

WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 12, 2023 • CHILDREN'S SUNDAY

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

As we rest in your goodness, teach us, O Lord, to see with your heart. Open our eyes to the world beyond our neighborhoods, and to your beloved children both near to us and far. Open our hearts to the blessed fierceness of your creation, which sustains us and yet is more powerful than we can imagine.

Anoint us with your spirit of blessing, that we might be as Christ to one another, in our welcome, compassion and care. Amen.

THE GATHERING PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

PASTORAL GREETING AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

MINUTE FOR MISSION: Tutoring

Linda Eaton

PRELUDE

Seek Ye First
Carol Choir and Junior Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP: *Psalm 95*

Children: O come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the depths of the earth;

the heights of the mountains are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it,

and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

O come, let us worship and bow down,

let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

All

For He is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

*To all who are able, please stand as we offer God thanks and praise.

Bold type face indicates that the congregation participates in word or song.

***HYMN**

arr. Houts

Congregation echoes the Children's Choirs

Come, Let Us Worship God

The musical score is written on four staves. The first staff is in 4/4 time and contains the melody for the first line of the hymn. The second staff is also in 4/4 time and contains the melody for the second line. The third staff is in 4/4 time and contains the melody for the third line. The fourth staff is in 2/4 time and contains the melody for the fourth line. The lyrics are written below the staves.

Leader: Come, let us wor-ship God. Come, let us wor-ship God.

Come, let us wor-ship God. Come, let us wor-ship God.

Wel - come ev - 'ry - one... Wel - come ev - 'ry - one

to the love of God. to the love of God.

2. Rest for the weary...
3. Hope for the children...
4. Come, let us worship God...

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: In order to be a servant of all we must humble ourselves and recognize that our arguing about who is the greatest is not pleasing to the Lord. Let us confess our sins.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

Lord, so often we would think of ourselves as reaching greatness in your kingdom; and we hold to visions of receiving privilege and honor. We desperately struggle Lord, with your words calling us to be servants in a needy, hurting world. Forgive us, Lord, and use us again and again to serve others and to share your goodness with all who have ears to hear. In Christ we pray. Amen.

A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

*KYRIE (Responsive)

Leader: Lord have mercy.

People: Christ have mercy.

All: Lord have mercy.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: This is the good news of God's grace: Though we were sinners, Christ died for us. Once we were lost and dead—now Christ has become our life and salvation. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*GLORIA IN ABEYANCE DURING LENT

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Unison)

Living God, through the reading of the Scriptures and by the power of your Spirit, may we hear for ourselves the good news, and believe, because of your Word, that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE COMES TO LIFE: *Exodus 17:1-11*

Water from the Rock
performed by the children of WPC

SECOND LESSON: *Mark 9:30-37*

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Welcome Children

Pastor John E. Morgan

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN 487**

These Treasured Children

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

1 These treasured children present now
are bound to us by sacred vow:
with love, we make a heartfelt claim
to welcome them in Jesus' name.

2 Our ancient story we shall tell,
till these our children know it well
within their souls and minds and hearts,
for this is where their journey starts.

3 We long to trust as children do
and so entrust our days to you;
in their young lives we clearly see
a lesson in humility.

4 Come, Holy Spirit, help us be
a nurturing community;
empower us to realize
God's kingdom through our children's eyes.

5 Then, tender God, each child embrace;
God give them blessings, grant them grace.
Surprise them, God, with wonders still,
and gently guide them to your will.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH (Unison)**

In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING

Thank you for your continued faithful stewardship to WPC. May our offerings continue to help us be the light for our neighbors and our siblings in Christ all over the world. Offering envelopes can now be found inside the friendship register book.

We invite you to make your offering or pledge payment in one of the following ways:

- You may place your offering in the plates as you exit the sanctuary.
- Click the “Make Online Offering” button below the video window on the watch worship services page (www.mywpc.org/streaming/).
- Scan the QR code at the right to access the online offering form.
- Mail your offering to the church office at 215 Richmond Rd., Williamsburg, VA 23185.



OFFERTORY

Seeds

Mark Burrows

Commissioned for the Children's Choir of Williamsburg Presbyterian Church in memory of Eleanor Bess Mallory Hile. She planted seeds of love that continue to grow evermore.

Steven Yewcic, cello

If you want a world of hope, plant hope.

If you want a world of hope, grow hope.

In our hands we hold the seeds

To sow what this world needs.

If you want a world of hope, be hope.

If you want a world of peace, plant peace.

If you want a world of peace, grow peace.

