



Worship Bulletin

Dear Ones,

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and strength, and love your neighbor as yourself.

Warmly,

Steve

God the Father Calls Us to Worship Him

The Fifth 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

O God, Strengthen My Hands

"As we might guess, far from gradually becoming extinct in adulthood, our fears increase throughout our lives. What was once a small family of worries quietly conducts an aggressive breeding program to become a teeming community of palpable fears and private anxieties. The code by which fear and anxiety live is primal: multiply. As we possess more things, care about more people, accumulate more bad experiences, and watch the evening news, it is as if we absorb fear. If they are not obvious in your own life, perhaps it's because you have been living in a war zone your entire life...Fear gradually becomes the background noise of everyday life." -Ed Welch

"Strengthen weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who have an anxious heart, 'Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.'" -Isaiah 35:3-4

Call to Worship

Psalm 61:1-4

To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments. Of David.

Hear my cry, O God,
listen to my prayer;

**From the end of the earth I call to You
when my heart is faint.**

Lead me to the Rock
that is higher than I,

**For You have been my Refuge,
a strong Tower against the enemy.**

Let me dwell in Your tent forever!
Let me take refuge under the shelter of Your wings!

Invocation

Song of Adoration

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

How firm a foundation you saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed,
for I am your God, and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand."

"When through the deep waters I call you to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow,
for I will be with you in trouble to bless,
and sanctify to you your deepest distress."

"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace all-sufficient shall be your supply;
the flame shall not hurt you; I only design
your dross to consume and your gold to refine."

"The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not, I will not, desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no never forsake!"

"Fear not, for I have redeemed you." - Isaiah 43:1
John Rippon's A Selection of Hymns (1787). Tune: FOUNDATION, American Folk melody. Public domain.

Welcome

We are glad you have joined us this morning! If you are "visiting" our church for the first time, we encourage you to send us an email at mail@wepc.org to introduce yourself, request prayer, or request more information about our church. Or, click [HERE](#) for the online version of our "Keeping in Touch" form.

Gospel Reading

John 14:23-27

"If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me. These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

Reflecting on the Lord's Prayer*Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 120 (1563)*

Why did Christ command us to call God "our Father"?

To awaken in us at the very beginning of our prayer what should be basic to our prayer—a childlike reverence and trust that, through Christ, God has become our Father, and that just as our parents do not refuse us the things of this life, even less will God our Father refuse to give us what we ask in faith.¹

1 Matt. 7:9-11, Luke 11:11-13

The Ministry of Prayer

Concluding with the Lord's Prayer, Matthew 6:9-13

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.
For Thine is the Kingdom and the power
and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Offering

If participation in the offering is part of your weekly worship, please place your offering in one of offering plates near the rear Sanctuary doors, mail your offering to the church office (9008 Quioccasin Road, Henrico, VA, 23229), or visit our website (www.wepc.org/resources/giving) for online giving options.

Song of Praise**I SHALL NOT WANT**

From the love of my own comfort,
From the fear of having nothing,
From a life of worldly passions, deliver me, O God.

From the need to be understood,
And from a need to be accepted,
From the fear of being lonely,
Deliver me, O God; deliver me, O God...

*And I shall not want, no I shall not want.
When I taste Your goodness, I shall not want.
When I taste Your goodness, I shall not want.*

From the fear of serving others,
Oh and from the fear of death or trial,
And from the fear of humility,
Deliver me, O God; yes deliver me, O God...

*And I shall not want, no I shall not want.
When I taste Your goodness, I shall not want.
No I shall not want, no I shall not want.*

*When I taste Your goodness, I shall not want.
When I taste Your goodness, I shall not want.
I shall not want, shall not want.*

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want." -Psalm 23:1

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Children's Message (10:30AM)

WEPC Children's Ministry Director, Emily Meeks

God the Son Renews Us through His Word**Scripture Reading**

Nehemiah 6:1-14

¹ Now when Sanballat and Tobiah and Geshem the Arab and the rest of our enemies heard that I had built the wall and that there was no breach left in it (although up to that time I had not set up the doors in the gates), ² Sanballat and Geshem sent to me, saying, "Come and let us meet together at Hakkephirim in the plain of Ono." But they intended to do me harm. ³ And I sent messengers to them, saying, "I am doing a great work and I cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and come down to you?" ⁴ And they sent to me four times in this way, and I answered them in the same manner. ⁵ In the same way Sanballat for the fifth time sent his servant to me with an open letter in his hand. ⁶ In it was written, "It is reported among the nations, and Geshem also says it, that you and the Jews intend to rebel; that is why you are building the wall. And according to these reports you wish to become their king. ⁷ And you have also set up prophets to proclaim concerning you in Jerusalem, 'There is a king in Judah.' And now the king will hear of these reports. So now come and let us take counsel together." ⁸ Then I sent to him, saying, "No such things as you say have been done, for you are inventing them out of your own mind." ⁹ For they all wanted to frighten us, thinking, "Their hands will drop from the work, and it will not be done." But now, O God, strengthen my hands.

