God the Father Calls Us to Worship Him

The Sixth Sunday in Lent: Palm Sunday

Today we move toward the conclusion of the season of Lent known as Passion Week—a recounting of the final days of the earthly ministry of Jesus Christ. It begins on Palm Sunday with the entry of Christ into Jerusalem, and includes both Maundy Thursday (the institution of the Lord's Supper) and Good Friday (the crucifixion of our Lord). It follows Jesus through His betrayal, trial, and death on a cross. It culminates in His resurrection on Easter Sunday. We use this week to reflect on the amazing truth of the Church's participation in the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Preparation for Worship on Palm Sunday

The Peace of God

"Who will comfort you?" -- Isaiah 51:19

"Jesus was one that wept with those that wept. And indeed it was mere pity that brought Him into the world, and induced Him not only to shed tears but to shed His blood. He poured out His blood as water on the earth, out of compassion to the poor, miserable children of men. And when do we ever read of any one person coming to Him when on earth, with a heavy heart, or under any kind of sorrow or distress for pity or help, but what met with a kind and compassionate reception? And He has the same compassion now." --Jonathan Edwards

Call to Worship

Zechariah 9:9-10, 16-17

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is He, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

His rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

On that day the LORD their God will save them, as the flock of His people; for like the jewels of a crown they shall shine on His land.

For how great is His goodness, and how great His beauty!

Invocation

Song of Adoration

We Fall Down

We fall down
We lay our crowns
At the feet of Jesus
The greatness of mercy and love
At the feet of Jesus

And we cry holy, holy, holy! And we cry holy, holy, holy! And we cry holy, holy, holy is the Lamb

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!" Revelation 4:8

Chris Tomlin ©1998 worshiptogether.com songs (Admin by. EMI Christian Music Publishing). 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 118:1-2, 19-22, 25-27,29

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank You that You have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

Save us, we pray, O LORD!
O LORD, we pray, give us success!

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!
We bless You from the house of the LORD.

The LORD is God, and He has made his light to shine upon us.

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

He Will Hold Me Fast

When I fear my faith will fail Christ will hold me fast When the tempter would prevail He will hold me fast I could never keep my hold Through life's fearful path For my love is often cold He must hold me fast...

He will hold me fast He will hold me fast For my Savior loves me so He will hold me fast

Those He saves are His delight Christ will hold me fast Precious in His holy sight He will hold me fast He'll not let my soul be lost His promises shall last Bought by Him at such a cost He will hold me fast...

For my life He bled and died Christ will hold me fast Justice has been satisfied He will hold me fast Raised with Him to endless life He will hold me fast Till our faith is turned to sight When He comes at last...

"And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:6
Words & Music: Ada Habershon | Matthew Merker. ©2013 Getty Music Publishing. Matthew Merker Music. Used by permission. CCLI #708363.

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 4:6-7

⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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

Psalm 139:1-2, 7, 23-24

You have searched me, Lord, and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; You perceive my thoughts from afar. Where can I go from Your Spirit? Where can I flee from Your presence? Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

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

Heidelberg Catechism 1 (1563)

Christian, what is your only comfort in life and in death?

That I am not my own, but belong -- body and soul, in life and in death – to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to Him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me whole-heartedly willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

Songs of Response to God's Grace

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

How deep the Father's love for us How vast beyond all measure That He should give His only Son To make a wretch His treasure How great the pain of searing loss The Father turns His face away As wounds which mar the Chosen One Bring many sons to glory Behold the Man upon a cross
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son" John 3:16 Stuart Townend © 1995 Thankyou Music (Admin. By Capitol CMG Publishing). Used by permission. CCLI #708363.

None Other Lamb

None other Lamb, none other Name None other Hope in Heaven or 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 art 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...

"Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" John 1:29 Words: Christina Rossetti. Music: Alex Mejias and Ross Byrd. ©2009 Alex Mejias Music/Ross Byrd Music. 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. Trey Wickham, Jen Wickham, Randall Ingram, Tammy Ingram, Rick Hepner, Pat Reynolds, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, and Deacon Jason Weippert led this morning's congregational singing. Ross Bruning, Jon Greenhill, Scott Hoye, and Elder Tim Sinclair managed today's audio and video live stream. AJ Anonick 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, through 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 www.wepc.org/grow/women 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*

Church Planting

Interested in hearing more about a potential Presbyterian Church in America church plant in that area of Chesterfield County? Contact: Pastor Kevin Greene, kevin@wepc.org

Counseling Ministry www.wepc.org/counseling

Group Counseling for Young Women: Tolerating and Regulating Emotions Led by Lara Finnie, WEPC Resident in Counseling

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) *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 <u>www.wepc.org/monthlycommunion</u>

Second Sunday of the month, both services

Neighborhood Outreach Ministry

Simple English Christian Service www.wepc.org/simpleenglish

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 wraparound@wepc.org to help.

Youth Ministry www.wepc.org/grow/youth

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