God the Father Calls Us to Worship Him

The Fourth 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 Fourth Sunday in Lent Joy & Crown

"The supreme happiness in life is the assurance of being loved; of being loved for oneself, even in spite of oneself." --Victor Hugo

"For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at His coming? Is it not you?" -- I Thessalonians 2:19

"Salvation is membership in the family of God...the reason for all of God's activity. This is how He intends to show His glory." --Sinclair Ferguson

Call to Worship

Colossians 1:11-14

May you be strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the Kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Invocation

Song of Adoration

Jesus Lover of My Soul

Jesus, lover of my soul Let me to Thy bosom fly While the nearer waters roll While the tempest still is high Hide me, O my Savior, hide 'Til life's storm is past Safe into the haven guide Receive my soul at last Other refuge have I none I helpless, hang on Thee Leave, oh leave me not alone Support and comfort me All my trust on Thee is stayed All help from Thee I bring Cover my defenseless head In the shadow of Thy wing

Thou, O Christ, are all I want Here more than all I find Raise the fallen, cheer the faint Heal the sick, and lead the blind Just and holy is Thy Name I am all unrighteousness False and full of sin I am Thou art full of truth and grace

Plenteous grace with Thee is found Grace to cover all my sin Let the healing streams abound Make and keep me pure within Thou of life the fountain art Let me take of Thee Spring Thou up within my heart For all eternity

"You have been...a refuge for the needy in his distress." Isaiah 25:4 Charles Wesley, 1740; Tune: ©2000 Greg Thompson 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 <u>"Keep in Touch"</u> form to introduce yourself, request prayer, or request more information about our church.

The Ministry of Prayer

Psalm 149

Praise the Lord!

Sing to the Lord a new song,
His praise in the assembly of the godly!

Let Israel be glad in his Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!

Let them praise His name with dancing, making melody to Him with tambourine and lyre!

For the Lord takes pleasure in His people; He adorns the humble with salvation.

Let the godly exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their beds.

Let the high praises of God be in their throats and two-edged swords in their hands,

to execute vengeance on the nations and punishments on the peoples,

to bind their kings with chains and their nobles with fetters of iron,

to execute on them the judgment written! This is honor for all His godly ones.

Praise the Lord!

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

Come and Welcome

From the cross uplifted high Where the Savior deigns to die What melodious sounds I hear Bursting on my ravished ear Love's redeeming work is done Come and welcome, sinner, come

Sprinkled now with blood the throne Why beneath your burdens groan On my pierced body laid Justice owns the ransom paid Bow the knee and kiss the Son Come and welcome, sinner, come

Soon the days of life shall end Lo, I come, your Savior, Friend Safe your spirit to convey To the realms of endless day Up to my eternal home Come and welcome, sinner, come Come and welcome, sinner, come

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

Words: Thomas Haweis. Music: Matthew Perryman Jones ©2004 Smoldering Wick Music (ASCAP). Used by permission.

Backyard Children's Worship (10:30 AM)

Children, age 3 through 5th 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 4:1

¹ Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

Sermon

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

God the Holy Spirit Transforms Us by His Grace Preparation for the Lord's Supper

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Words of Institution

Luke 22:7-8, 14-20, 29-30

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover."

When the hour came, Jesus and His apostles reclined at the table. And He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God." After taking the cup, He gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. For I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after the supper He took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."

"And I assign to you, as my Father assigned to me, a kingdom, that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom."

Confession of Sin

Almighty and merciful Father, You called us to be Your desired followers and made us one family. Yet we have not lived as one. We have not loved You and one another as You command. Gripped by selfish ambition, we fail to love and long for one another as brothers and sisters in Christ. Blinded by conceit, we seek our own glory and fail to count others as our joy and crown. Twisted by pride, we stumble and seek to control You, the Lord. Forgive us for our sins against You. Go on to subdue everything in us that is contrary to Your heart and purposes. By the power of Your Spirit, renew us as a church that is eager to do Your will and walk in Your ways. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

Romans 5:8

God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

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.

There are four tables on the floor at the front of the sanctuary. Please come forward as you are ready to participate in the Lord's Supper individually, with a friend, or as a family. Feel free to take additional elements to bring back to your seats to serve others in your family or group. After all are served and have returned to their seats, we will take the bread and the cup together as a congregation.

