



West End
presbyterian church

**The Fourteenth 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

OUR HELP IS IN THE NAME OF THE LORD

"When a man has learned that in himself he is nothing, and that all his help is from God, he has learned the beginning of wisdom."

--*Augustine of Hippo*

"God is not a distant helper who merely looks on. He is present in the midst of trouble, and His power is made known where human strength has come to an end... He does not remove the sea, but makes a path through the sea. He does not extinguish the furnace, but preserves His people in the furnace."

--*Martin Luther*

"The moment we become aware of God's presence in our lives is not the moment He begins to be present. He has been present all along. The discovery is not that God is here, but that we are here because God is here."

--*Eugene Peterson*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 124:8

"Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

Let us worship Him.

*16th century Protestant
Reformer John Calvin held
to a practice of beginning
each worship service with
Psalm 124:8 in his early
years of ministry in Geneva,
Switzerland.*

Invocation

Asking God to be
with us.

INVOCATION

SONG OF ADORATION

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING



1 All crea - tures of our God and King,
2 Thou ru - shing wind that art so strong,
3 All you who are of ten - der heart,
4 Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless,



lift up your voice and with us sing. Al - le
ye clouds that sail in Hea'vn a - long, O
for - giv - ing oth - ers take your part, O
and wor - ship Him in hum - ble - ness. O



lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
praise Him! Al - le - lu - ia!
sing ye! Al - le - lu - ia!
praise Him! Al - le - lu - ia!



Thou burn - ing sun with gol - den beam.
Thou rush - ing morn with praise re - joice.
Ye who long pain and sor - row bear,
Praise, praise the Fath - er, praise the Son,



Thou sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam. O
Ye lights of eve - ning find a voice.
praise God and on Him cast your care.
and prase the Spir - it, Three in One.



praise Him! O praise Him! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

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.

"All You have made will praise You, O Lord"
Psalm 145:10

Francis of Assisi (c.1225); Tr.
William Draper (1926); Tune:
Geistliche Kirchengesänge,
Cologne (1623).
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.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 14:22-33

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

DECLARATION OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism
Q&A 26 (1563)

What do you believe when you say, “I believe in God, the Father
almighty, Creator of heaven and earth”?
(The Apostles’ Creed, orig. 2nd century)

**That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who out of nothing created heaven and earth
and everything in them
who still upholds and rules them
by His eternal counsel and providence,
is my God and Father
because of Christ the Son.
I trust God so much that I do not doubt
He will provide
whatever I need
for body and soul,
and will turn to my good
whatever adversity He sends upon me
in this sad world.
God is able to do this because He is almighty God
and desires to do this because He is a faithful Father.**

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.*



"You have been...a
refuge for the needy in
his distress." Isaiah 25:4

JESUS LOVER OF MY SOUL

Charles Wesley (1740);
Tune: ©2000 Greg
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1. Je - sus, Lo - ver of my soul, let me to Thy bo - som__
2. Oth - er re - fuge have I none, I help-less, hang on__
3. Thou, O Christ, are all I want, here more than all I__
4. Plen-teous grace with Thee is found, grace to co - ver all my__



__ fly, while the near - rer wa - ters roll, while the
__ Thee; leave, oh leave me not a - lone, sup -
__ find; raise the fal - len, cheer the faint, heal the
__ sin; let the heal - ing streams a - bound; make and



temp-est still is__ high: hide me, O my Sa - vior, hide,
port and com - fort__ me! All my trust on Thee is stayed, all
sick and lead the__ blind. Just and ho - ly is Thy name; I am
keep me pure with - in. Thou of life the foun - tain art;



'till life's storm is__ past, safe in - to the
help from Thee I__ bring; co - ver my de -
all un - right - eous - ness; false and full of
let me take of__ Thee; spring Thou up with -



