

# WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## MAY 7, 2023 • 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

### COMMUNION SUNDAY • SENIOR RECOGNITION

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## PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

Almighty God, in Christ you have shown us the way, revealed to us your truth, and offered to us everlasting life. Keep our eyes upon him, that we may see your path more clearly, know your truth more fully, and receive your life more abundantly. Amen.

## THE GATHERING

### PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

#### GREETING AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

**MINUTE FOR MISSION:** Open Door Concert Series

Norman Elton

**PRELUDE**

Festive Praises  
Westminster Ringers

Gramann

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Lord God, you are indeed my rock and my fortress;

**All: For your name's sake lead me and guide me.**

Leader: Take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge.

**All: Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.**

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\*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.

1 O Christ, the great foundation  
on which your people stand  
to preach your true salvation  
in every age and land:  
pour out your Holy Spirit  
to make us strong and pure,  
to keep the faith unbroken  
as long as worlds endure.

2 Baptized in one confession,  
one church in all the earth,  
we bear our Lord's impression,  
the sign of second birth:  
one holy people gathered  
in love beyond our own,  
by grace we were invited;  
by grace we make you known.

3 Where tyrants' hold is tightened,  
where strong devour the weak,  
where innocents are frightened,  
the righteous fear to speak,  
there let your church awaking  
attack the powers of sin  
and, all their ramparts breaking,  
with you the victory win.

4 This is the moment glorious  
when he who once was dead  
shall lead his church victorious,  
their champion and their head.  
The Lord of all creation  
his heavenly kingdom brings:  
the final consummation,  
the glory of all things.

## \*CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: Whoever believes in Christ will not be put to shame. Confident in this promise, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

## \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

God, we have heard that we are a chosen people, but sometimes we think of ourselves as nobodies. We know that you have called us out of darkness into your marvelous light, but often we hide from brightness and prefer to remain in the dark. Forgive us for failing to accept your love and your call, and help us to be your people and do your will. As persons grateful for your mercy, may we proclaim your mighty acts in our words and our deeds. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

## A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

## \*KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy

LAND OF REST



## \*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Friends, once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

## \*GLORIA

Thine Is the Glory

JUDAS MACCABEUS



**(11:00) SENIOR RECOGNITION**

**(11:00) SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN**

Adrian Williams

## THE WORD

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION** (Unison)

**Lord, as we listen to your holy Word, open our hearts to the power of your Spirit, call us out of darkness, and lead us into your marvelous light. Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON:** *John 14:1-6*

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

**PSALM 31:1-5, 15-16** (Responsive)

**Leader:** In you, O Lord, I seek refuge;  
do not let me ever be put to shame;  
in your righteousness deliver me.

**People:** **Incline your ear to me;  
rescue me speedily.  
Be a rock of refuge for me,  
a strong fortress to save me.**

**Leader:** You are indeed my rock and my fortress;  
for your name's sake lead me and guide me;

**People:** **take me out of the net that is hidden for me,  
for you are my refuge.**

**Leader:** Into your hand I commit my spirit;  
you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.

**People:** **My times are in your hand;  
deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.**

**Leader:** Let your face shine upon your servant;  
save me in your steadfast love.

**SECOND LESSON:** *Acts 7:55-60*

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

**MESSAGE**

**"Extreme Forgiveness"**

Pastor John E. Morgan

# RESPONDING TO THE WORD

## **\*HYMN 624**

*I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art*

TOULON

1 I greet thee, who my sure Redeemer art,  
my only trust and Savior of my heart,  
who pain didst undergo for my poor sake;  
I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.

2 Thou art the King of mercy and of grace,  
reigning omnipotent in every place:  
so come, O King, and our whole being sway;  
shine on us with the light of thy pure day.

3 Thou art the life, by which alone we live,  
and all our substance and our strength receive;  
sustain us by thy faith and by thy power,  
and give us strength in every trying hour.

4 Thou hast the true and perfect gentleness;  
no harshness hast thou and no bitterness.  
O grant to us the grace we find in thee,  
that we may dwell in perfect unity.

5 Our hope is in no other save in thee;  
our faith is built upon thy promise free;  
Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure,  
that in thy strength we evermore endure.

