



West End  
presbyterian church

### The Second Sunday of Advent

In the Christian year, Advent is a time that helps us to remember Christ's first coming and reflect on the mystery of the Incarnation. It also teaches us to look eagerly for His second coming when He will return to redeem His creation and exercise His rule with all power and authority.

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP & Communion

*Each worship service this Advent season, we will prepare our hearts to meet with the Lord during an extended musical prelude.*

### THE HOUR IS AT HAND

"Lord, hear our prayers, and lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious appearing; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen."

*--Anonymous, 10th century Advent prayer*

"Look up, you who, burdened with guilt, cannot lift your eyes. Look up, your redemption is drawing near. Something different from what you see daily will happen. Just be aware, be watchful, wait just another short moment. Wait and something quite new will break over you: God will come."

*--Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalm 29:1-2, 10-11.  
A Psalm of David.*

Today's Call to Worship was  
read by Avery Simmons.

Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;  
worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.**

The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.

**May the LORD give strength to his people!  
May the LORD bless his people with peace!**

## INVOCATION

# DECLARATION OF FAITH

**We confess, therefore, that God did fulfill the promise which He made to the fathers by the mouth of His holy prophets when He sent into the world, at the time appointed by Him, His own only-begotten and eternal Son who took upon Him the form of a servant, and became like unto man, really assuming the true human nature, with all its infirmities, sin excepted, being conceived in the womb of the blessed Virgin Mary, by the power of the Holy Spirit, without the means of man; and did not only assume human nature as to the body, but also a true human soul, that He might be a real man. For since the soul was lost as well as the body, it was necessary that He should take both upon Him, to save both.**

*from Article 18, of  
the Belgic Confession  
(1561)*

# SONG OF ADORATION

## O COME, COME EMMANUEL

1. O come, O come Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear

2. O come, Thou Dayspring from on high  
And cause Thy light on us to rise  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
And death's dark shadows put to flight  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel

3. O come, O come  
True Prophet of the Lord  
And turn the key to heaven's door  
Be Thou our Comforter and Guide  
And lead us to the Father's side  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall by His Word  
Our darkness dispel

4. O come, our great High Priest  
And intercede  
Thy sacrifice, our only plea  
The judgment we no longer fear  
Thy precious blood  
Has brought us near  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel has banished  
Every fear of hell

5. O come, Thou King of nations, bring  
An end to all our suffering  
Bid every pain and sorrow cease  
And reign now as our Prince of Peace  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Shall come again with us to dwell

*"They will call Him  
Immanuel, which  
means, 'God with us.'"  
Matthew 1:23*

Latin Hymn (12th  
century), trans.  
John Mason Neale  
(1851); Tune: VENI  
EMMANUEL (13th  
century)

# 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 59:15-16, 19-20*

Truth is lacking, and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey. The Lord saw it, and it displeased him that there was no justice. He saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no one to intercede; then his own arm brought him salvation, and his righteousness upheld him...So they shall fear the name of the Lord from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun; for he will come like a rushing stream, which the wind of the Lord drives. "And a Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who turn from transgression," declares the Lord.

## MINISTRY OF PRAYER

*"Guide Our Feet"*

*(Luke 1:78-79) references the prophecy of Zechariah as he waited for the coming Messiah.*

*Today, we sing these verses as an Advent prayer of longing for His appearing.*

### GUIDE OUR FEET

Give light to all  
Who dwell in the dark  
And guide our feet into the way of peace

Jess Alldredge. ©2016 Grace Church Seattle.  
Used by permission.

## OFFERING

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).

*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).*

*"Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone."  
Isaiah 9:2*

Words: Douglas Rights (1915); Music: Alex Mejias ©2007 Alex Mejias Music.  
Used by permission.