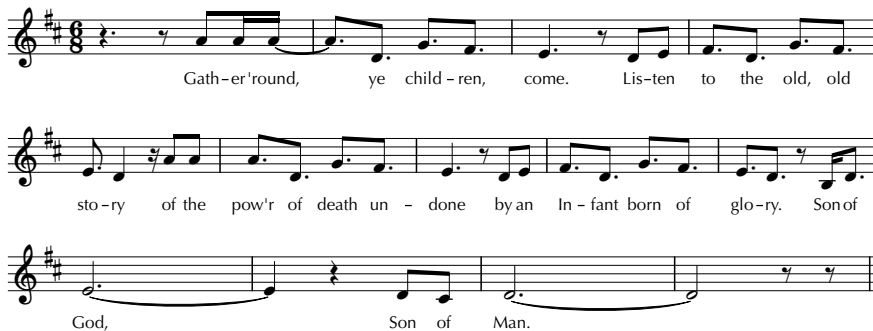
ha - ven guide, re - ceive my soul at__ last.
fense - less head in the sha - dow of Thy__ wing.
sin I am, Thou art full of truth and__ grace.
in my heart, for all e - ter - ni - ty.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP (10:30am)

Children, age 4 through 2nd grade, will be dismissed prior to the sermon for a Bible Lesson, activity, and fellowship. Pick up from Room 121. www.wepc.org/grow/children

CHILDREN'S BLESSING (10:30am)

GATHER ROUND YE CHILDREN, COME



"But Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.'"
Matthew 19:14

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GOD THE SON RENEWS US THROUGH HIS WORD & SACRAMENT

SCRIPTURE Reading

- ¹If it had not been the Lord who was on our side—
let Israel now say—
²if it had not been the Lord who was on our side
when people rose up against us,
³then they would have swallowed us up alive,
when their anger was kindled against us;
⁴then the flood would have swept us away,
the torrent would have gone over us;
⁵then over us would have gone
the raging waters.
⁶Blessed be the Lord,
who has not given us
as prey to their teeth!
⁷We have escaped like a bird
from the snare of the fowlers;
the snare is broken,
and we have escaped!
⁸Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

*Psalms 124. A Song of
Ascents. Of David.*

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

from Mark 14:16-25

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."

CONFESSION OF SIN

Confession & Encouragement

Often we find that our hearts worship something other than God. In confessing our sins, the Holy Spirit probes our hearts and minds and graciously shows us what we mistakenly believe will give us life. Jesus is good to lead us from sorrow over our sin to the sweetness of His grace.

Gracious Father, if You had not been on our side, we would have no hope of salvation. We confess that we have trusted in ourselves more than in You. We have forgotten that apart from Your saving grace, we would be overcome by sin and death. Instead of giving thanks for Your faithful deliverance, we have lived with pride, fear, and self-reliance. Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, who has redeemed us from the guilt and power of sin and made us Your own. Renew our faith, that we may trust not in ourselves, but in our Savior, and gladly confess that our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?...Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?...No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

Romans 8:31-32, 35, 37

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

"Have mercy
on me, O God,
according to
Your steadfast
love." Psalm 51:1

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Miner Music.
Words: Psalter
1912. Music:
Christopher
Miner. Used by
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GOD BE MERCIFUL TO ME



1. God,	be	mer - ci -	ful to	me, _____	on Thy grace	I
2. My	trans -	gres - sions	I con -	fess, _____	grief and guilt	my
3. I	am	e - vil,	born in	sin; _____	Thou de - sir - est	
4. Bro -	ken,	hum - bled	to the	dust _____	by Thy wrath and	
5. Gra -	cious	God, my	heart re -	new, _____	make my spi - rit	



rest my	plea; _____	plen - teous	in com -	pas - sion	Thou, _____
soul op -	press; _____	I have	sinned a -	gainst Thy	grace _____
truth with -	in _____	Thou a -	lone my	Sav - ior	art, _____
judge - ment	just, _____	let my	con -	trite heart re -	joice _____
right and	true _____	cast me	not a -	way from	Thee, _____



blot out my	trans -	gres - sions	now; _____	wash me, make	me
and pro -	voked Thee	to Thy	face; _____	I con -	fess Thy
teach Thy	wis - dom	to my	heart; _____	make me	pure, Thy
and in glad -	ness	hear Thy	voice; _____	from my sins,	O
let Thy Spi -	rit	dwell in	me; _____	Thy sal -	va - tion's



pure with -	in, _____	cleanse, O	cleanse me	from my _____	sin. _____
judge - ment	just, _____	speech -	less, I Thy	mer - cy _____	trust. _____
grace be -	stow, _____	wash me	whit - er	than the _____	snow. _____
hide Thy	face, _____	blot them	out in	bound -	less. _____
joy im -	part, _____	stead -	fast make my	will -	ing _____
				heart. _____	

THE LORD OUR GOD IS GOOD



"I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The LORD.'"
Exodus 33:19

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*"You will cast all our
sins into the depths of
the sea." Micah 7:19*

HIS MERCY IS MORE

Music and words by
Matt Boswell and
Matt Papa. ©2016
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Services, Inc.) and
Love Your Enemies
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1. What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done? Om -
pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam? What
rich - es of kind - ness He lav - ished on us. His

ni - scient, all know - ing, He counts not their sum. Thrown
Fa - ther, so ten - der, is call - ing us home? He
blood was the pay - ment; His life was the cost. We

in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore,
wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor.
stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford.

Our sins, they are ma - ny; His mer - cy is more. What

Praise the Lord His mer - cy is

more. Strong-er than dark-ness, new ev - 'ry morn Our

sins, they are ma - ny; His mer - cy is more.

DOXOLOGY

*"Let everything that
has breath praise the
LORD." Psalm 150:6*

Text: Thomas Ken
(1709) Tune: OLD
HUNDREDTH
(Bourgeois, 1551)

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.

**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.

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. **Trey Wickham, Sarah Shrader, Doug
Cherrington, Pat Reynolds, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, and Pastor
Kevin Greene** led this morning's congregational singing. **Jay Smith, Colin Elliott,
and Deacon Sean Winterhalter** managed today's audio and video live stream.
AJ Anonick managed the in-house video system.*

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.

Announcements

ADULT MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/adults

Sunday Morning Discipleship: 9AM / Rm 810

- **Growing Together / Aug 30 - Sept 27**
Join us for this class designed to anchor our church as we prepare for this season of transition. Through deep reflection on the sovereignty of God, we will find out how to walk in unity and with hope.
- **Sonship / Beginning Oct 11 - Spring 2027**
Join us as we learn more about how we experience God's delight over us as His beloved children and learn what it means to practically live by faith. *Sonship*, developed by Serge, aims to increase our love for God and others. Contact: Sandy or Meredith Elder (santeecoop@gmail.com; elderelder1204@gmail.com)

Wednesday Night Fellowship: The Story of Peter

www.wepc.org/WNF

Sept 16 - Nov 18 / 6-7:30 PM / WEPC Chapel
The apostle Peter's life helps us see that there is plenty of grace for sinners, and that the Gospel will certainly change us. That's our story, too. Join us for a look at the story of the apostle Peter. Led by Kevin Greene, Gordon Collier, and Becca Wethered. Contact: Kevin (kevin@wepc.org)

Women's Ministry

www.wepc.org/grow/women

Fall Wellspring & Restore Bible Studies:

Wellspring: Tuesdays AM - *begins Sep 15*
Restore: Wednesdays PM - *begins Sep 16*
Join us as we consider Paul's letter to the church at Philippi. As a letter of great joy and encouragement in the face of difficult challenges, we hope this study of Philippians will enable us to encounter Christ Jesus in the midst of our own circumstances. All women are welcome. Register now! Contact: Brice Bowman (brice@wepc.org)

Small Groups

Want to connect with others and deepen your faith this fall? Consider joining a Small Group, helping start a new one, or stepping into one of our newly forming discipleship groups. Contact: Matt (matt@wepc.org) or Joy (joy@wepc.org).