## **\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED** (Unison)

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. 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/](http://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 ANTHEM

Aria  
Westminster Ringers

Allured

## \*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

# SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Williamsburg Presbyterian Church welcomes all who believe in Jesus Christ to share the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper with us today. We receive the elements by means of intinction, taking a piece of bread and dipping it into the cup. For those who desire an individual serving, regular or gluten free, they will be on a table in front of the baptismal font and on the small tables located in the balcony. If you are seated on the main floor of the sanctuary, you are invited to come forward to the chancel area by way of the center aisle and return to your pews by the side aisle. If you are sitting in the balcony, an usher will guide you to the sacrament. If you are unable to come forward easily, please signal to one of the ushers or elders so the communion elements can be brought to your seat.

## INVITATION TO THE LORD’S SUPPER

### PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: Eternal God...

## **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.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

## **SHARING OF THE MEAL**

## **COMMUNION ANTHEM**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (Unison)**

**Empower us by your Spirit, O God, to be Christ's presence in the world even as Jesus was God-with-us. Give us courage to speak his truth, to seek his justice, and to love with his love. Keep us faithful in your service until we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm. Amen.**

# **GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH**

## **\*INVITATION AND THE 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/](http://www.mywpc.org/streaming/)).
- Scan the QR code at the right to access the online friendship register.



1 God of grace and God of glory,  
on thy people pour thy power;  
crown thine ancient church's story;  
bring its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the facing of this hour,  
for the facing of this hour.

2 Lo! the hosts of evil round us  
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us  
free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the living of these days,  
for the living of these days.

3 Cure thy children's warring madness;  
bend our pride to thy control;  
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,  
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

4 Save us from weak resignation  
to the evils we deplore.  
Let the gift of thy salvation  
be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving thee whom we adore,  
serving thee whom we adore.

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE**

Dorian Dance  
Westminster Ringers

Joy

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.



## ❧ THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ❧

The flowers this morning are given today to the glory of God and to celebrate professional nurses who work to improve the health of people, families and communities by Linda and Jim Hay.

## ❧ 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  
Westminster Ringers directed by Norman Elton

### **LITURGIST**

Harley Stewart

### **SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN**

Adrian Williams, Director of Christian Education

### **GREETER**

9:30am Martha and Ward Burian, Elizabeth Padgett  
11:00am Margie Ambrose

### **USHERS**

9:30am Larry Cheney, Cathy Cheney, Eric Beckhusen, Rebecca Caprio, Jim Winthrop  
11:00am Ford Moseley, Nancy Moseley, Kathryn Hall, Rebecca Caprio

### **COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**

Sue Rennagel, Laura and Pete Osman

### **\*WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHERS**

Dick Sahlen, Duncan McIver, Harold Herring

### **\*WINDSOR MEADE USHERS**

Paul Hotinger

**AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS:** Mike Squire and John Schoenberger

\*Satellite campuses

## WPC Elders & Deacons

### SESSION: CLASSES OF 2024, 2025, 2026

**Moderator:** John E. Morgan      Clerk of Session: *Bill Riffer*

**Administration:** Faith Shartzer\* (25), Sarah Houghland (25), Margie Newcomer (26), Jaynelle Oehler (24), Larry Pully (26)