Wine and gluten free bread are in the double-cups. Grape juice and a wheat flour wafer are in the pre-packaged cups. Separate gluten-free crackers are available nearby.

The Elders presiding over the Supper today are gloved and masked, standing at a safe distance from each communion table. Know that they are praying for you as the congregation participates in the sacrament.

If you need special assistance and are not able to come forward for Communion, please raise your hand and an Elder will come to serve you the elements. If you are unable to attend today's worship service and desire Elders to come to your home to administer the Lord's Supper, please let the church office know.

If your child is ready to make a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ, please contact the WEPC office.

Songs of Response to God's Grace

We Are Not Overcome (Lamentations 3)

Flesh will fail, and bones will break Thieves will steal, the earth will shake Night will fall, the light will fade The Lord will give and take away...

Because of His great love We are not overcome Because of His great love We are not overcome

Put no trust in the earth In the sod you stand upon Flowers fade into dust, The Lord will make a place for us... Have no fear for your life
Turn your cheek, turn your cheek
Bear the yoke of love and death
The Lord will give life and breath....

"Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed." Lamentations 3:22 Robert Heiskell & Isaac Wardell, ©2013 Bifrost Arts, Used by permission. CCLI#708363.

God Is Love, Let Heaven Adore Him

God is love, let heav'n adore Him God is love, let earth rejoice Let creation sing before Him And exalt Him with one voice

God who laid the earth's foundation God who spread the heavens above God who breathes through all creation God is love, eternal love God is love, eternal love

God is love and love enfolds us All the world in one embrace With unfailing grasp God holds us Every child of every race

And when human hearts are breaking Under sorrow's iron rod Then we find that self same aching Deep within the heart of God Deep within the heart of God

God is love and though with blindness Sin afflicts all human life God's eternal loving kindness Guides us through our earthly strife

Sin and death and hell shall never O'er us final triumph gain God is love, so love forever O'er the universe shall reign O'er the universe shall reign

"Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love." 1 John 4:8 Words: Timothy Rees. Music: Alex Mejias. ©2008 High Street Publishing. 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 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. Pastor Kevin Greene led worship. Elder Kevin Shaffer, Lara Finnie, Hill Shore, Jamison Taggart, and Jake Bruning led this morning's congregational singing. Jay Smith, Chris Malak, and Sean & Jesse Winterhalter managed today's audio and video live stream. Nathan Reid 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

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

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

Women's Ministry: SOW Together www.wepc.org/grow/women

Winter 2021: Book of Ruth Study continues (study & panel discussion recordings)

Yard Groups <u>www.wepc.org/yard-groups</u>

Enrollment now OPEN for Spring Yard Groups!

Young Singles www.wepc.org/grow/adults

TODAY in the Fellowship Hall: Lunch, Worship, & Prayer *RSVP Required*

Children's Ministry www.wepc.org/grow/children

Backyard Children's Worship: TODAY, 10:30 AM

Nursery OPEN during 10:30 AM service

www.wepc.org/grow/children

Ages birth-2 years old *Registration Required*

Food Pantry needs www.wepc.org/foodpantry

Lent and Easter Happenings www.wepc.org/lenteaster

Lenten Daily Readings https://www.wepc.org/lentenreadings

Sign up to receive them in your inbox.

Maundy Thursday Service

APRIL 1 | 7PM (In-Person + Livestream)

Good Friday Service

APRIL 2 | 7PM (In-Person + Livestream)

Easter Sunday Service

APRIL 4 | 9AM (In-Person) & 10:30AM (In-Person + Livestream)

Monthly Communion www.wepc.org/monthlycommunion

Second Sunday of the month, both services

Neighborhood Outreach Ministry

Simple English Christian Service www.wepc.org/simpleenglish TODAY, 12 PM, Chapel

Spanish Bible Study <u>www.wepc.org/grow/spanish-bible-study</u> Saturdays, 7-8 PM, Chapel

WEPC Community Preschool <u>www.wepc.org/preschool</u> Enrollment is open for 2021-2022!

WEPC Pastoral Letter: The Gospel, Race, and Biblical Justice www.wepc.org/gospelracejustice

Resources for studying and understanding how the Gospel intersects with race and justice.

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