## God the Father Calls Us to Worship Him

### The Fifth 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 Fifth Sunday in Lent Agree in the Lord

"Jesus says that the peacemakers are blessed, because they live in freedom as sons of God. They will see and relate to themselves, their neighbors, and God's world rightly. In the Old Testament, a righteous man who knows God's peace is given to a life of right relationships. Those who are made right with God are therefore committed to putting right all other relationships in life." --Alec Motyer

"Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another." –I Thessalonians 4:9

#### **Call to Worship**

from Isaiah 35

Be strong, and do not fear! Your God will come to save you.

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf be unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy.

Then will the wilderness rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice and shout for joy.

And we, the ransomed of the LORD, will enter with singing.
Everlasting joy will crown our heads.

Open your eyes and see now the glory of the LORD, and the splendor of our God.

### Invocation

## Song of Adoration

#### O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

O Love that will not let me go I rest my weary soul in Thee I give Thee back the life I owe That in Thine ocean depths its flow May richer, fuller be

O Light that followest all my way I yield my flickering torch to Thee My heart restores its borrowed ray That in Thy sunshine's blaze its day May brighter, fairer be

O Joy that seekest me through pain I cannot close my heart to Thee I trace the rainbow through the rain And feel the promise is not vain That morn shall tearless be

O Cross that liftest up my head I dare not ask to fly from Thee I lay in dust life's glory dead And from the ground there blossoms red Life that shall endless be

"The LORD appeared to us in the past, saying: 'I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness." Jeremiah 31:3 Words: George Matheson (1882). Music: Christopher Miner. ©1997 Christopher Miner Music. Used by permission.

#### 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.

#### Presentation of New Members (10:30 AM)

**Eliott Bassett** 

#### The Ministry of Prayer

Psalm 85:1-9. To the choirmaster. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah.

LORD, You were favorable to Your land; You restored the fortunes of Jacob.

You forgave the iniquity of Your people; You covered all their sin.

You withdrew all Your wrath; You turned from Your hot anger.

Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away Your indignation toward us!

Will You be angry with us forever?
Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?

# Will You not revive us again, that Your people may rejoice in You?

Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us Your salvation.

Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, that glory may dwell in our land.

#### 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 <a href="https://www.wepc.org/giving">www.wepc.org/giving</a> for online giving options.

## Song of Praise

#### All of Your Ways Are Peace

All of Your ways are peace All of Your ways are peace Though we are pressed on ev'ry side We trust that You are peace

All of Your words are true
All of Your words are true
Though we have heard so many lies
We trust Your words are true

All of Your ways are just All of Your ways are just Though we may say it through our tears We trust that You are just

All of Your ways are peace All of Your ways are peace All of Your ways are peace

"He is the Rock...and all His ways are just." Deuteronomy 32:4 Jessica Fox, Paul Zach, Latifah Alattas, Isaac Wardell, Liz Vice, Orlando Palmer; ©2020 Integrity Worship Music/PG Songs & Hymns/ASCAP. 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 4:2-5

<sup>2</sup>I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord. <sup>3</sup>Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life. <sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand;

#### 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

#### **Confession of Sin**

Heavenly Father, through the finished work of Jesus Christ, our great High Priest, we have been granted full access to enter into Your presence, to worship you in Spirit and in Truth. Yet, there is a terrible coldness in our hearts, a hardness toward You, a lack of love for our neighbor, a failure to live as brothers and sisters, and an unwillingness to admit our sin and need for You. Forgive us, for Jesus' sake. Come near, Good Lord, and strengthen us until Christ reigns supreme within us, in every thought, word, and deed. Give us a faith that renews the heart, overcomes the world, works by love, fastens us to You, and always clings to the Cross. In Jesus' name. 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

have

Romans 8:1-2

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

## Songs of Response to God's Grace

#### What Wondrous Love Is This

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul What wondrous love is this, O my soul What wondrous love is this, that caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dreadful curse, for my soul, for my soul To bear the dreadful curse, for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing
To God and to the Lamb, Who is the great I AM
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing
While millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on And through eternity I'll sing on!

"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!" 1 John 3:1

Tune: WONDROUS LOVE. American Folk Hymn (1835). Public Domain.

#### **All Must Be Well**

Through the love of God our Savior all will be well Free and changeless is His favor all is well Precious is the blood that healed us Perfect is the grace that sealed us Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us All must be well

Though we pass through tribulation all will be well Ours is such a full salvation all is well Happy still in God confiding Fruitful if in Christ abiding Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding All must be well

We expect a bright tomorrow all will be well Faith can sing through days of sorrow all is well On our Father's love relying Jesus ev'ry need supplying Yes, in living and in dying All must be well

On our Father's love relying
Jesus ev'ry need supplying
Yes, in living or in dying all must be well

"But God shows His love for us, that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8.

Words: Mary Bowley-Peters, alt by Matthew S. Smith. Music: Matthew S. Smith. ©2007 Detuned Radio Music (ASCAP). 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 Chris Newlin, Sarah Jurewicz, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, Gordon Collier, and Troy Arnold led this morning's congregational singing. Elder Mike Perzanowski and Deacon Chris Scoggins managed today's audio and video live stream. Scott Dicken 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**

#### Mama Bear Apologetics Book Study

www.wepc.org/grow/adults

Sundays, March 21-May 23, 9:00 AM, Rm. 29 \*RSVP Required\* A study written for moms looking at how we prepare our kids for the real world and help them challenge cultural lies.

#### 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 <a href="www.wepc.org/grow/women">www.wepc.org/grow/women</a> 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!

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

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

Nursery OPEN during 10:30 AM service 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** <a href="https://www.wepc.org/lentenreadings">https://www.wepc.org/lentenreadings</a> Sign up to receive them in your inbox.

#### **Maundy Thursday Service**

APRIL 1 | 7PM (In-Person + Livestream) \*RSVP Required\*

#### **Good Friday Service**

APRIL 2 | 7PM (In-Person + Livestream) \*RSVP Required\*

#### **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 <a href="https://www.wepc.org/simpleenglish">www.wepc.org/simpleenglish</a>

Second 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!

## 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

Adults needed to babysit during "Foster Parents' Day Out" events on 5/15 and 6/19. Contact <a href="mailto:wraparound@wepc.org">wraparound@wepc.org</a> to help.

## Youth Ministry www.wepc.org/grow/youth

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