**Christian Education:** Sallie McLain\* (25), Kelly Kirkpatrick (26), JD Due (26)

**Christian Outreach:** Kay Allen\* (24), Karen McKee (24)

**Communications:** Laura Hild\* (24), Martha Squire (24)

**Endowment Committee:** Al Thomas\* (25), Jim Austin (26), Joseph Kinard (26), Martha Squire (24), Hank Vernon (25)

**Facilities:** Dale Trowbridge\* (25), Jerry Howell (26)

**Resources:** Tommy Michaels\* (24), Elaine McBeth (25), Jay Eaton (26)

**Worship:** Jim Winthrop\* (25)

*\*Moderator*

### BOARD OF DEACONS: CLASSES OF 2024, 2025, 2026

**Moderator:** Janie Moyers (24) **Vice-Moderator:** Ellen Peters (22)

**Pastoral Advisor:** Pam Hrcir, Covenant Pastor for Congregational Care

**Secretary:** Ric Cheston (22)

#### Care Teams

**Extra Care:** Margie Ambrose (24), Jennifer LaDow (26), Lee Saxton (26)

**Grief:** Copper Perry (25) Dave Littell (25)

**Welcoming a Child, Illness, Surgery, Hospice (WISH):** Linda Eichhorn (24), Harold Herring (25)

**Brookdale and Other Asst. Living:** Robin Sabo (26)

**Patriot's Colony:** Sue Rennagel (25)

**Williamsburg Landing:** Joane Bozek (24) Doris Gilfillan(26)

**Windsor Meade:** Shirley Randolph (24), Happy Simmons (25)

#### Ministry Teams

**Celebrations and Concerns:** Dougie Winthrop (24), Phoebe Williams (24), Sarah Horner (25)

**Christian Fellowship:** Happy Simmons (25), Sue Rennagel (25), Nate Green (24), Emily Krogh (24), Sarah Dulaney (25)

**Flower Sharing:** Joane Bozek (24), Laura Bechtler (25): Leigh Salud (26), Carol Thomas (26)

**New Member:** Nancy Archibald (24), Deborah Rockafellow (25), Eric Bekhusen (26), Martha Burian (26)

**Memorial Receptions:** Nancy Moseley (24), Jo Ann Youhas (25), Janie Moyers (24), Rebecca Caprio (26)

**Memorial Services:** Terry Backus (24), Lynn Newcomer (24), Nancy Miller (24), Duncan McIver (26)

## ☞ 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 Hrnccir (phrncir@mywpc.org). Learn more about this ministry at [mywpc.org/stephen](http://mywpc.org/stephen).

- **Monthly grief support group** meets the first Wednesday of the month at 10am in room 220 on the second level. 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](http://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, May 7 – Saturday, May 13**

Pastor John E. Morgan  
[jmorgan@mywpc.org](mailto:jmorgan@mywpc.org); (757-908-7800)

**Please pray for:**

- Marian Poole, mother of Ellen Morgan, Lynn Sivells, Craig, Evelyn Sailor, Rice Trolan, Jackie Bowlin, Neal Bowlin, Steve Custer, Mary Voorhess, Richard Frieze, Jean Young, 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 🌀

- **TODAY, the Open Door Concert Series welcomes MOLASSES CREEK, a Williamsburg favorite!** The band's high-energy performances and heartfelt songwriting has brought the love of their coastal home of Ocracoke Island, NC to the stage. The band's elegant harmonies and arrangements, stellar songwriting, blazing instrumentals, and quirky sense of humor have won loyal followers throughout the United States and around the world. **This free concert begins at 4pm on Sunday, May 7.** More information at [mywpc.org/concerts](http://mywpc.org/concerts). Invite a friend!
- **The Finding Hope grief support group is sponsoring an outing at Sal's by Victor (1242 Richmond Rd) at noon on Wednesday, May 17.** If you are journeying with grief, there are others willing to walk and share this journey with you. This lunch outing is a wonderful opportunity to get to know others who have lost loved ones, and to build meaningful relationships. **Please RSVP to \*Bruce Minett by Monday, May 15.** If you have questions, contact Bruce or Pastor Pam.
- **Saturday, May 20, 10-11:30am, WPC Families is bringing back the "Musical Instrument Open House."** Kind of like the "touch a truck" events, but with musical instruments. Stop by any time that morning, bring the kids and the grandkids (or just yourself), and try out some fun musical instruments. So far, the lineup includes acoustic and electric guitars, chimes and handbells, the church organ, keyboards and pianos, and of course, the instrument "petting zoo" in Stevenson Hall. If you have a musical instrument that you'd like to introduce to our church children, please contact \*Jodie Davis so we can plan a spot for you. Light snacks and drinks will also be provided.
- **The WPC Book Club will meet on Monday, May 22, 2023, at 2pm in the WPC Library (and on Zoom) to discuss "*This Tender Land*" by William Kent Krueger.** This is our last meeting before the summer break. Over the summer, we will have a special book club meeting in conjunction with the Earth Care Committee--details to come.
- **Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering and Birthday Offering Collection: Wednesday, May 24, at 11am, in Stevenson Hall.** All women (and men!) of the church are invited to join Presbyterian Women for coffee, tea and brunch "snacks," and a morning of fellowship with other church members and guests. Our speaker will be Lynn Newcomer, WPC church member, who will talk about the Great Highland Bagpipe, and will play a few tunes for us. We will also be electing our slate of officers for the 2023/2024 season, and collecting for the PW Birthday offering. For more information on the PW Birthday offering, visit Birthday Offering – Presbyterian Women. Registration is STRONGLY encouraged, to be assured that enough seating is available. Please register at [www.mywpc.org/pw-spring](http://www.mywpc.org/pw-spring) by Monday, May 22.
- **Save the Date: The Earth Care team invites you to help Clean the Bay on Saturday June 3 from 9am to 12pm.** We will gather at College Creek to clean up litter on the beach. Plan to bring gloves, hats, sunscreen and bug spray. All other supplies will be provided. Bring your lunch and we will gather after our beach cleanup for food and fellowship. Team leader is \*Dorothy Geyer. See \*Bev Whitley with any questions. Sign up now in the Welcome Center.