Young Adults Cookout

TODAY! / 5:30 PM / Bowman's Home
Join us this afternoon for dinner, yard games & worship. We are meeting in Ed & Lori Bowman's backyard (500 Old Providence Circle). Please bring a side dish or dessert to share and feel free to invite friends! Contact: Heather Oberle (hoberle@wepc.org)

Men's Ministry - Second Monday

www.wepc.org/grow/men

September 14 / 6:30 PM / Side Parking Lot
Join us for our monthly gathering of men from WEPC and the community for food, fellowship, and Gospel teaching. All men are welcome! Contact: Mike Glasgow (atfmanhokie89@yahoo.com)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/children

Sundays:

- **9 AM:** Nursery (infant-3 years old) & Sunday School
- **10:30 AM:** Nursery (infant-3 years old) & Children's Worship (4 years-2nd grade)
- **Nursing Mom's Room** (service audio available during both services)

Volunteers Needed!!

- **4 Sunday School Assistants (PreK-5th)** (Rotating every other week)
- **Nursery** - adults needed during both services
- **Wednesday Nights:** Volunteers needed to lead games, crafts, and Bible teaching.

Contact: Audrey (audrey@wepc.org)

YOUTH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/youth

- **Senior Cookout:** TODAY! / 12 PM / Thomas' home
- **Parents vs Students:** September 9 / 6-7:30 PM
- **Fall Middle & High School Youth Group:** Beginning September 16 / 6-7:30 PM

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

ESL Volunteers Needed - Join us for Orientation TODAY!

Adult ESL needs 3 more volunteers in order to be able to offer all classes on Tuesday evenings from 6-8PM. We invite you to join our team, enjoy dinner together on Tuesdays, and make relationships both with other volunteers & our neighborhood friends. **Orientation is today or Sept 13 from 12-5:30 PM.** Contact: Heather Glissman (heatheresl@wepc.org).

MISSIONS

Child Evangelism Fellowship of Virginia Dinner

November 5 / 6 PM / Jefferson Hotel
Join WEPC Missions Partner CEFV for a night of music, testimony, and a vision for what God has for the future. Contact: Cheryle (cheryl.simmons@cevfa.com)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Deacons of the Week: Chris May, Chris Perry, Matt Mailloux, & Jon Greenhill

WEPC Pastoral Transition Updates

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](#).

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

WEPC Camping Trip

September 18-20 / \$55 per family
Join us for a weekend of faith, fun, and adventure as we camp in the great outdoors and fellowship together at Sherando Lake! Contact: Andi Alberts (alberts.andrea@gmail.com)

Psalms for Pilgrims Sermon Series Playlist

Check out our [Psalms for Pilgrims Playlist](#) as we turn our eyes to our Father for Refuge, Helper, Keeper, and Merciful Deliverer. You can find it by searching "WEPC Psalms for Pilgrims" or "West End Presbyterian Church RVA"

WEPC Employment Opportunity:

Neighborhood Outreach 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. Read the job description [HERE](#). Contact: Heather Glissman (heatheresl@wepc.org)

PCA Mercy Ministries Conference

October 2-3, 2026 / Annapolis, MD
Join Kevin Greene and a group from WEPC for this year's PCA Mercy Ministries Conference: Compassion in Action. Worship, teaching, and practical workshops focused on living out our faith through Christ-centered service. Questions? Contact: Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org). Register at <https://brushfire.com/mna/mercy/628192>

WEPC CHRISTIAN SEASONS CALENDAR

2026-2027 Calendar Submissions LAST CALL!

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

WEPC COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL

www.wepc.org/preschool

WEPC Community Preschool is hiring!

We have an assistant position open for the 2026-2027 school year. If interested, 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.

FOOD PANTRY

www.wepc.org/mercyministry

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.