

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 Eleventh 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 Made Confession & Worshiped

"I'm an old man, and this is one of my dreams: that my descendants will one day live in a land where people are quick to confess their wrongdoing and forgive the wrongdoing of others and are eager to build something beautiful together."

-John Perkins

"The certainty and completeness of God's mercy is the magnet of confession...we run to His arms with our sin-sick hearts because we know there is grace sufficient, boundless, and free already there. We repent because we are forgiven, not to gain forgiveness...we are forgiven because He was forsaken."

-Bryan Chapell

"We often forget that the heinousness of sin lies not so much in the nature of the sin committed, as in the greatness of the Person sinned against." -Diane Langberg

#### **Call to Worship**

Romans 5:1-2

Since we have been justified by faith,

We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Through Him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand,

And we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

#### Invocation

# **Worship Bulletin**

# Song of Adoration

#### ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name, Let angels prostrate fall. Bring forth the royal diadem And crown Him Lord of all. Bring forth the royal diadem And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race, Ye ransomed from the fall. Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all. Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.

Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe On this terrestrial ball, To Him all majesty ascribe And crown Him Lord of all. To Him all majesty ascribe And crown Him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng We at His feet may fall.
We'll join the everlasting song And crown Him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song And crown Him Lord of all.

"God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name." -Philippians 2:9

Edward Perronet (1779); Tune: "CORONATION", Oliver Holden (1793) Public domain: 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 "Keeping in Touch" form to introduce yourself, request prayer, or request more information about our church.

#### **New Testament Reading**

Romans 5:17-19

For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

#### Reflecting on the Lord's Prayer

adapted from the Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 126 (1563)

What do we mean when we pray to our Heavenly Father, "forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us"?

When we pray to our Heavenly Father, "forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us" we mean: Because of Christ's blood, do not hold against us, poor sinners that we are, any of the sins we do or the evil that constantly clings to us.<sup>1</sup>

Forgive us just as we are fully determined, as evidence of Your grace in us, to forgive our neighbors.<sup>2</sup>

1 Ps. 51:1-7, 143:2, Rom. 8:1, I John 2:1-2; 2 Matt. 6:14-15, 18:21-35

#### 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

#### **PSALM 130**

From the depths of woe I raise to Thee
The voice of lamentation.
Lord, turn a gracious ear to me
And hear my supplication.
If Thou iniquities dost mark
Our secret sins and misdeeds dark,
O who shall stand before Thee? (Who shall stand before Thee?)
O who shall stand before Thee? (Who shall stand before Thee?)

To wash away the crimson stain,
Grace, grace alone availeth.
Our works, alas! Are all in vain,
In much the best life faileth.
No man can glory in Thy sight,
All must alike confess Thy might,
And live alone by mercy. (Live alone by mercy.)
And live alone by mercy. (Live alone by mercy.)

Therefore my trust is in the Lord,
And not in mine own merit.
On Him my soul shall rest,
His word upholds my fainting spirit.
His promised mercy is my fort,
My comfort and my sweet support.
I wait for it with patience. (Wait for it with patience.)
I wait for it with patience. (Wait for it with patience.)

What though I wait the live-long night,
And 'til the dawn appeareth,
My heart still trusteth in His might;
It doubteth not nor feareth.
Do thus, O ye of Israel's seed,
Ye of the Spirit born indeed,
And wait 'til God appeareth. (Wait 'til God appeareth.)
And wait 'til God appeareth. (Wait 'til God appeareth.)

Though great our sins and sore our woes,
His grace much more aboundeth.
His helping love no limit knows,
Our upmost need it soundeth.
Our Shepherd good and true is He,
Who will at last His Israel free,
From all their sin and sorrow. (All their sin and sorrow.)
From all their sin and sorrow. (All their sin and sorrow.)

"Out of the depths I cry to you, Lord; Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy." -Psalm 130:1-2
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# God the Son Renews Us through His Word

# **Scripture Reading**

Nehemiah 9:1-38

<sup>1</sup> Now on the twenty-fourth day of this month the people of Israel were assembled with fasting and in sackcloth, and with earth on their heads. <sup>2</sup> And the Israelites separated themselves from all foreigners and stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their fathers. <sup>3</sup> And they stood up in their place and read from the Book of the Law of the LORD their God for a quarter of the day; for another quarter of it they made confession and worshiped the LORD their God. <sup>4</sup> On the stairs of the Levites stood Jeshua, Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, and Chenani; and they cried with a loud voice to the LORD their God. <sup>5</sup> Then the Levites, Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said, "Stand up and bless the LORD your God from everlasting to everlasting. Blessed be your glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise.

<sup>6</sup> "You are the LORD, you alone. You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and you preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you. <sup>7</sup> You are the LORD, the God who chose Abram and brought him out of Ur of the Chaldeans and gave him the name Abraham. <sup>8</sup> You found his heart faithful before you, and made with him the covenant to give to his offspring the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Perizzite, the Jebusite, and the Girgashite. And you have kept your promise, for you are righteous.

<sup>9</sup> "And you saw the affliction of our fathers in Egypt and heard their cry at the Red Sea, 10 and performed signs and wonders against Pharaoh and all his servants and all the people of his land, for you knew that they acted arrogantly against our fathers. And you made a name for yourself, as it is to this day. 11 And you divided the sea before them, so that they went through the midst of the sea on dry land, and you cast their pursuers into the depths, as a stone into mighty waters. 12 By a pillar of cloud you led them in the day, and by a pillar of fire in the night to light for them the way in which they should go. 13 You came down on Mount Sinai and spoke with them from heaven and gave them right rules and true laws, good statutes and commandments, <sup>14</sup> and you made known to them your holy Sabbath and commanded them commandments and statutes and a law by Moses your servant. <sup>15</sup> You gave them bread from heaven for their hunger and brought water for them out of the rock for their thirst, and you told them to go in to possess the land that you had sworn to give them.

<sup>16</sup> "But they and our fathers acted presumptuously and stiffened their neck and did not obey your commandments. 17 They refused to obey and were not mindful of the wonders that you performed among them, but they stiffened their neck and appointed a leader to return to their slavery in Egypt. But you are a God ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and did not forsake them. <sup>18</sup> Even when they had made for themselves a golden calf and said, 'This is your God who brought you up out of Egypt,' and had committed great blasphemies, 19 you in your great mercies did not forsake them in the wilderness. The pillar of cloud to lead them in the way did not depart from them by day, nor the pillar of fire by night to light for them the way by which they should go. <sup>20</sup> You gave your good Spirit to instruct them and did not withhold your manna from their mouth and gave them water for their thirst. <sup>21</sup> Forty years you sustained them in the wilderness, and they lacked nothing. Their clothes did not wear out and their feet did not swell.

<sup>22</sup> "And you gave them kingdoms and peoples and allotted to them every corner. So they took possession of the land of Sihon king of Heshbon and the land of Og king of Bashan. <sup>23</sup> You multiplied their children as the stars of heaven, and you brought them into the land that you had told their fathers to enter and possess. <sup>24</sup> So the descendants went in and possessed the land, and you subdued before them the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, and gave them into their hand, with their kings and the peoples of the land, that they might do with them as they would. <sup>25</sup> And they captured fortified cities and a rich land, and took possession of houses full of all good things, cisterns already hewn, vineyards, olive orchards and fruit trees in abundance. So they ate and were filled and became fat and delighted themselves in your great goodness.