- **Exciting news from the Christian Education Ministry: The nursery will be open during the 9:30am service this summer.** Volunteers have been secured, and we are excited to see our littlest church members. **Sharing Faith With Children will also move to the 9:30am service for the summer, so the entire family can be together on Sunday mornings.** Families with children preschool age and under are welcome to bring their little ones to the nursery, and we'll have some Goldfish waiting for them, the baby dolls will be ready to be dressed and loved, our volunteers will be ready to read some books, or help "cook" something yummy in the kitchen with your children. Nursery contact is \*Jodie Davis.
- **Plans for VBS *Hero Hotline: Called Together to Serve God* are underway. Our exciting week will take place during the week of June 26-30, 2023, from 9am to noon.** Registration is NOW OPEN! Please go to [www.mywpc.org/vbs](http://www.mywpc.org/vbs) to register your children (ages 3 through 5th grade), or as a volunteer (youth OR adult). Please contact \*Jodie Davis if you have any questions about VBS.
- **Our Thriving Congregations initiative is continuing its work, and needs your help.** Are you someone interested in discovering more about our area's history and changes? Are you someone who is a good recorder of conversations? Do you like asking questions? Do you want to get to know the other people in your neighborhood who also are part of WPC better? If you answered yes to ANY of these, we have a place for you. Over the next 5-6 months we will be holding a number of "home meetings" both at the church and throughout the Williamsburg area. We will be looking for homes, leaders, and scribes for these meetings where we will be discussing what needs, passions, and resources we have both in our neighborhood communities as well as the greater Williamsburg area. All members will be invited to participate. If you would like to help us make this happen, email [ThrivingCongregations@mywpc.org](mailto:ThrivingCongregations@mywpc.org)
- **Sunday Flower Open Dates: 2 dates remain open for 2023 Sunday flowers.** They are October 29 and November 5. You may either sign up on the Flower Calendar located in Stevenson Hall or call \*Ruth Cobb to reserve your date.

**\*Contact information can be found in our online directory.  
You may also contact the church office at 757-229-4235.**

**More information about the events and announcements listed above can be found on our website at [mywpc.org/news/](http://mywpc.org/news/) or on the church calendar.**

☞ OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS ☞

**SUNDAY, MAY 7**

- 9:30am In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Live-Stream Worship; visit [mywpc.org](http://mywpc.org) to access  
10:30am Coffee Fellowship / Stevenson Hall  
11:00am In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740. or [wmbgradio.com](http://wmbgradio.com)  
12:00pm WPC Legacy Giving Presentation and Lunch / Stevenson Hall  
4:00pm ODCS: Molasses Creek/Coyote / Sanctuary  
5:30pm Youth Group / Rm 22s and 227

**MONDAY, MAY 8**

- 9:30am Disciple Class / Rm LL010  
10:30am Sanctuary Ringers / Bell Room  
1:00pm Caregiver Support Group  
1:00pm Presbyterian Women's Circle 3 / Stevenson Hall  
7:00pm Hunger and Homeless Meeting / LL010

**TUESDAY, MAY 9**

- 10:00am Disciple Class / Rm LL010  
1:00pm Staff Meeting / Zoom  
1:30pm Kirk Crafters / Church Library  
5:30pm Resources Ministry Meeting / Zoom  
7:00pm AA Wmsbg., Tuesday Night Big Book Study / LL049

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 10**

- 7:30am Men's Bible and Bacon Study / Stevenson Hall  
10:00am Presbyterian Women's Circle 14 / Rm 220  
6:00pm Genesis Ringers Rehearsal / Bell Rm  
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Rm

**THURSDAY, MAY 11**

- 9:00am Sanctuary Closed for Cleaning  
4:30pm Carol and Junior Choir Rehearsals / Children's Choir Rm  
7:00pm Diaconate Monthly Meeting / Stevenson Hall  
7:30pm Westminster Ringers / Bell Rm

**FRIDAY, MAY 12**

**SATURDAY, MAY 13**

Late Spring/Summer Issue of The Kirk Connection published.

☞ Next Sunday in Worship ☞  
**May 14, 2023 • 6th Sunday of Easter**

The sermon, "*Suffer for Good*" is based on I Peters 3:13-22.

**\*9:30am service is live-streamed on [mywpc.org](http://mywpc.org). \*\*11:00am service is broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740**