In our hands we hold the seeds

To sow what this world needs.

If you want a world of hope, be hope.

(Offertory continues on the next page.)

If we water, if we nurture,
Then everyone will see
The world of love God knows it can be.

If you want a world of joy, plant joy.
If you want a world of joy, grow joy.
In our hands we hold the seeds
To sow what this world needs.
If you want a world of joy, be joy.

If you want a world of love,
Plant hope, peace and joy.
If you want a world of love,
Be love.

***DOXOLOGY**

All Praise to Thee, My God, This Might

TALLIS' CANON

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass, in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is a simple, repetitive canon. The lyrics are written below the staves.

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise God, all crea-tures here be-low;

praise God a - bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

*INVITATION AND LORD'S DAY GREETING

We are glad you are worshiping with us today. If you are joining us online, please remember to 'sign' our online friendship register:

- Click the "Sign Friendship Register" button below the video window on the watch worship services page (www.mywpc.org/streaming/).
- Scan the QR code at the right to access the online friendship register.



*HYMN 80

You Shall Go Out with Joy

THE TREES OF THE FIELDS

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field
will clap, will clap their hands.

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands;
the trees of the field will clap their hands;
the trees of the field will clap their hands
while you go out with joy.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Ayre for the Dance

Locklair

The service of worship concludes after the postlude. The music can be enjoyed or used as an opportunity for prayer. You may remain seated; if you wish to depart, please do so quietly and without disturbing those who choose to stay.

⌘ NOTES ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC ⌘

The Offertory anthem this morning is the world premiere of “Seeds,” a piece commissioned in loving memory of Eleanor Hile, a life-long member of Williamsburg Presbyterian Church. Inspiration for this anthem grew from the fact that Eleanor sowed seeds like tomatoes, hydrangeas, petunias and irises in her garden, but also sowed seeds of love in every aspect of her life. It is fitting that this anthem is a part of the Children’s Service since she ministered to children throughout her life as a Sunday School teacher, nursery worker and volunteer with Vacation Bible School. She built a home where everyone felt welcomed regardless of age, race or background. She fostered friendships that felt more like family. Mark Burrows, composer, said it this way, “Eleanor planted things which continue to grow – plants and flowers of course, but mostly hope, peace, joy and love through meaningful relationships.” Eleanor’s grandson, Steven, accompanies on cello.

⌘ THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ⌘

The flowers this morning are given today to the glory of God and
in loving memory of his wife, Gladys, by Leon Looney.

⌘ THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY ⌘

PASTORS

John E. Morgan, Pastor/Head of Staff

Rachel Hébert, Associate Pastor for Community Care

Pam Hrcir, Covenant Pastor for Congregational Care

MUSIC MINISTRY

Christopher Bechtler, Director of Music Ministries

Norman Elton, Organist and Assistant Director of Music

Carol Choir and Junior Choir under the direction of Rebecca Elton

Steven Yewcic, cello

Chancel Choir

LITURGIST

Rhodes Walton

READERS AND SKIT PARTICIPANTS

Children of Williamsburg Presbyterian Church

GREETER

9:30am Pat Cowan

11:00am Cheryl Roettger

USHERS

9:30am Eric Beckhusen, Pat Underwood, Matt Underwood, David Littell

11:00am Bob Bolstad, Nancy Rose, Megan Davis, Rick Cheston

YOUTH USHERS

LaRue Burkey-Hundt, Benjamin Eritano, Cora Sanders, Julia Sanders, Nolan Walton

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOST

Sarah Dulaney, Nancy Kistler, Ann Schulte

***WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHERS**

Martha Jean and Jerry Howell

***WINDSOR MEADE USHERS**

Paul Hotinger

AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS: Dick Sahlen and John Schoenberger

*Satellite campuses

❧ SUPPORT FOR OUR MEMBERS ❧

- **Stephen Ministry offers help, hope, healing:** Are you going through a difficult time? A Stephen Minister can help. Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support to people going through difficult times or crisis. To learn how you can receive a Stephen Minister's confidential care, please contact pastor Pam Hrcir (phrcir@mywpc.org). Learn more about this ministry at mywpc.org/stephen.
- **Monthly grief support group** meets the first Wednesday of the month at 10am in room 220 (room across from the nursery.) During this meeting we check in with one another and occasionally watch videos about a specific grief topic. All are welcome to attend.

❧ PRAYER CONCERNS, JOYS, & TOUCH NOTES ❧

To share a joy or concern, please visit www.mywpc.org, select GET CARE on the menu bar, then PRAYER REQUEST from the drop-down menu. Complete the form and click SEND REQUEST on the bottom of the form. Per your instructions, your request will be shared with our pastors, prayer chain or will be included in the worship bulletin. If the internet is not available to you, please call the church office (757) 229-4235 with your request.

The Prayer Chain Coordinator is: Jo Ann Youhas (handbellringer@cox.net).

If you are in need of a pastor after hours or on the weekend with an emergency request, please contact the Pastor-on-Call listed below for this week. To reach a Pastor during the week, please call the church office.

Sunday, March 12 – Saturday, March 18

Pastor John E. Morgan

jmorgan@mywpc.org; (757-908-7800)

Please pray for:

- Barbara Smith, Lynn Sivells, Craig, Evelyn Sailor, Jackie Bowlin, Neal Bowlin, Kathy Kruschwitz, Darryl Chambers, Mary Voorhess, Steve Custer, Richard Frieze, Jean Young, Rice Trolan, Bonnie Jefferson and Don Swain
- Those who have recently lost loved ones, those recovering from various surgeries and our sick and shut-ins who are at home or facility bound.
- Those serving our country in the military services and their families.
- Those affected by the war in Ukraine and the recent Turkey-Syria Earthquake.

🌀 ANNOUNCEMENTS 🌀

- **March 15 Wednesday Lenten service is at noon in Stevenson Hall. Join Pastor Pam for a time of worship and fellowship over lunch.** We will worship together using the spiritual practice of *The Examen* as we explore "Being a Child of God" Bring your own lunch or sign up for a box lunch from Divine Lunches. Cost is \$10. No cost for children under 12 and college students. Order lunch on line or in person at the back lobby.
- **Come one, come all to the 3rd Annual WPC Grounds Mulching Party to be held Friday, March 17 from 9am-noon.** The church's Facilities Committee will supply the shredded mulch, pitchforks/shovels, and wheelbarrows. So all you need to bring is yourself, some gloves, a rake and/or a broom, to help make the church grounds look great for the Easter season. If you can help out or if you would like more information, please contact Fred Whitley. Hope to see you there!
- **FISH Food Collection: Our next FISH collection will be Sunday, March 19.** FISH currently needs mayonnaise (small jars), grape jelly, canned pastas (ravioli), beef stew, as well as toothpaste/toothbrushes, shampoo, laundry detergent, and feminine hygiene products. Please place your donations in or near the red shopping cart located by the rear entrance. Christian Outreach thanks you for your generosity to our food insecure neighbors.
- **WPC Families "Paint Night" is back! On Monday, March 20, at 5:30pm, we will meet in Stevenson Hall with dinner, fellowship, and painting!** We have invited one of the Jamestown High School art teachers to join us for the night, and lead us through painting our own interpretation of our Lent theme, "Are We Seeing and Being Beloved Children of God?". This will most definitely be a kid (and beginner painter)- friendly event. All supplies (and don't forget dinner) are provided, and for that reason, registration is required. Please go to www.mywpc.org/calendar for the link to register. Childcare will be provided for preschool age and under.
- **Join our WPC family. New member orientation luncheon is March 26 after the 11 am worship service in Stevenson Hall.** Please contact Pastor Pam for more information.
- **The WPC Book Club will meet on Monday, March 27, 2023, at 2 pm in the WPC Library** (and on Zoom) to discuss Empress Dowager Cixi: The Concubine Who Launched Modern China, by Jung Chang. For a list of books chosen for the 2022-2023 season, or to request the Zoom link, please contact Ellen Peters.
- **Help Feed Our Students:** Each week this spring we have groups of 8-11 gathering on Sunday @ 5:30pm (Youth) and Monday @ 6pm (College) and we need help feeding them. Meals from pasta & salad or tacos to soups & chili to make your own baked potato or sushi are all welcome! We also encourage you to stick around and join the students for food and fellowship. Sign up in the Welcome Center or at <https://me.mywpc.org/meals>
- **Join our WPC family. New member orientation luncheon is March 26th after the 11 am worship service in Stevenson Hall.** Please contact Pastor Pam for more information.

- **The Presbyterian Women need YOU!** Presbyterian Women (if you are reading this, and you are a woman, and a Presbyterian, this means you): are you looking for a way to meet more amazing women in this church, without having to dive right into a big commitment? Are you looking for a way to find out more about Presbyterian Women (PW), including all that this group does for the church (and how this wonderful group of women supports each other) or maybe how to join one of the nine fabulous and welcoming Circles that are available during the month, please consider joining the PW Coordinating Team. The Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team has several positions that will be open for next year (2023-2024 season). No experience needed. Each position comes with a flexible job description to guide you. If you're interested, have any questions, would like more information, or would like to pass on the name of someone who would be a great fit, please contact Jodie Davis.