<sup>26</sup> "Nevertheless, they were disobedient and rebelled against you and cast your law behind their back and killed your prophets, who had warned them in order to turn them back to you, and they committed great blasphemies. <sup>27</sup> Therefore you gave them into the hand of their enemies, who made them suffer. And in the time of their suffering they cried out to you and you heard them from heaven, and according to your great mercies you gave them saviors who saved them from the hand of their enemies. <sup>28</sup> But after they had rest they did evil again before you, and you abandoned them to the hand of their enemies, so that they had dominion over them. Yet when they

turned and cried to you, you heard from heaven, and many times you delivered them according to your mercies. <sup>29</sup> And you warned them in order to turn them back to your law. Yet they acted presumptuously and did not obey your commandments, but sinned against your rules, which if a person does them, he shall live by them, and they turned a stubborn shoulder and stiffened their neck and would not obey. <sup>30</sup> Many years you bore with them and warned them by your Spirit through your prophets. Yet they would not give ear. Therefore you gave them into the hand of the peoples of the lands. <sup>31</sup> Nevertheless, in your great mercies you did not make an end of them or forsake them, for you are a gracious and merciful God.

<sup>32</sup> "Now, therefore, our God, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love, let not all the hardship seem little to you that has come upon us, upon our kings, our princes, our priests, our prophets, our fathers, and all your people, since the time of the kings of Assyria until this day. 33 Yet you have been righteous in all that has come upon us, for you have dealt faithfully and we have acted wickedly. <sup>34</sup> Our kings, our princes, our priests, and our fathers have not kept your law or paid attention to your commandments and your warnings that you gave them. 35 Even in their own kingdom, and amid your great goodness that you gave them, and in the large and rich land that you set before them, they did not serve you or turn from their wicked works. <sup>36</sup> Behold, we are slaves this day; in the land that you gave to our fathers to enjoy its fruit and its good gifts, behold, we are slaves. 37 And its rich yield goes to the kings whom you have set over us because of our sins. They rule over our bodies and over our livestock as they please, and we are in great distress.

<sup>38</sup> "Because of all this we make a firm covenant in writing; on the sealed document are the names of our princes, our Levites, and our priests.

# 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**

Psalm 106:6, 34-36, 42-45

Both we and our fathers have sinned; we have committed iniquity; we have done wickedness.

They did not destroy the peoples, as the LORD commanded them, but they mixed with the nations and learned to do as they did. They served their idols, which became a snare to them.

Their enemies oppressed them, and they were brought into subjection under their power. Many times He delivered them, but they were rebellious in their purposes and were brought low through their iniquity. Nevertheless, He looked upon their distress, when He heard their cry. For their sake He remembered His covenant, and relented according to the abundance of His steadfast love.

Silent Confession of Sin

## **Words of Encouragement**

Isaiah 53:5-6

But He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

# Songs of Response to God's Grace

#### **JESUS I COME**

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night, Jesus I come, Jesus I come. Into Thy freedom, gladness and light, Jesus I come to Thee. Out of my sickness into Thy health, Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth, Out of my sin and into Thyself, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus I come, Jesus I come. Into the glorious gain of Thy cross, Jesus I come to Thee. Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm, Out of life's storm and into Thy calm, Out of distress into jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride, Jesus I come, Jesus I come. Into Thy blessed will to abide, Jesus I come to Thee. Out of myself to dwell in Thy love, Out of despair into raptures above, Upward forever on wings like a dove, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Jesus I come, Jesus I come. Into the joy and light of Thy home, Jesus I come to Thee. Out of the depths of ruin untold, Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold, Ever Thy glorious face to behold, Jesus, I come to Thee.

#### **HIS MERCY IS MORE**

What love could remember no wrongs we have done? Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum. Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore, Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam? What Father, so tender, is calling us home? He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor; Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more. Stronger than darkness, new every morn, Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

What riches of kindness He lavished on us. His blood was the payment; His life was the cost. We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford; Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more. Stronger than darkness, new every morn, Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

"You, Lord, are forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to you." -Psalm 86:5

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#### **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**

After the 9 AM service, our Elders are available for prayer in the West Foyer, and at the foot of the Sanctuary stage after the 10:30 AM service.

Pastor Steve Shelby preached today's sermon. Worship was led by Pastor Kevin Greene. Trey & Jen Wickham, Becca Wethered, Pat Reynolds, and Rick Hepner led this morning's congregational singing. Elder Rick McWhorter, Tim Andrews, and Chris May managed today's audio and video live stream. AJ Anonick 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.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." -Matthew 11:28.

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