# God the Father Calls Us to Worship Him

### The Second Sunday in Lent

In the Christian year, we are now in the season of Lent. Lent is a time to ask God to help us confront our own mortality and sinfulness, to ask Him to show us our need for grace, to grow in repentance, and to reflect on the amazing truth of the Church's participation in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The season of Lent—the period between Ash Wednesday and the Saturday before Easter—lasts 40 days (not including Sundays), reminiscent of the 40 days Jesus fasted in the wilderness.

# Preparation for Worship for the Second Sunday in Lent Brothers or Enemies of the Cross

"Jesus Christ lived in the midst of His enemies. In the end all His disciples abandoned Him. On the Cross He was all alone, surrounded by criminals and the jeering crowds. He had come for the express purpose of bringing peace to the enemies of God. So Christians, too, belong not in the seclusion of a cloistered life but in the midst of enemies. There they find their mission, their work."

--Dietrich Bonhoeffer

# **Call to Worship**

Daniel 6:26

He is the living God, enduring forever.

His Kingdom shall never be destroyed, and His dominion shall be to the end.

### Invocation

#### Song of Adoration

## **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...

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!...

"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.

#### 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 "Keep in Touch" form to introduce yourself, request prayer, or request more information about our church.

## The Ministry of Prayer

Psalm 73:1-3, 11-13, 16-17, 21-22, 25-28. A Psalm of Asaph.

Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart.

# But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled, my steps had nearly slipped.

For I was envious of the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

# And they say, "How can God know? Is there knowledge in the Most High?"

Behold, these are the wicked; always at ease, they increase in riches.

# All in vain have I kept my heart clean and washed my hands in innocence.

But when I thought how to understand this, it seemed to me a wearisome task, until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I discerned their end.

# When my soul was embittered, when I was pricked in heart,

I was brutish and ignorant;
I was like a beast toward You.

# Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides You.

My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the Strength of my heart and my Portion forever.

## For behold, those who are far from You shall perish; You put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to You.

But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord GoD my Refuge, that I may tell of all Your works.

### Offering

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

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want..." Psalm 23:1
Audrey Assad | Bryan Brown ©2013 worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Fortunate Fall Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.). Used by permission. CCLI #708363.

#### Backyard Children's Worship (10:30 AM)

Children, age 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, will be dismissed prior to the sermon for an outdoor Bible Lesson, activity, and fellowship on the WEPC playground. Pick-up at the end of the service on the playground. (In case of inclement weather, Children's Worship will meet in the WEPC Chapel.)

www.wepc.org/grow/children

# God the Son Renews Us through His Word

## **Scripture Reading**

Philippians 3:16-19

<sup>16</sup> Only let us hold true to what we have attained. <sup>17</sup> Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. <sup>18</sup> For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. <sup>19</sup> Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things.

#### Sermon

Each Sunday, Worship Notes with the Scripture text, study questions, and recordings are posted at <a href="https://www.wepc.org/sermons">www.wepc.org/sermons</a>.

# God the Holy Spirit Transforms Us by His Grace

#### Confession of Sin

Lord God Almighty, Your understanding is unsearchable and infinite, Your arm cannot be stayed. Holy is Your wisdom, power, mercy, ways, works. How can I stand before You with my numberless offenses? I have often loved darkness, observed lying vanities, forsaken Your given mercies, trampled underfoot Your beloved Son, mocked Your providences, flattered You with my lips, broken Your covenant. It is only in light of Your compassion that I am not consumed. At the Cross may I contemplate the evil of sin, and abhor it. May I look on Him whom I pierced, as One slain for me, and by me. May I never despise His death by fearing its efficacy for my salvation. And whatever cross I am required to bear, let me see Jesus suffering mine.

Silence

### **Lord Have Mercy**

Lord, have mercy Christ, have mercy Lord, have mercy upon us



"Have mercy on me God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions." Psalm 51:1

Becca Wethered, Lent 2021.

## Words of Encouragement

Colossians 3:2-4

Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

# Songs of Response to God's Grace

## Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross

Jesus, keep me near the Cross There a precious fountain Free to all, a healing stream Flows from Calv'ry's mountain...

In the Cross, in the Cross Be my glory ever 'Til my ransomed soul shall find Rest beyond the river Near the Cross, a trembling soul, Love and mercy found me There the Bright and Morning Star Shed His beams around me...

Near the Cross, O Lamb of God Bring its scenes before me Help me walk from day to day With its shadow o'er me...

Near the Cross, I'll watch and wait Hoping, trusting ever 'Til I reach the golden strand Just beyond the river...

"Far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." Galatians 6:14
Fanny Crosby (1869); Tune: NEAR THE CROSS, William Doane (1869).
Public Domain.

#### **Behold Our God**

Rock of Ages, cleft for me Let me hide myself in Thee Let the water and the blood, From Thy riven side which flowed Be of sin the double cure Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r

Not the labors of my hands Can fulfil Thy law's demands Could my zeal no respite know Could my tears forever flow All for sin could not atone Thou must save, and Thou alone

Nothing in my hand I bring Simply to Thy Cross I cling Naked, come to Thee for dress Helpless, look to Thee for grace Foul, I to the Fountain fly Wash me, Savior, or I die

While I draw this fleeting breath
When mine eyes shall close in death
When I soar to worlds unknown
See Thee on Thy judgment throne
Rock of Ages, cleft for me
Let me hide myself in Thee

"That rock was Christ." I Corinthians 10:4 Augustus Toplady (1776); Tune: TOPLADY, Thomas Hastings (1830). Public domain.

#### 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 100"", Louis Bourgeois (1551); Public Domain "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

Our Elders are available for prayer in the West Foyer following both services.

Pastor Steve Shelby preached today's sermon. Elder Changjwok Deng led worship. Pastor Kevin Greene, Lori Bowman, Terry Marsh, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, Jamison Taggart, and Deacon Jason Weippert led this morning's congregational singing. Ross Bruning, Jon Greenhill, Chris May, and Aaron Sutten managed today's audio and video live stream. Deacon Brian Zollinhofer managed the in-house video system.

#### Q & A with Pastor Steve

Join Steve this morning after the 10:30 AM worship service, as he responds live to some of your text inquiries related to the worship service, the sermon, or general encouragement. We plan on the Q & A lasting approximately 15 minutes. Please text **804-608-9372** with your questions and encouragements.

# Announcements (listed alphabetically)

# **Adult Ministry**

### A Season for Everything

www.wepc.org/book-panel-study

Ecclesiastes Livestreamed Panel Discussion and Bible Study Wednesdays through March 3, 7:30-8PM, WEPC website

Men's Ministry: Second Monday <a href="https://www.wepc.org/grow/men">www.wepc.org/grow/men</a> March 8, 5:30-7 PM \*RSVP Required\*

### Mid-Week Walk www.wepc.org/grow/adults

Join us for a walk on the James River trails in downtown Richmond. Wednesdays, beginning March 10, 9 -11 AM

#### **Wednesday Night Fellowship**

www.wepc.org/wednesdaynightfellowship
TRUE: A study of the New Testament letter to Titus
Wednesdays through March 3, 6PM, Chapel

Women's Ministry: SOW Together <a href="https://www.wepc.org/grow/women">www.wepc.org/grow/women</a> Winter 2021: Book of Ruth Study continues (study & panel discussion recordings)

Yard Groups <a href="www.wepc.org/grow/adults">www.wepc.org/grow/adults</a> Mid-March through May; looking for hosts to lead groups

Young Singles <a href="https://www.wepc.org/grow/adults">www.wepc.org/grow/adults</a>
March 14: Lunch, Worship, & Prayer \*RSVP Required\*

Children's Ministry www.wepc.org/grow/children
Backyard Children's Worship: TODAY, 10:30 AM

Food Pantry needs <a href="https://www.wepc.org/foodpantry">www.wepc.org/foodpantry</a>

## Lent and Easter Happenings <a href="https://www.wepc.org/lenteaster">www.wepc.org/lenteaster</a>

## **Personal Retreats:**

MARCH 6 | 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM (In-Person) \*RSVP Required\* MARCH 13 | 9 AM-12 PM (Virtual)

Sign up to receive them in your inbox.

## **Neighborhood Outreach Ministry**

Simple English Christian Service www.wepc.org/simpleenglish

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month, 12 PM, Chapel

Spanish Bible Study www.wepc.org/grow/spanish-bible-study

Saturdays, 7-8 PM, Chapel

WEPC Community Preschool www.wepc.org/preschool

Enrollment is open for 2021-2022!

# **Wrap Around Ministry**

www.wepc.org/outreach/wrap-around-ministry

Current need: child supplies, clothes, & toys (all ages) for WEPC families hosting children

Youth Ministry www.wepc.org/grow/youth

Youth Group: TODAY, 10:30 AM, Fellowship Hall