More information about the events and announcements listed above can be found on our website at mywpc.org/news/ or on the church calendar.

***Contact information can be found in our online directory.**

You may also contact the church office at 757-229-4235.

✧ MID-WEEK LENTEN AND HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES ✧

Services on Wednesday afternoon or evening and Sunday morning are a wonderful way to prepare our hearts and minds for the Passion and Resurrection of Easter Week. Worship services at Williamsburg Presbyterian Church are open to all and we encourage you to invite your family and friends to join us.

✧ MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES ✧

- Join us for Mid-week Lenten worship services which continue through March 28 at 7pm in the sanctuary. Our pastoral staff will teach and lead a spiritual practice prior to the worship service at 6:30pm in either Stevenson Hall or the Sanctuary.

✧ WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES DURING HOLY WEEK ✧

- **April 2 Passion Sunday** services at 9:30* and 11am+
- **April 6 Maundy Thursday** service at 7pm* • Celebrations of the Lord's Supper
- **April 7 Good Friday** service at 7pm*
- **April 9 Easter Sunday** services at 8, 9:30* and 11am

*Service will be in-person and live-streamed on mywpc.org.

+Service will be in-person and broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (PDA) THE TURKEY-SYRIA EARTHQUAKE RELIEF EFFORT

A 7.8 magnitude earthquake near the Turkey-Syria border struck in the early hours of February 6, 2023. This earthquake is estimated to affect more than 23 million people.

Solidarity grants to meet immediate needs are being processed and ACT partner GOPA-DERD is distributing winterization items (blankets, mattresses), food items and medicines.

To support our response, designate gifts to DR999999.

Ways to contribute to the Turkey-Syria Earthquake Relief Effort:

- Donate to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) – Send and make check out to Williamsburg Presbyterian Church – on memo line: PDA – Turkey-Syria Earthquake
- One Great Hour of Sharing – Send and make check out to Williamsburg Presbyterian Church – OGHS on memo line.
- Donate directly to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance – Designate Gifts to DR999999
- By Mail – Presbyterian Church (USA), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15264-3700.
- By Phone – (800) 728-7228 to give by Credit Card
- Donate on line (WPC website) – OGHS or PDA

∞ OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS ∞

SUNDAY, MARCH 12—3RD SUNDAY IN LENT

- 9:30am** In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Live-Stream Worship; visit mywpc.org to access
10:30am Fellowship Coffee Hour / Stevenson Hall
11:00am In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740. or wmbgradio.com
4:00pm Williamsburg Choral Guild Spring Concert / Sanctuary

MONDAY, MARCH 13

- 10:30am Sanctuary Ringers / Bell Rm
1:00pm Caregiver Support Group
1:00pm Presbyterian Women's Circle 3 / Stevenson Hall
7:00pm Hunger and Homeless Mtg / LL010

TUESDAY, MARCH 14

- 10:00am Disciple Class / LL010 and Zoom
1:00pm Staff Mtg / Zoom
1:30pm Kirk Crafters / Church Library
5:30pm Resources Ministry Mtg / Zoom
6:30pm Presbyterian Women's Circle / Rm 222
7:00pm AA Wmsbg., Tuesday Night Big Book Study / LL049

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

- 12:00pm** Mid-week Lenten Luncheon and Worship Service / Stevenson Hall
6:00pm Genesis Bell Ringers Rehearsal / Bell Rm
6:30pm Administration Mtg / Zoom
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Rm
7:30pm Belong to God—Questions with Kid / Children's Choir Rm

THURSDAY, MARCH 16

- 9:00am Sanctuary Closed for Cleaning
4:30pm Carol and Junior Choir Rehearsals / Children's Choir Rm
5:15pm Communications Ministry Mtg./ Rm 225 and Zoom
7:00pm Christian Outreach Ministry Mtg / LL010
7:00pm Worship Ministry Mtg / Rm 220
7:30pm Westminster Ringers / Bell Rm

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

∞ Next Sunday in Worship ∞

March 19, 2023 • 4th Sunday in Lent

The sermon, Children of Light, is based on Ephesians 5:8-14.

***9:30am service is live-streamed on mywpc.org. **11:00am service is broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740**