



West End  
presbyterian church

**The Twenty-third 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

### ETERNAL LIFE

“Your God in Christ will never un-son you, nor un-spouse you...No good either in you, or done by you, moved Him to justify you and give you eternal life. So, no evil in you, or done by you, can move Him to take it away from you.” --*Edward Fisher*

“This is the promise that He made to us—eternal life.” --*1 John 2:25*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Lord, You have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

**Before the mountains were born  
or You brought forth the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting You are God.**

Let Your work be shown to Your servants,  
and Your glorious power to their children.

**Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,  
and establish the work of our hands upon us;  
yes, establish the work of our hands!**

## INVOCATION

# SONG OF ADORATION

## COME BEHOLD THE WONDROUS MYSTERY

1. Come behold the wondrous myst'ry  
In the dawning of the King  
He the theme of heaven's praises  
Robed in frail humanity  
In our longing, in our darkness  
Now the light of life has come  
Look to Christ who condescended  
Took on flesh to ransom us

2. Come behold the wondrous myst'ry  
He the perfect Son of Man  
In His living in His suff'ring  
Never trace nor stain of sin  
See the true and better Adam  
Come to save the hell-bound man  
Christ the great and sure fulfillment  
Of the law in Him we stand

3. Come behold the wondrous myst'ry  
Christ the Lord upon the tree  
In the stead of ruined sinners  
Hangs the Lamb in victory  
See the price of our redemption  
See the Father's plan unfold  
Bringing many sons to glory  
Grace unmeasured love untold

4. Come behold the wondrous myst'ry  
Slain by death the God of life  
But no grave could e'er restrain Him  
Praise the Lord, He is alive  
What a foretaste of deliv'rance  
How unwavering our hope  
Christ in power resurrected  
As we will be when He comes

*"And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit."  
2 Corinthians 3:18*

Matt Boswell | Matt Papa |  
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## 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 25:6-9*

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. And He will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of His people He will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for Him, that He might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for Him; let us be glad and rejoice in His salvation."

# MINISTRY OF PRAYER

## **The Comfortable Words**

Our current sermon series comes from John 3. We will sing "The Comfortable Words" to open our time of prayer. The Comfortable Words are traditionally used in the Book of Common Prayer to remind us of Jesus' words in Matthew 11 & John 3. He provides rest for the weary and in Him we have eternal life.

Andy Piercy ©IQ Music Limited  
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## **THE COMFORTABLE WORDS**

Hear the words of Christ our Savior  
Come to me, come to me  
All you weary and heavy laden  
I will give you rest

God so loved the world  
He gave His only Begotten Son  
That whoever believes in Him  
Shall have everlasting life

During the sermon series on John 3, brothers and sisters from our church will share the ways Jesus has met them, just as He did with Nicodemus.

# STORIES FROM THE CHURCH: MEETING WITH JESUS

*Hayes Wilks*

The offering isn't just about money. Our response to the Gospel goes much deeper; God demands our whole selves. The act of giving in worship is a part of offering ourselves as "living sacrifices" to God (Romans 12:1).

# OFFERING

*You can place your offering and/or tear-off as the plates pass. If you miss today's offering, please visit [www.wepc.org/giving](http://www.wepc.org/giving) for online giving options or mail your offering to the church office (9008 Quioccasin Road, Henrico, VA, 23229).*

## COMETHOU FOUNT

1. Come, Thou Fount of every blessing  
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing  
Call for songs of loudest praise  
Teach me some melodious sonnet  
Sung by flaming tongues above  
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it  
Mount of Thy redeeming love

2. Here I raise my Ebenezer  
Here by Thy great help I've come  
And I hope by Thy good pleasure  
Safely to arrive at home  
Jesus sought me when a stranger  
Wandering from the fold of God  
He to rescue me from danger  
Interposed His precious blood

3. Oh to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be  
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter  
Bind my wandering heart to Thee  
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it  
Prone to leave the God I love  
Here's my heart, oh take and seal it  
Seal it for Thy courts above