### VEILED IN DARKNESS JUDAH LAY

1. Veiled in darkness Judah lay  
Waiting for the promised day  
While across the shadowy night  
Streamed a flood of glorious light  
Heav'nly voices chanting then  
"Peace on earth, good will to men"  
"Peace on earth, good will to men"

3. Light of light, we humbly pray  
Shine upon Thy world today  
Break the gloom of our dark night  
Fill our souls with love and light  
Send Thy blessed Word again  
"Peace on earth, good will to men"  
"Peace on earth, good will to men"

2. Still the earth in darkness lies  
Up from death's dark vale arise  
Voices of a world in grief  
Prayers of men who seek relief  
Now our darkness pierce again  
"Peace on earth, good will to men"  
"Peace on earth, good will to men"

# CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (10:30am)

---

GOD THE SON RENEWS US THROUGH HIS WORD & SACRAMENT

---

## SCRIPTURE READING

<sup>11</sup>Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup>The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. <sup>13</sup>Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

*Romans 13:11-14*

## SERMON

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

## PREPARATION FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus. They did as He had directed them, and prepared the Passover. *from Matthew 26:17-29*

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body."

And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

# 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.

“Arise, shine: for your Light has come.”

**Heavenly Father, forgive us; we have lived as if the Light of the World had not overcome the darkness of our sin.**

“And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.”

**Lord Jesus Christ, redeem us; we confess that we sought our own glory as we grew impatient for Your advent.**

“For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and His glory will be seen upon you.”

**Holy Spirit, renew us; we have often grown accustomed to darkness, and so hardened the true yearnings of our waiting hearts.**

“And nations shall come to Your light, and kings to the brightness of Your rising.”

**Almighty God, You came to us in the fullness of time. Draw us to live in Your presence and grace. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*Silent Confession of Sin*

# WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

*Matthew 1:21*

"She will give birth to a son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their 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.*

*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

### **BOUNTIFULLY WITH ME**

1. I will sing my praise to the Lord  
For the Lord has dealt bountifully with me  
I will sing my praise with joy  
Give thanks, rejoice  
He's dealt bountifully with me
  
2. I will trust God's love never fails  
For the Lord has dealt bountifully with me  
I will trust God's love remains  
Through sun and the rain  
He's dealt bountifully with me
  
3. I will fix my hope on the Cross  
Where the Lord has dealt bountifully with me  
I will fix my hope on the Son  
His scars, His love  
He's dealt bountifully with me
  
4. I can't wait for the day He returns  
When the Lord will deal bountifully with me  
What a day when the faith will be sight  
Every wrong be made right  
He's dealt bountifully with me  
He's dealt bountifully with me

*"I will sing to the LORD,  
because He has dealt  
bountifully with me."  
Psalm 13:6*

Paul Ranheim & Kirk  
Sauers, ©2021 Mellow  
Toad Music (BMI), Bold  
Canary Music (BMI). Used  
by permission.  
CCLI #708363

*"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given" Isaiah 9:6*

Rebecca Elliott | Kate DeGraide, ©2014 Sovereign Grace Praise (BMI/Sovereign Grace Worship ASCAP). Used by permission. CCLI #708363

## HE WHO IS MIGHTY

1. Oh, the mercy our God has shown  
To those who sit in death's shadow  
The sun on high pierced the night  
Born was the cornerstone  
Unto us a Son is given  
Unto us a Child is born...

*He Who is mighty  
Has done a great thing  
Taken on flesh  
Conquered death's sting  
Shattered the darkness  
And lifted our shame  
Holy is His name*

2. Oh, the freedom our Savior won  
The yoke of sin has been broken  
Once a slave, now by grace  
No more condemnation  
Unto us a Son is given  
Unto us a Child is born...

Now my soul magnifies the Lord  
I rejoice in the God Who saves  
I will trust His unfailing love  
I will sing His praises all my days...

*"Look, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him." Revelation 1:7*

Charles Wesley (1758), John Cennick (1752); alt. Martin Madan (1760); Music adapted from Zac Hicks, ©2009 Unbudding Fig Music (ASCAP). Used by permission. CCLI #708363

## LO! HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING

1. Lo! He comes  
With clouds descending  
Once for favored sinners slain  
Once for favored sinners slain  
Thousand, thousand saints attending  
Swell the triumph of His train  
Swell the triumph of His train  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah  
God appears on earth to reign

2. Every eye shall now behold Him  
Robed in dreadful majesty  
Robed in dreadful majesty  
Those who set at naught and sold Him  
Pierced and nailed Him to the Tree  
Pierced and nailed Him to the Tree  
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing  
Shall the true Messiah see

3. Every island, sea, and mountain  
Heav'n and earth shall flee away  
Heav'n and earth shall flee away  
All who hate Him must, confounded  
Hear the trump proclaim the Day  
Hear the trump proclaim the Day  
Come to judgment  
Come to judgment  
Come, Lord Jesus, come

