

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 Eighth 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

They Read From the Book & Gave the Sense

"What is written in the Law? How do you read it?" --Luke 10:26

"God speaks to us: not only to move us to do what He wants, but to enable us to know Him so that we may love Him. Therefore God sends His word to us in the character of both information and invitation. It comes to woo us as well as to instruct us; it not merely puts us in the picture of what God has done and is doing but also calls us into personal communion with the loving Lord Himself." *–J.I. Packer*

Call to Worship

Hebrews 1:1-3

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets,

But in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son,

Whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world.

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature,

And He upholds the universe by the word of His power.

Invocation

Worship Bulletin

Song of Adoration

COME THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING

Come Thou fount of ev'ry 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.

Here I raise mine Ebenezer, Hither by Thy help I'm come. And I hope by Thy good pleasure Safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, Wand'ring from the fold of God; He to rescue me from danger, Interposed His precious blood.

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

"So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him." -1 John 4:16

Words by Robert Robinson; Music by John Wyeth; Used by permission. CCLI #708363

Welcome

We are glad you have joined us this morning! If you are visiting our church for the first time, we encourage you to use our online <u>"Keeping in Touch" form</u> to introduce yourself, request prayer, or request more information about our church.

Covenant of Baptism (9 AM)

Isaac Thomas Sinclair

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:13-16, 27-32

That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him...

And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?"

Reflecting on the Lord's Prayer

adapted from the Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 123 (1563)

What do we mean when we pray to our Heavenly Father, "Thy Kingdom come"?

When we pray to our Heavenly Father, "Thy Kingdom come", we mean: Rule us by Your Word and Spirit in such a way that more and more we submit to You.¹

Preserve Your Church and make it grow.²

Destroy the devil's work; destroy every force which revolts against You and every conspiracy against Your holy Word.³

Do this until Your Kingdom fully comes, when You will be all in all.⁴

1 Ps. 119:5, 105, 143:10, Matt. 6:33; 2 Ps. 122:6-9, Matt. 16:18, Acts 2:42-47; 3 Rom. 16:20, I John 3:8: 4 Rom. 8:22-23, I Cor. 15:28, Rev. 22:17, 20

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

JESUS IS MINE

Fade, fade, each earthly joy; Jesus is mine. Stronger than fleeting hopes, Jesus is mine. Dark is the wilderness, Earth has no resting place, Jesus alone can bless; Jesus is mine.

In days of fragile peace, Jesus is mine. Through tearful nights of grief, Jesus is mine. His voice commands the storm, His presence stills my soul, He will sustain my hope; Jesus is mine.

Jesus is mine, Jesus is mine. When all else fails, He still remains; Jesus is mine.

When on that final day, Jesus is mine; Before His radiant face, Jesus is mine. Safe in His arms I'll cling, Praising my Savior King, Forevermore I'll sing: "Jesus is mine."

"But now, thus says the Lord, your Creator, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are Mine!" -Isaiah 43:1

Based on the hymn "Fade, Fade, Each Earthly Joy" by Catherine J. Bonar (1821-1884); Words & music: Matt Merker, Jordan Kauflin, & Keith Getty © 2018 Getty Music Publishing (BMI) / Matthew Merker Music (BMI) / Jordan Kauflin Music (BMI); Used by permission. CCLI #708363

God the Son Renews Us through His Word

Scripture Reading

Nehemiah 8:1-8

¹ And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. ² So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. ³ And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. ⁴ And Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that they had made for the purpose. And beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand, and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand, ⁵ And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people. for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. 6 And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁷ Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, the Levites, helped the people to understand the Law, while the people remained in their places. 8 They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

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

Father in heaven, we confess that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and deeds. You have spoken definitively by Your Son: forgive us for living as if You never act, never hear, never speak. Forgive us for the vigilante justice we pursue through our plotting, slander, gossip, self-righteous anger, and passive aggression. Forgive us for living as if You do not care for us. Forgive us and cleanse us. Fill us with Your Spirit, that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways. To the glory of Your Name. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

Words of Encouragement

Romans 8:1-2

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

Songs of Response to God's Grace

COME BEHOLD THE WONDROUS MYSTERY

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.

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.

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.

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

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NONE OTHER LAMB

None other Lamb, none other Name, None other Hope in Heaven or in sea. No hiding place from guilt and shame, None beside thee, none beside thee.

My faith burns low, my hope burns low. Only my heart's desire cries out in me. By the deep thunder of its want and woe, Cries out to thee, cries out to thee.

All who labor and are heavy laden, Come unto me and I will give you rest.

Lord, Thou are life, though I be dead. Love's fire Thou art, however cold I be. Nor heav'n have I, no place for my head, No home but thee; no home but thee.

> All who labor and are heavy laden, Come unto me and I will give you rest, And I will give you rest, and I will give you rest.

"Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" -John 1:29 © 2009 Alex Mejias Music/Ross Byrd Music; Words by Christina Rossetti; 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 and administered the Sacrament of Baptism. Worship was led by Elder Paul Howe. Worship Arts Coordinator Becca Wethered, Robin Huff, Mark Crutcher, and Luke Smith led this morning's congregational singing. Ross Bruning, Stanton Coman, and Mike Perzanowski managed today's audio and video live stream. Brian Zollinhofer managed the in-house video system.

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