¹⁰ Now when I went into the house of Shemaiah the son of Delaiah, son of Mehetabel, who was confined to his home, he said, "Let us meet together in the house of God, within the temple. Let us close the doors of the temple, for they are coming to kill you. They are coming to kill you by night." ¹¹ But I said, "Should such a man as I run away? And what man such as I could go into the temple and live? I will not go in." ¹² And I understood and saw that God had not sent him, but he had pronounced the prophecy against me because Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him. ¹³ For this purpose he was hired, that I should be afraid and act in this way and sin, and so they could give me a bad name in order to taunt me. ¹⁴ Remember Tobiah and Sanballat, O my God, according to these things that they did, and also the prophetess Noadiah and the rest of the prophets who wanted to make me afraid.

Sermon

Each Sunday, Worship Notes with the Scripture text, study questions, and recordings are posted at www.wepc.org/worship/sermons.

God the Holy Spirit Transforms Us by His Grace

Confession of Sin

Gracious heavenly Father, if You should mark iniquities, who could stand? Not only do we fail to love our enemies, we fear them. Not only are we imperfect in obedience, we gave ourselves to rebellion. Not only do we fail to forgive as we are forgiven, we harbor hate. The more we gaze into Your perfect Law, the more You reveal the depth of our transgressions. Forgive us for excusing and reducing our sin. Forgive us for the love we lack and the commands we defy. We have no hope, save Jesus Christ. Thank You for our Savior. Because He is the perfect atoning sacrifice for our sin, we are restored. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

Words of Encouragement

Psalms 130:3-4, 7-8

If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
O Lord, who could stand?
But with You there is forgiveness,
that You may be feared.
O Israel, hope in the LORD!
For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with Him is plentiful redemption.
And He will redeem Israel
from all his iniquities.

Songs of Response to God's Grace

OUR GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST (PSALM 90)

Our God, our Help in ages past,
Our Hope for years to come,
Our Shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal Home.

Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight
Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

Our God, our Help in ages past,
Our Hope for years to come,
Be Thou our Guard while troubles last,
And our eternal Home.

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

-Psalm 90:1

Isaac Watts (1719); Tune: ST ANNE, William Croft (1708). Public domain.

STEADFAST

I will build my house, whether storm or drought
On the Rock that does not move.
I will set my hope in Your love, O Lord,
And Your faithfulness will prove...

You are steadfast, steadfast.

By the Word You spoke, all the starry host
Are called out by name each night.
In Your watchful care, I will rest secure
As You lead us with Your light...

You are steadfast, steadfast.

I will not trust in the strength of kings;
On Your promise I will stand.
I will shout for joy; I will raise my voice:
Hallelujah to the Lamb!...

You are steadfast, steadfast.

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever."

-Psalm 136:1

Sandra McCracken | Leslie Jordan | Josh Silverberg (adaptations from Henri Nouwen), ©2016 Drink Your Tea Music. Used by permission. CCLI 708363.

DOXOLOGY

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

"Let everything that has breath praise the LORD." -Psalm 150:6

Thomas Ken (1709); Tune: "OLD 100th", Louis Bourgeois (1551)

"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality." -Romans 12:12-13

Benediction

Pastor Steve Shelby preached today's sermon. Worship was led by **B-J Huff**. **Pastor Kevin Greene**, **Becca Wethered**, **Sarah Jurewicz**, **Rick McMahon**, and **Troy Arnold** led this morning's congregational singing. **Elder Gordon Kuhfuss**, **Greg Stiles**, **Tim Sinclair**, and **Jon Greenhill** managed today's audio and video live stream. **Scott Dicken** managed the in-house video system.

In the event that an attendee of a worship service tests positive for COVID-19, WEPC will contact the Virginia Department of Health and follow the advised protocols for notifying attendees who may have been exposed to the virus.