4. Now Redemption, long expected  
See in solemn pomp appear  
See in solemn pomp appear  
All His saints, by man rejected  
Now shall meet Him in the air  
Now shall meet Him in the air  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah  
See the Day of God appear



# 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 Steve Shelby preached today's sermon and administered the Lord's supper. Pastor Kevin Greene led worship. Elder Chris Newlin, Sarah Shrader, Buddy Miner, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, Donald Smith and Troy Arnold led this morning's congregational singing. Elder Gordon Kuhfuss and Rob MacBride managed today's audio and video live stream. Scott Dicken managed the in-house video system. Children's Ministry Director Audrey Snyder gave the Children's Message.*

*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)

Through 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)

#### Second Monday

December 12 / 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))

#### Men's Basketball (ages 35+)

Thursdays / 7-9 PM / Gym

Contact: EJ Fogarty ([efogarty@gmail.com](mailto:efogarty@gmail.com))

### Women's Ministry

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

#### Advent Sundays in the Psalms

December 4, 11, & 18 / 9:15AM / Chapel

Join us for an opportunity to reflect together on the hope of Immanuel for our longing hearts.

#### Contemplative Advent Morning

December 13 / 9:30-11AM / Chapel

Join us for an opportunity to rest and reflect on Jesus, Immanuel, who is God with us. RSVP by Dec. 4 to Sandy Elder ([santeecoop@gmail.com](mailto:santeecoop@gmail.com)).

#### 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.

[Register now](#) or contact Heather Oberle ([hoberle@wepc.org](mailto:hoberle@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 **\*NOT meeting today\***

### 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
- **Youth Group:** Wednesdays / Youth Lounge  
6-7:30 PM--Middle School  
7:30-9 PM--High School
- **Youth Group Christmas Party**  
Wednesday / December 14

## NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH MINISTRY

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

### 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))

## MISSIONS

### Reformed University Fellowship at the University of Richmond

Interested in learning more about plans for a new RUF work at UR? A group will gather to talk and pray about vision and support on Saturday January 28 (time TBD) at the home of Phil and Rachel Rohr (6806 University Drive 23229). Contact: Kevin Greene ([kevin@wepc.org](mailto:kevin@wepc.org))

### 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.

## Amelia Church Plant

Do you live in or near Amelia County, VA? Are you or someone you know interested in hearing more about a new Presbyterian Church in America church plant in Amelia County? Contact: Kevin Greene ([kevin@wepc.org](mailto:kevin@wepc.org))

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Deacons of the Week

Sean Winterhalter, Stephen Hunn, Chris Hennesey, & Taylor Miller

### 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 11/27/22):

Operating gifts YTD: \$797,152.23  
Forecasted gifts YTD: \$878,664.10  
% of expected budget received: 90.72%

### 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@barnabasva.org](mailto:kjohnson@barnabasva.org))

### End-of-Year Contributions

Please drop off any 2022 tax-deductable donations by 12PM on 12/30 or make sure they are postmarked by 12/31. Please check your bank and investment account statements for uncleared stock or cash donations to WEPC. Contact AmyCaroline Wilks ([acwilks@wepc.org](mailto:acwilks@wepc.org)) with any questions.

### Inclement Weather Reminder

For updates on closings and delays, visit [wepc.org](http://wepc.org) or call the office at (804) 741-6562. You may also visit the "Community Closings" page at [nbc12.com](http://nbc12.com). In case of inclement weather on a Sunday morning, WEPC will meet for the 10:30 AM service.

## ADVENT & CHRISTMAS at WEPC

### Advent 2022 Devotional

A weekly worship devotional to guide the church in celebrating the coming of our Savior through Scripture, prayer, and song. Available [online](#) and in the church gallery.

### Children's Advent Devotional

Follow along with the Jesus Storybook Bible, as it points your children to our Savior! Visit the table in the Gallery or our [Children's Ministry](#) website for instructions, reading schedule, packets, and a soundtrack for the stories!

### 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.
- **Scripture Readers Needed:** If you are interested in reading Scripture at the 4PM or 7PM Christmas Eve services, please contact Becca Wethered ([becca@wepc.org](mailto:becca@wepc.org)).

### 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: