Horatius Bonar (1849),
alt. Michelle Raybourn;
Music: ©2022 Michelle
Raybourn Music
(ASCAP), Mikey Rogers
Music (BMI), Kevin Twit
Music (ASCAP) and
Sammi Accola
Music (BMI).
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WE SHALL BE SOON

VERSE

1. Be-yond the smi - ling, and the weep - ing, we shall be soon.____
2. Be-yond the bloom - ing, and the fa - ding, we shall be soon.____
3. Be-yond the ri - sing, and the set - ting, we shall be soon.____
4. Be-yond the com - ing, and the go - ing, we shall be soon.____

Be-yond the wa - king and the sleep - ing, be-yond the sow -
Be-yond the shi - ning and the sha - ding, be-yond the hop -
Be-yond the calm - ing and the fret - ting, be-yond re - mem -
Be-yond the eb - bing and the flo - wing, be-yond the wi -

REFRAIN

- ing and the reap - ing,____ we shall be soon.____
- ing and the dread-ing,____ we shall be soon.____ And all our
- b'ring and for-get - ting,____ we shall be soon.____
ther - ing and the grow-ing,____ we shall be soon.____

good things turn to____ dust. Death, de-cay,____ and dark - ness, all

take from us, but there will come____ an end to all our end - ings. We are wait -

- ing, for the king - dom You are bring-ing. Be-yond the ev -

- er, and the ne - ver, we shall be soon.____

SCRIPTURE Reading

³¹He who comes from above is above all. He who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks in an earthly way. He who comes from heaven is above all. ³²He bears witness to what he has seen and heard, yet no one receives his testimony. ³³Whoever receives his testimony sets his seal to this, that God is true. ³⁴For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. ³⁵The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand. ³⁶Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

John 3:31-36

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

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.

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

CONFESSION OF SIN

Adapted from The Valley of Vision, "God and Myself"

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.

Heavenly Father, loving King, all of our sins are laid bare before Your eyes: we love ourselves, but not those around us. We have nursed anger and envy, and have forsaken Your humility, gentleness, patience, love and unity. We tie our joy to our circumstances, rather than to Your Gospel. We repent of our fruitless wanderings, and ask that You renew us in Jesus Christ. Let us hear Your voice saying: "Awake and rise! His blood is your Peace, His death is your Life, His Spirit is your Power." Restore to us the joy of Your salvation and persuade us that a life lived in Your service is a life of perfect freedom. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Colossians 2:9-10, 13

In Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. When you were dead in your sins...God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins.

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

MAN OF SORROWS! WHAT A NAME



1. Man of Sor - rows! What a name for the Son of God who came.
2. Bear - ing shame and scof - fing rude, in my place con - demned he stood.
3. Guil - ty, vile, and help - less, we; spot - less Lamb of God was He.
4. When He comes, our glor - ious King, all his ran-somed home to bring.



Ru - ined sin - ners to re - claim:
Sealed my par - don with his blood: Hal - le - lu - jah! What a Sav - ior!
Fill a - tone - ment! Can it be?
Then a - new this song we'll sing:

*He was despised
and rejected by
men; a man of
sorrows, and
acquainted with
grief." Isaiah 53:3*

Phillip Bliss
(1875). Tune:
HALLELUIAH!
WHAT A SAVIOR,
Phillip Bliss (1875).
Public domain

"To him who loves
us and has freed us
from our sins by his
blood...to Him be
glory and power
for ever and ever!"
Revelation 1:5-6

John Newton (1774).
Tune: ©2001 Laura
Taylor Music.
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LET US LOVE AND SING AND WONDER

1. Let us love and sing and won - der, let us praise the Sa -
 2. Let us love the Lord who bought us, pit - ied us when en -
 3. Let us sing through fierce temp - ta - tion, threa - ten hard to bear
 4. Let us wond - er grace and jus - tice, join and point to mer -
 5. Let us praise and join the chor - us of the saints en - throned

- vior's name, He has hushed the law's loud thun - der,
 - e - mies, He called us by His grace and taught us,
 - us down, for the Lord our strong sal - va - tion
 - cy's store, when through grace in Christ our trust is,
 on high, here they trus - ted Him be - fore us,

He has quenched Mount Si - nai's flame. He has
 gave us ears and gave us eyes. He has
 holds in view the and the crown. He has
 jus - tice smiles and no more. He who
 now their prai - ses fill the sky. You have

washed us with His blood, He has washed us with His blood,
 washed us with His blood, He has washed us with His blood,
 washed us with His blood, He who washed us with His blood,
 washed us with Your blood, You have washed us with Your blood,

He has washed us with His blood, He has
 He has washed us with His blood, He pre -
 He who washed us with His blood, soon will
 He who washed us with His blood, has se -
 You have washed us with Your blood, You are

brought us nigh to God,
 sends our souls to God,
 bring us home to God,
 cured our way to God,
 wor - thy Lamb of God,

ON JORDAN'S STORMY BANKS

*"They were longing for
a better country--
a heavenly one."
Hebrews 11:16*

Samuel Stennett (1787);
Tune: ©1997 Christopher
Miner Music.
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1. On Jor - dan's stor - my banks I stand, and
2. All o'er those wide ex - ten - ded plains, shines
3. No chill - ing winds nor pois - o - nous breath, can
4. When shall I reach that hap - py place, and



cast a wish - ful eye to Can - aan's fair__ and
one e - tern - al day, there God the Son__ for -
reach that health - ful shore, sick - ness, sor - row,
be for - e - ver blessed, when shall I see my



hap - py land, where my pos - sess - ions__ lie. I am
ev - er reigns, and scat - ters nigh a - way.
pain and death, are felt and feared no__ more.
Fa - ther's face, and in His bos - om__ rest.



bound (I am bound) I am bound__ (I am bound) I am



bound for the prom - ised land! I am bound (I am bound) I am



bound (I am bound) I am bound for the prom - ised__ land!

*"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. **Elder B-J Huff** led worship. **Pastor Kevin Greene, Sonya & Donald Smith, Barry Hunte, Tucker Tetterton, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered,** and **Gordon Collier** led this morning's congregational singing. **Ross Bruning, Colin Elliott,** and **Aaron Suttan** managed today's audio and video live stream. **Deacon Brian Zolinhoffer** 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. 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! 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 80's Trivia Night

August 14 / 7-8:30 PM / Fellowship Hall
Join us for an adults-only 80's Trivia Night! Bring your best guesses, enjoy relaxed conversation, and munch on some snacks while we laugh our way through the evening. RSVP [here](#). Contact: Matt (matt@wepc.org) or Joy (joy@wepc.org).
Childcare will not be available.

1823 COLLEGE-AGED MINISTRY

Final summer meeting: 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 gathering! Contact: Kristin Tetterton (kristin@wepc.org or 804-350-6153).

YOUTH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/youth

- **Youth Sunday School:** 9 AM / Youth Lounge
- **Last Summer Youth Group:** August 5

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)

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)

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

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)

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.

General Information

Deacons of the Week: Chris May, Chris Perry, Davison Long, & Peter Goodrich

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. TODAY IS THE DEADLINE!



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.

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.

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.