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

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

## 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 the Chapel. [www.wepc.org/grow/children](http://www.wepc.org/grow/children)*

*"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*

## CHILDREN'S BLESSING (10:30am)

Gather round ye children come  
Listen to the old, old Story  
Of the power of death undone  
By an Infant born of glory  
Son of God, Son of Man

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## SCRIPTURE READING

*John 3:16-18*

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

*A Worship Guide with sermon notes and recordings is posted each Sunday at [wepc.org/worship/sermons-media](http://wepc.org/worship/sermons-media).*

## SERMON

## 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

*based on Heidelberg Catechism Q & 58-61 (1563)*

### **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.

**Everlasting God, may I now experience in my heart the beginnings of eternal joy in Christ. He alone secures my perfect blessedness such as no eye has seen, no ear has heard, no human heart has ever imagined: a blessedness in which to praise You forever. Forgive me for believing I secure my own blessedness. You alone have authority to declare that I am right with God and heir to everlasting life. I confess that I have grievously sinned against You and all Your commandments. I have never kept any of them. I am inexcusably still inclined toward all evil. Nevertheless, without my deserving it at all, out of sheer grace, You grant and credit to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never sinned nor been a sinner, as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me. Heavenly Father, grant me the gift of a believing heart, resting in the eternal peace Jesus secured for me by His Cross. Amen.**

*Silent Confession of Sin*

# WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23

## 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.*

*If your child is ready to make a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ, please contact the WEPC office.*

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GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT TRANSFORMS US BY HIS GRACE

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## SONGS OF RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

### JESUS PAID IT ALL

1. I hear the Savior say  
Thy strength indeed is small  
Child of weakness, watch and pray  
Find in Me thine all in all...

*Jesus paid it all  
All to Him I owe  
Sin had left a crimson stain  
He washed it white as snow*

2. Lord, now indeed I find  
Thy power and Thine alone  
Can change the leper's spots  
And melt the heart of stone....

3. And when before the throne  
I stand in Him complete  
Jesus died my soul to save  
My lips shall still repeat...

*"You are not your own,  
for you were bought  
with a price."  
1 Corinthians 6:19-20*

Elvina M. Hall (1865);  
arranged by Kristian  
Stanfill & Alex Nifong.  
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*"Know therefore that the Lord  
your God is God, the faithful  
God who keeps covenant."  
Deuteronomy 7:9*

Aaron Moses | Dante Bowe |  
Joe L. Barnes | Keila Alvarado  
| Lemuel Marin | Philip  
Carrington Gaines; ©2020  
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## **PROMISES**

1. God of Abraham, You're the God of covenant  
And of faithful promises  
Time and time again, You have proven  
You'll do just what You said...

*Though the storms may come and the winds may blow  
You'll remain steadfast  
And let my heart learn, when You speak a word  
It will come to pass*

*Great is Your faithfulness to me  
Great is Your faithfulness to me  
From the rising sun to the setting same  
I will praise Your name  
Great is Your faithfulness to me*

2. God from age to age, though the earth may pass away  
Your word remains the same  
And history can prove, there's nothing You can't do  
You're faithful and true...

3. I put my faith in Jesus  
My anchor to the ground  
My hope and firm foundation  
He'll never let me down...



# DOXOLOGY



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*"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.

# BENEDICTION

"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality."

*Our Elders are available for prayer at the front of the Sanctuary following the 9 & 10:30 AM services.*

*Pastor Isaiah Thomas preached today's sermon and administered the Lord's supper. Pastor Kevin Greene led worship. Elder Chris Newlin, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, Assistant Youth Director Marcela Henderman, Evangeline Bouknight, Jude Moliq, and Jake Bruning led this morning's congregational singing. Emily Long played the piano prelude. Jay Smith and Deacon Chris Scoggins managed today's audio and video live stream. Michael Whitman managed the in-house video system. Special thanks to James Bowman, Jack Garrity, Jabbarie Zebley, Elliott Bassett, Grace & David Fedora, Will Phillips, and Anna Roe Brown for assisting with today's services.*

*Romans 12:12-13*

### 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](http://www.wepc.org/adults)

### **Adult Sunday School: Hope and the Coming of Christ**

[www.wepc.org/adults](http://www.wepc.org/adults)

Starts TODAY-Dec 18 / Rm 810 / 9AM

To help prepare for the season of Christmas, join us as we look at how the biblical concept of hope pops up in all of redemptive history, and how it culminates in the first and second advents of Jesus.

### **Men's Ministry**

[www.wepc.org/grow/men](http://www.wepc.org/grow/men)

**Men's Basketball** (ages 35+)  
Thursdays / 7-9 PM / Gym  
Contact: EJ Fogarty ([efogarty@gmail.com](mailto:efogarty@gmail.com))

### **Second Monday**

November 14 / 6:30 PM / FH  
Join us for our monthly gathering of men from WEPC and the community for food, fellowship, & Gospel teaching.  
Contact: Mike Glasgow ([atfmanhokie89@yahoo.com](mailto:atfmanhokie89@yahoo.com))

### **Women's Ministry**

[www.wepc.org/grow/women](http://www.wepc.org/grow/women)

### **Fall Wellspring & Restore Bible Studies**

Wellspring: Tuesdays / 9:15-11:30 AM  
Restore: Wednesdays / 6-7:30 PM  
Contact: Brice Bowman ([brice@wepc.org](mailto:brice@wepc.org))

### **Women's Retreat: Registration Open!**

Feb 25-26, 2023 / Roslyn Retreat Center  
Join us for a weekend of rest and refreshment in the Gospel, while growing in community with the women of WEPC. Visit the retreat table in the Gallery TODAY to learn more! Register now or contact Heather Oberle ([hoberle@wepc.org](mailto:hoberle@wepc.org)).

### **Third Saturday Mature Singles Fellowship**

[www.wepc.org/MASfellowship](http://www.wepc.org/MASfellowship)

Nov 19 / 4-5:30PM / WEPC Library

Join us for fellowship, devotional study, prayer, and an optional dinner. Contact: [Janice Sharp \(loljanice727@gmail.com\)](mailto:Janice.Sharp@loljanice727@gmail.com)

## NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH MINISTRY

[www.wepc.org/neighborhood](http://www.wepc.org/neighborhood)

### **Simple English Christian Service**

[www.wepc.org/simpleenglish](http://www.wepc.org/simpleenglish)

TODAY / 12PM / Chapel

### **Math Tutors Needed**

The Tutoring Ministry is looking for math tutors for High School students who are on the waiting list for tutoring. If you are available Monday-Friday from 5-6 pm, we would love to have you join the team. Contact: Evelyne Cubahiro ([evelyne@wepc.org](mailto:evelyne@wepc.org))

### **Sewing Friends Volunteers Needed**

Wednesdays / 9:15-11:45AM / Room 23  
Join us as we make simple machine-sewn projects with immigrant women and share Bible stories. Sewing experience is helpful, but not necessary. Contact: Christine Morobe ([christine@wepc.org](mailto:christine@wepc.org))

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

<https://www.wepc.org/grow/children/>

### **9 AM**

- Nursery (infant-3 years); upstairs
- Sunday School (PreK-5); downstairs

### **10:30 AM**

- Nursery (infant-3 years old); upstairs
- Children's Worship (4 years-2nd grade); Chapel

### **Kids' Club (K-5th grade)**

Wednesdays / 6-7:30 PM / Room 25

## YOUTH MINISTRY

[www.wepc.org/grow/youth](http://www.wepc.org/grow/youth)

- **Youth Sunday School:** 9AM / FH
- **Youth Group "Friendsgiving": November 16**  
6-8 PM / Youth Lounge  
Join us as we feast and fellowship together! Please invite your friends to join us! [RSVP HERE](#)

## MISSIONS

### Prison Discipleship Ministry

Help us in bringing the good news to those who are incarcerated. Henrico Jail West has Men's and Women's Bible Studies on Thursdays, 11 AM-12 PM & 12:30-1:30 PM, respectively. Contact: Jerry Gill ([jdgbgrace@gmail.com](mailto:jdgbgrace@gmail.com)) / 804-933-5707

### STEP Christmas Store

Collecting donations of new, unwrapped gifts for children living in Gilpin Court. For more information on suggested items or volunteering, please visit [our website](#). Donations due at WEPC November 27th.

### African American Church-Planter Fund (AACFF)

[www.wepc.org/aacpf](http://www.wepc.org/aacpf)

The AACPF seeks to fund African-American led church plants in the James River Presbytery. New gifts given to the AACPF before December 31, 2022 will be matched through a generous grant, up to a total of \$7,500.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Deacons of the Week

Ben Bacon, Bryan Meeks, Jake Porter, & Matt Mailloux

### Library Volunteers Needed

Library volunteers are needed to help with the church library. If you are interested, please contact Margi at [library@wepc.org](mailto:library@wepc.org).

### Prayer & Support Group

Email [pray4fam@wepc.org](mailto:pray4fam@wepc.org) for prayer and support for couples struggling with infertility.

### Counseling

Lara Finnie, LPC, is facilitating a counseling group for women who struggle with their relationship with food and body image. Text Lara at 804-552-1524 or email [lara@wepc.org](mailto:lara@wepc.org).

### Fiscal Year Giving Report (as of 11/6/22):

Operating gifts YTD: \$682,814.16

Forecasted gifts YTD: \$764,522.28

% of expected budget received: 89.31%

### Barnabas Training Basic

February 11, 2023 / 9 AM-4 PM / WEPC

Led by the counseling staff at The Barnabas Center, the seminar equips you to better encourage friends and loved ones facing difficult times in life and faith. [Register now!](#) Contact:

Kim Johnson ([kjohnson@barnabasrva.org](mailto:kjohnson@barnabasrva.org))

## ADVENT & CHRISTMAS at WEPC

### Advent Worship Service: *Every Longing Heart*

Nov 27 / 7PM / Sanctuary

Advent is a season of waiting. As we look forward to celebrating Christ's birth, we all know grief, loss, and longing. Join us as we gather for a service of remembrance, redemption, and hope. At this service we will lament the losses experienced in this broken world, and look expectantly in hope to Jesus, the Desire of every nation, the true Joy of every longing heart.

### Neighborhood Caroling

Dec 15 / 6PM / Fellowship Hall

Join us for a night of fellowship and Christmas caroling with your WEPC family! Contact Becca Wethered ([becca@wepc.org](mailto:becca@wepc.org)) with any questions.

### Christmas Eve Services

- **4PM: Family-friendly Service** celebrating our Savior's Advent through Scripture and song. Children are encouraged to bring an offering of non-perishable food for the WEPC Food Pantry.
- **7PM: Communion Service of Lessons & Carols** celebrating our Savior's Advent through Scripture and song.

### Sunday December 25 & January 1 Services

We will have ONE worship service at **10:30 AM** on Christmas Day & New Year's Day with nursery services provided. The following ministries will NOT meet: Adult, Youth, & Children's Sunday School, and Children's Worship.

## FOOD PANTRY

[www.wepc.org/mercyministry](http://www.wepc.org/mercyministry)

There are 3 ways to donate to our food pantry:

- Use the **CURRENT NEEDS** list from the website.
- Join a **FOOD ITEM TEAM** described on the website for regular giving.
- Designate **MONETARY GIFTS** to the food pantry.

# 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
- ◇ Childrens Ministry
- ◇ Youth Ministry
- ◇ Adult Classes
- ◇ Home 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: