God the Father Calls Us to Worship Him

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

We are now in the season of Easter—a celebration of Jesus' victory over sin and death. Followers of Christ are called to a life of dying to sin, rising to the life of the Spirit, and participating in His reign as the Sovereign Lord. The Church now lives as those who are "risen with Christ," living under His rule.

Preparation for Worship on the Fourth Sunday of Easter According to His Riches

"Remember that this God is your Father, and is much more tender of you than you are, or can be, of yourself." --John Flavel

"The times are awfully dark, but the Lord reigns... I expect light will spring out of darkness. I shall hardly live to see it. However, it shall be well with the righteous." -- John Newton

"Through the work of the Spirit, the heavenly Father gives you to Jesus and gives Jesus to you. You have Him." -- Sinclair Ferguson

Call to Worship

Isaiah 55:10-12

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;

It shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

"For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands."

Invocation

Song of Adoration

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul Worship His holy name Sing like never before, O my soul I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning It's time to sing Your song again Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me Let me be singing when the evening comes...

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger Your name is great and Your heart is kind For all Your goodness I will keep on singing Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find...

And on that day when my strength is failing The end draws near and my time has come Still my soul will sing Your praise unending Ten thousand years and then forevermore...

"Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name!" Psalm 103:1

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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 84. To the choirmaster: according to The Gittith. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah.

How lovely is Your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!

My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at Your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.

Blessed are those who dwell in Your house, ever singing Your praise!
Blessed are those whose strength is in You, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

As they go through the Valley of Baca they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools.

They go from strength to strength; each one appears before God in Zion.

O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob!

Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of Your anointed!

For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor.

No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.

O LORD of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in You!

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.

Songs of Praise

This Grace

This anchor for my soul
This everlasting hope
Your grace on which I stand
It's where my life begins
My future held within
Your grace on which I stand...

Oh, this grace on which I stand It will hold me till the end Never failing Oh, praise the One who rescued me Jesus, You will ever be my salvation

And when I'm on the run
The road that leads me home
Your grace on which I stand
And when I see Your face
The only claim I'll make
Your grace on which I stand...

Worthy is the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world Worthy is the Lamb that was slain To receive all honor and praise

Jesus, You will ever be my salvation Lord Jesus, You will ever be my salvation

"But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ." Ephesians 2:4-5

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Backvard 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 4:19

¹⁹ And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory 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

Father in heaven, we thank You for the glorious riches You have given us through the life, death, and resurrection of Your Son. But we confess today that we often live like we do not have Your favor in Christ. Instead of resting in Your delight in Your Church, we avoid You in shame and guilt. Instead of receiving Your gracious supply to meet our every need, we strive for peace with anxious effort. Instead of believing that You have made us Your own people, we act as if we are cut off from our King and His Kingdom. Instead of pursuing Your purposes, we scrap and cling to our short-sighted agendas. Forgive us. Restore us. Cleanse us. Heal us. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Silence

Words of Encouragement

I John 4:9-10

This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Songs of Response to God's Grace

Jesus, the Lord, My Savior Is

Jesus, the Lord, my Savior is My Shepherd and my God My light, my strength, my joy, my bliss And I His grace record

Whate'er I need in Jesus dwells And there it dwells for me 'Tis Christ my earthen vessel fills With treasures rich and free...

Mercy and truth and righteousness And peace most richly meet In Jesus Christ, the King of grace In Whom I stand complete

As through the wilderness I roam His mercies I'll proclaim And when I safely reach my home I'll still adore His name Worthy the Lamb shall be my song For He for me was slain And me with all the heavenly throng Shall join and say amen...

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want." Psalm 23:1 Sandra McCracken | William Gadsby © Words: Public Domain. Music: 2001 Same Old Dress Music CCLI License # 708363

Blessed Be Your Name

Blessed be Your name In the land that is plentiful Where Your streams of abundance flow Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name When I'm found in the desert place Though I walk through the wilderness Blessed be Your name...

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll Turn back to praise When the darkness closes in, Lord Still I will say

Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be Your name Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name When the sun's shining down on me When the world's all as it should be Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name...

You give and take away You give and take away My heart will choose to say Lord, blessed be Your name

"Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and forevermore!"
Psalm 113:2
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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 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 at the front of the Sanctuary following the 9AM service and in the West Foyer following the 10:30AM service.

Pastor Steve Shelby preached today's sermon. Pastor Kevin Greene led worship. Elder Kevin Shaffer, Sarah Shrader, Hill Shore, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, Donald Smith, Mark Crutcher and Gordon Collier led this morning's congregational singing. Elder Gordon Kuhfuss, Deacon Chris Scoggins, and Elder Mike Perzanowski managed today's audio and video live stream. Clara Bender managed the in-house video system.

The tapestry at the front of the sanctuary is the traditional liturgical color of white for this 50-day season of Easter. The tapestry will return to its many colors during the season of Pentecost. The piece is entitled "Psalm 148," and was created by a team of WEPC artists.

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.

Mature Adult Singles Fellowship www.wepc.org/MASfellowship
3rd Saturday of every month, 4-5:30 PM
Join us for fellowship, devotional prayer, and an optional dinner.

Mercy Ministry: WEPC Deacon Assistant Training

www.wepc.org/DAtraining

SUN May 2, 12 PM (Fellowship Hall) *RSVP Required*
Are you interested in using your gifts to serve in the church's mercy ministry? Contact: Pastor Kevin Greene, kevin@wepc.org

Mid-Week Walk www.wepc.org/grow/adults Wednesdays, 9 -11 AM

Women's Ministry: SOW Together www.wepc.org/grow/women Book of Ruth Study continues (study & panel discussion recordings)

Young Singles www.wepc.org/grow/adults
May 16 & June 13: Lunch, Worship, & Prayer *RSVP Required*

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

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

Ice Cream Social

Thursday, May 6, 5-6:30 PM

Join us for a neighborhood ice cream truck and fun on the playground!

Nursery OPEN during 10:30 AM service

Ages birth-2 years old * *Registration Required*

Vacation Bible School: Lightspeed Galaxy, July 12-15

Registration now OPEN!

Church Planting

Interested in hearing more about a potential Presbyterian Church in America church plant in Chester, VA? Contact: Pastor Kevin Greene, kevin@wepc.org

Food Pantry needs www.wepc.org/foodpantry

Missions www.wepc.org/outreach/missions

Meet WEPC's Missionaries in Residence

SUN May 16, 12-12:30 PM. WEPC Chapel: Come and be introduced via video to WEPC's Summer 2021 Missionaries in Residence! This brief 30 minute gathering hosted by the WEPC Mission Team will introduce you to this family & their ministry. *RSVP Required*

Help Needed for WEPC-supported Missionaries

Church-supported missionaries are coming to Richmond for a home assignment and are in need of supplies for their children.

Please drop donations in the WEPC Office. Questions: AmyCaroline Wilks

Neighborhood Outreach Ministry

Good News Can't Lose Running Group

goodnewsrunning@wepc.org

Saturdays at 8 AM; all abilities and speeds welcome.

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

Wrap Around Ministry

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

Child supplies and babysitting needed.

Youth Ministry www.wepc.org/grow/youth

Movie, pizza, & shaved ice in WEPC's side parking lot

April 30, 8PM *RSVP required*

Check out our Summer 2021 Events Calendar!

Youth Group: RSVP for April 25 @ 10:30 AM

Head Start: Wisdom for Life

(For rising and graduating high school seniors) *RSVP to Sarah*

The Landing Summer Camp: Sign up now!