



West End  
presbyterian church

**The First Sunday after the  
Epiphany**

In the Christian year, we are now in the season of Epiphany. Epiphany is a time that helps us to remember Jesus as the long awaited Hebrew Messiah and His mission to the nations. Epiphany has a particular focus on Jesus as the Light of the World and "God with us," and the Church's role in proclaiming that Jesus is Lord.

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP & Communion

### FRIENDS, MISSION, AND PRAISE

"It was a letter to real people and, as far as we can see, to ordinary people; it was not written to professional theologians...As we consider the weighty matters Paul deals with, we are apt to overlook the fact that it was addressed to people like Ampliatus and Tryphena and Rufus. Clearly Paul expected this kind of person to be helped by what he wrote."

--*Leon Morris*

"I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." --*Luke 10:18-20*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalm 25:1-2, 4-5  
Of David.*

To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**O my God, in You I trust;  
let me not be put to shame;  
let not my enemies exult over me.**

Make me to know Your ways, O Lord;  
teach me Your paths.

**Lead me in Your truth and teach me,  
for You are the God of my salvation;  
for You I wait all the day long.**

## INVOCATION

# SONG OF ADORATION

## THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

1. The Church's one foundation  
Is Jesus Christ, her Lord  
She is His new creation  
By water and the Word  
From heav'n He came and sought her  
To be His holy bride  
With His own blood He bought her  
And for her life He died

2. Elect from ev'ry nation  
Yet one o'er all the earth  
Her charter of salvation one Lord  
One faith, one birth  
One holy name she blesses  
Partakes one holy food  
And to one hope she presses  
With ev'ry grace endued

3. Mid toil and tribulation  
And tumult of her war  
She waits the consummation  
Of peace forevermore  
Till with the vision glorious  
Her longing eyes are blest  
And the great Church victorious  
Shall be the Church at rest

Yet she on earth hath union  
With God the Three in One  
And mystic sweet communion  
With those whose rest is won  
O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give us grace that we  
Like them, the meek and lowly  
On high may dwell with Thee

*"For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ." I Corinthians 3:11*

Text: Samuel J. Stone (1866). Tune: AURELIA (S. Wesley, 1864). Public Domain

# DECLARING THE FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*The Apostles' Creed*

# REFLECTING ON THE APOSTLES' CREED

Christian, what do you believe when you say, "I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth"?

**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.**

*Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 26 (1563)*

# 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

*Deuteronomy 7:6-10*

You are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession. The Lord did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. But it was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath he swore to your forefathers that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands. But those who hate him he will repay to their face by destruction; he will not be slow to repay to their face those who hate him.

## MINISTRY OF PRAYER

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).

*"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another."  
John 13:34*

## 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).

### TEACH US YOUR WAYS

1. Teach us Your ways  
Teach us Your ways  
As we learn from one another  
Learn to love each other  
Teach us Your ways

2. Teach us to give  
Teach us to give  
Give ourselves for one another  
Learn to help each other  
Teach us to give

3. Teach us to weep  
Teach us to weep  
Let us weep with one another  
Learn to love each other  
Teach us to weep

4. Hallelujah, hallelujah  
Let us learn from one another  
Learn to love each other  
Teach us Your ways

Isaac Wardell | Leslie Jordan  
Orlando Palmer | Paul Zach  
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## 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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### GOD THE SON RENEWS US THROUGH HIS WORD & SACRAMENT

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## SCRIPTURE READING

*Romans 16*

<sup>1</sup>I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant of the church at Cenchreae, <sup>2</sup>that you may welcome her in the Lord in a way worthy of the saints, and help her in whatever she may need from you, for she has been a patron of many and of myself as well. <sup>3</sup>Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, <sup>4</sup>who risked their necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks but all the churches of the Gentiles give thanks as well. <sup>5</sup>Greet also the church in their house. Greet my beloved Epaphroditus, who was the first convert to Christ in Asia. <sup>6</sup>Greet Mary, who has worked hard for you. <sup>7</sup>Greet Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen and my fellow prisoners. They are well known to the apostles, and they were in Christ before me. <sup>8</sup>Greet Ampliatus, my beloved in the Lord. <sup>9</sup>Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in Christ, and my beloved Stachys. <sup>10</sup>Greet Apelles, who is approved in Christ. Greet those who belong to the family of Aristobulus. <sup>11</sup>Greet my kinsman Herodion. Greet those in the Lord who belong to the family of Narcissus. <sup>12</sup>Greet those workers in the Lord, Tryphena and Tryphosa. Greet the beloved Persis, who has worked hard in the Lord. <sup>13</sup>Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord; also his mother, who has been a mother to me as well. <sup>14</sup>Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas, and the brothers who are with them. <sup>15</sup>Greet Philologus, Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who are with them. <sup>16</sup>Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you. <sup>17</sup>I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them. <sup>18</sup>For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive. <sup>19</sup>For your obedience is known to all, so that I rejoice over you, but I want you to be wise as to what is good and innocent as to what is evil. <sup>20</sup>The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. <sup>21</sup>Timothy, my fellow worker, greets you; so do Lucius and Jason and Sosipater, my kinsmen. <sup>22</sup>I Tertius, who wrote this letter, greet you in the Lord. <sup>23</sup>Gaius, who is host to me and to the whole church, greets you. Erastus, the city treasurer, and our brother Quartus, greet you. <sup>25</sup>Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages <sup>26</sup>but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— <sup>27</sup>to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

# Sermon

## PREPARATION FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*1 Corinthians 11:23-26*

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper He took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

### CONFESSION OF SIN

*Adapted from "Love Shines at Calvary," The Valley of Vision*

#### **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.

**Almighty God, Your grace removes our burdens and heaps them on Your Son, made a transgressor, a curse, and sin for us; Christ was all anguish that we might be all joy, cast off that we might be brought in, trodden down as an enemy that we might be welcomed as friends, surrendered to hell's worst that we might receive heaven's best, stripped that we might be clothed, wounded that we might be healed, thirsty that we might drink, tormented that we might be comforted, made a shame that we might inherit glory, experienced reproach that we might receive welcome, closed His eyes in death that we might forever live. O Father, who did not spare Your only Son that You might spare us, all this Your love designed and accomplished: help us to adore You, as we see Satan crushed, defeated, destroyed, sin buried in the ocean of reconciling blood, hell's door closed, heaven's gate open. Go forth, O conquering God, and show us the Cross, mighty to subdue, comfort and save.**

*Silent Confession of Sin*

# WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

You were once separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

*Ephesians 2:12-13*

## 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

### YOUR LABOR IS NOT IN VAIN

1. Your labor is not in vain  
Though the ground underneath you  
Is cursed and stained  
Your planting and reaping  
Are never the same  
But your labor is not in vain

2. Your labor is not unknown  
Though the rocks they cry out  
And the sea it may groan  
The place of your toil  
May not seem like a home  
But your labor is not unknown...

*For I am with you, I am with you  
I am with you, I am with you  
For I have called you  
Called you by name  
Your labor is not in vain*

3. The vineyards you plant  
Will bear fruit  
The fields will sing out  
And rejoice with the truth  
For all that is old  
Will at last be made new  
The vineyards you plant  
Will bear fruit...

4. The houses you labored to build  
Will finally with laughter  
And joy be filled  
The serpent that hurts  
And destroys shall be killed  
And all that is broken be healed...

*"Be steadfast, immovable,  
always abounding in the work  
of the Lord, knowing that in  
the Lord your labor is not in  
vain." I Corinthians 15:58*

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*"Before the mountains were  
brought forth, or ever you  
had formed the earth and  
the world, from everlasting  
to everlasting you are God"*  
Psalm 90:2

Text: from a Chinese hymn,  
translated by Francis Johnson  
(1951) Tune: Andrew Osenga  
©2005 The Velvet Eagle Sings.  
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## FATHER LONG BEFORE CREATION

1. Father, long before creation  
Thou hadst chosen us in love  
And that love so deep, so moving  
Draws us close to Christ above  
Still it keeps us, still it keeps us  
Firmly fixed in Christ alone

2. Though the world  
May change its fashion  
Yet our God is e'er the same  
His compassion and His covenant  
Through all ages will remain  
God's own children  
God's own children  
Must forever praise His name

3. God's compassion is my story  
Is my boasting all the day  
Mercy free and never failing  
Moves my will, directs my way  
God so loved us, God so loved us  
That His only Son He gave

4. Loving Father, now before Thee  
We will ever praise Thy love  
And our songs will sound unceasing  
Til we reach our home above  
Giving glory, giving glory  
To our God and to the Lamb

*"To him who loves us and has  
freed us from our sins by his  
blood... to Him be glory and  
power for ever and ever!"*  
Revelation 1:5-6

John Newton (1774); Tune:  
Laura Taylor Music ©2001.  
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## LET US LOVE AND SING AND WONDER

1. Let us love and sing and wonder  
Let us praise the Savior's name  
He has hushed the law's loud thunder  
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame  
He has washed us with His blood (3x)  
He has brought us nigh to God

2. Let us love the Lord Who bought us  
Pitied us when enemies  
Called us by His grace and taught us  
Gave us ears and gave us eyes  
He has washed us with His blood (3x)  
He presents our souls to God

3. Let us sing though fierce temptation  
Threatens hard to bear us down  
For the Lord, our strong salvation,  
Holds in view the conqu'ror's crown  
He Who washed us with His blood (3x)  
Soon will bring us home to God

4. Let us wonder grace and justice  
Join and point to mercy's store  
When through grace  
In Christ our trust is  
Justice smiles and asks no more  
He Who washed us with His blood (3x)  
Has secured our way to God

5. Let us praise and join the chorus  
Of the saints enthroned on high  
Here they trusted Him before us  
Now their praises fill the sky  
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood (3x)  
Thou art worthy Lamb of God



# 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."

*A team is 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, Erin Bouknight, Casey O'Dea, Buddy Miner, Donald Smith, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, and Troy Arnold led this morning's congregational singing. Gordon Kuhfuss and Deacon Chris Scoggins managed today's audio and video live stream. Scott Dicken managed the in-house video system.*

*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: January 2023

#### Deconstruction

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

Begins TODAY, Jan 15, 22, & 29 / Rm 810 / 9AM

When churches fail, pastors fall, and doubts rise, it is tempting to dunk your faith. What is driving the trend to "deconstruct" one's faith and how can we care for those who have left the church because of hypocrisy and sin? How can we build up our own faith? Join Pastor Joe Brown and Brandon Blevins for a four-week series.

Contact: Joe Brown ([joe@wepc.org](mailto:joe@wepc.org))

### Wednesday Night Fellowship: January 2023

#### The Believing Life

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

Jan 11 - March 29 / Chapel / 6-7:30 PM

Believing is hard, and following Jesus changes how we live. Whether you consider yourself to be a long-time Christian or a skeptic, The Believing Life is designed to help you grow in and through the power of the Gospel.

Contact: Kevin Greene ([kevin@wepc.org](mailto:kevin@wepc.org))

## Women's Ministry

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

### Women's Retreat / Feb 25-26, 2023

Join us at Roslyn Retreat Center 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)).

## YOUTH MINISTRY

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

- **Youth Sunday School:** 9AM / Youth Lounge
- **Youth Group:** Wednesdays / Youth Lounge  
6-7:30 PM--Middle School  
7:30-9 PM--High School

## 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)

**\*Will resume on 1/18**

Wednesdays / 6-7:30 PM / Room 25

## MISSIONS

[www.wepc.org/outreach/missions/](http://www.wepc.org/outreach/missions/)

### 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))

### 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 Rohrer (6806 University Drive 23229). Contact: Kevin Greene ([kevin@wepc.org](mailto:kevin@wepc.org))

## 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 list-free giving.
- Designate MONETARY GIFTS to the food pantry.

## General Information

### Deacons of the Week

Bryan Meeks, Ed Bowman, & Matt Wilks

### Prayer & Support Group

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

### Counseling

Lara Finnie, Licensed Professional Counselor at WEPC, is available by appointment. Visit [Abiding Branches](#) for more information.

### Fiscal Year Giving Report (as of 1/1/2023):

Operating gifts YTD: \$1,262,905.95

Forecasted gifts YTD: \$1,137,303.37

% of expected budget received: 111.04%

### Inquirer's Weekend

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

January 27-29, 2023

Join us to learn about our church history, beliefs, ministries, and how to become a member at WEPC. Contact: Karen ([karen@wepc.org](mailto:karen@wepc.org))

### 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))

### Night to Shine RVA

<https://nighttoshinerva.com>

February 10, 2023

Night to Shine is a way to share Jesus' love through a prom night experience for individuals with special needs. WEPC has partnered with 10+ churches to host Night to Shine RVA since 2015. Locations this year include Cool Spring Baptist and HOPE Church. Volunteers are needed to serve as buddies and more! Learn more and volunteer [here](#).

### 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.

### Communion Prep Team volunteers needed

We are looking for 10 new folks to join our communion teams as they prepare trays for communion and assist during the worship services. Commitment would be 1 Sunday approximately every 12 weeks. Contact: Karen Howe ([karen@wepc.org](mailto:karen@wepc.org)).

# 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: