God the Father Calls Us to Worship Him

The First Sunday after Pentecost: Ordinary Time

We are now in the season after Pentecost, known as "Ordinary Time." Having celebrated the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church at Pentecost, Ordinary Time signals the interim of the Church until Christ comes again in glory. Jesus is faithfully advancing His Kingdom in the power of His Spirit in this season. We anticipate the consummation of all things when Christ comes in His glory as King of all.

Preparation for Worship

Face to Face

"Now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves." -- John 17:13

"Whether it is teaching, rebuking, correcting or encouraging, there is much to be said for doing it face to face...The paper cannot smile, nor can it respond to changes of mood...a visit was what he was really looking forward to... open fellowship and Christian joy are best maintained and developed by personal, face-to-face contact whenever possible." -- David Jackman

Call to Worship

Psalm 46:1-3, 11

God is our Refuge and Strength, a very present Help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our Fortress.

Song of Adoration

Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!

Jesus! What a Friend for sinners Jesus! Lover of my soul Friends may fail me, foes assail me He, my Savior, makes me whole...

Hallelujah! What a Savior! Hallelujah! What a Friend! Saving, helping, keeping, loving He is with me to the end

Jesus! What a Strength in weakness Let me hide myself in Him Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing He, my Strength, my victory wins...

Jesus! What a Help in sorrow While the billows over me roll Even when my heart is breaking He, my comfort, helps my soul...

Jesus! What a Guide and Keeper While the tempest still is high Storms about me, night overtakes me He, my Pilot, hears my cry...

Jesus! I do now receive Him More than all in Him I find He hath granted me forgiveness I am His, and He is mine...

"A friend of tax collectors and sinners." Luke 7:34 John Wilbur Chapman (1910); Tune: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard (1830). Public Domain.

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.

Old Testament Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20 Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save: he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame

and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the LORD.

The Ministry of Prayer

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

The Spirit Is Moving

The Spirit is moving over the waters, Turning our chaos into creation The Spirit is moving, sisters and brothers Taking away our hearts of stone

The Spirit is moving, parting the waters Leading us out of the kingdom of sorrow The Spirit is moving on our sons and daughters Turning our darkness into dawn...

We will walk together through the seas We will work together through the tide We will find the way that leads to peace The Spirit is our Guide

The Spirit is moving, trouble the waters Leading us into the merciful kingdom The Spirit is moving, breath of the Father One with the Savior, making us one...

"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God." 1 John 4:7 Kate Bluett | Paul Zach ©2021. 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

II John 1:12-13

¹² Though I have much to write to you, I would rather not use paper and ink. Instead I hope to come to you and talk face to face, so that our joy may be complete. ¹³ The children of your elect sister greet you.

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

Holy God, when You call us to follow You with great boldness, we tremble and cover our eyes. We are afraid of what we will see. Your greatness unveils our weakness, Your justice unveils our iniquity, and Your holiness unveils our stained hearts and minds. Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins. Give us the strength to renounce that which hides You from us. Lift our eyes to see the glory of God in the face of Christ. Give us the wisdom to trust Your atoning sacrifice. We believe; help our unbelief, that we might know the freedom and power of Your Cross. Amen.

Silence

Words of Encouragement

II Corinthians 4:6-7, 11

God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us... He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into His presence.

Songs of Response to God's Grace

Look to Jesus (Come Ye Souls By Sin Afflicted)

Come ye souls by sin afflicted Bowed with fruitless sorrow down By the broken law convicted Through the cross behold the crown Look to Jesus, look to Jesus, look to Jesus Mercy flows through Him alone

Take His easy yoke and wear it Love will make your obedience sweet Christ will give you strength to bear it While His grace shall guide your feet Safe to glory, safe to glory, safe to glory Where His ransomed captives meet

Blessed are the eyes that see Him
Bless the ears that hear His voice
Blessed are the souls that trust Him
And in Him alone rejoice
His commandments, His commandments, His commandments
Then become their happy choice

Sweet as home to pilgrims weary
Light to newly opened eyes
Like full springs in deserts dreary
Is the rest the cross supplies
All who taste it, all who taste it, all who taste it
Shall to rest immortal rise
Look to Jesus, look to Jesus, look to Jesus
Mercy flows through Him alone

"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." 1 Peter 5:7 Original Words: Joseph Swain | Addt'l. Words and Music: Kevin Twit ©2013. Used by permission. CCLI #708363.

Trinity Song

Holy Father, Son, and Spirit Holy Communion, Three in One

Come with Your peace, with Your invitation Bind us together in holy love

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you."

John 14:26

Sandra McCracken ©2016 Integrity Worship Music. Used by permission. CCLI#708363.

Approach, My Soul, the Mercy Seat

Approach, my soul, the Mercy-seat Where Jesus answers prayer There humbly fall before His feet For none can perish there...

For none can perish there For none can perish there There humbly fall before His feet For none can perish there

Thy promise is my only plea With this I venture nigh Thou callest burdened souls to Thee And such, O Lord, am I ...

And such, O Lord, am I And such, O Lord, am I Thou callest burdened souls to Thee And such, O Lord, am I

Bowed down beneath a load of sin By Satan sorely pressed By wars without, and fears within I come to Thee for rest ...

I come to Thee for rest I come to Thee for rest 'Mid wars without, and fears within I come to Thee for rest

Be Thou my Shield and Hiding Place That, sheltered near Thy side I may my fierce accuser face And tell him, "Thou hast died!"...

And tell him, "Thou hast died" And tell him, "Thou hast died" I may my fierce accuser face And tell him, "Thou hast died"

O wondrous Love! to bleed and die To bear the Cross and shame That guilty sinners such as I Might plead Thy gracious name... Might plead Thy gracious name Might plead Thy gracious name That guilty sinners such as I Might plead Thy gracious name

"Since we have a great high priest...let us approach the throne of grace with confidence." Hebrews 4:14,16

John Newton (1779); Tune: CLEANSING FOUNTAIN (19th century American). 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 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. Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, Robin Huff, Pastor Kevin Greene, Gordon Collier, Rachel Becker, and Luke Smith led this morning's congregational singing. Deacon Andy Becker, Elder Mike Perzanowski, and Deacon Chris Scoggins managed today's audio and video live stream. Scott Dicken managed the in-house video system.

The tapestry at the front of the sanctuary has been returned 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

Adult Ministry

Adult Sunday Community www.wepc.org/sundaycommunity

Sundays through the end of the summer 10:30-11:45 AM (Side parking lot)

Join us for a time of fellowship, light breakfast food, and a discussion in response to the morning's sermon. Please bring a chair.

Inquirer's Weekend www.wepc.org/inqweekend

July 30-August 1

For those interested in learning more about our church and the possibility of membership in the future.

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.

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

The mid-week walk is **on hold** until the Fall with incoming cooler temperatures.

Men's Backpacking www.wepc.org/grow/adults

Interested in learning about backpacking or doing short overnight backpacks? Contact Bryce Allison for more info.

Young Singles <u>www.wepc.org/grow/adults</u>

June 13: Lunch, Worship, & Prayer – *RSVP Required* (following 2nd service)

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

Backyard Children's Worship: 10:30 AM

Nursery OPEN during 10:30 AM service

Ages birth-2 years old *Registration Required*
Sign up to volunteer with nursery here

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

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, June 6, following the 10:30 AM service
Join us to review the 2021-2022 budget, vote on the pastors' terms of call
and re-elect deacons.

Deacon Re-Election:

Ben Bacon Ed Bowman Chris Perry

Food Pantry needs www.wepc.org/foodpantry

Missions www.wepc.org/outreach/missions

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

Let's Get Together!

Would you like to arrange a personal, family, or group meeting with WEPC's Missionaries-in-Residence? Go <u>HERE</u> and schedule a call or meeting. Meetings are available now for video calls, and after June 21 for everything else!

Cross-Cultural Film Festival

WED, Jun 30 / 7-8:30 PM / Fellowship Hall

Growing in Cross-Cultural Friendships

SUN, July 18 / 12-1 PM / Fellowship Hall

Neighborhood Outreach Ministry

Simple English Christian Service www.wepc.org/simpleenglish Second Sunday of every month, 12 PM, Chapel

Wrap Around Ministry

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

Youth Ministry www.wepc.org/grow/youth

Youth Group: 10:30 AM (Fellowship Hall)

Celebration Sunday

SUN, June 6, 10:30 AM / Side Parking Lot / Bring your own chair *Please RSVP*

Join us as we honor our high school graduates and welcome rising 6th grade students and their families into the WEPC Youth Ministry. Open to everyone in the WEPC Church community!

Check out our Summer 2021 Events Calendar!

The Landing Summer Camp: Sign up now!

General Information

Communion Volunteers: In anticipation of weekly communion in the near future, our communion preparation teams are re-forming. Volunteers will be needed and training will be provided. Please email Karen Howe (karen@wepc.org) to volunteer or to seek additional information.

Sabbatical Leave Update

Over the winter, the Session approved changes to our Sabbatical Leave policy for our pastors. The general goals of the revised policy are to enhance the personal ministry of our pastors and to further the long-term ministry objectives of the church. Plans for a staff member going on Sabbatical Leave are developed and approved through the Session and could include goals for spiritual renewal, physical rest and restoration, and professional growth. Full-time pastoral staff are now eligible and encouraged to take a Sabbatical Leave during their seventh year of service at WEPC and then approximately every fifth year thereafter. The sabbatical may between six and sixteen weeks, as approved by the Session.

As announced this past Sunday during worship, Kevin Greene (and his wife, Kim) will be taking a Sabbatical Leave over the summer and will be away from the church from the beginning of June through the end of August. We are excited to witness how this new change of church policy will not only positively impact the Greenes, but also our church body and the pastoral staff in the years to come.

Other staff members will be covering Kevin's routine responsibilities during this time. He will be following a plan, focused on personal renewal, approved by the Session. We look forward to what God is going to do in and through his time away this summer!

To learn what the Bible says about rest and sabbaticals, see Genesis 2, Exodus 20, Leviticus 25, or Luke 5. For questions, contact Brian Bassett or Rick McWhorter.

Introducing the next Youth Director of WEPC: Isaiah Thomas

Back in late 2020, a team of twelve people from the congregation began to gather together to pray, discuss, and look for the new Youth Director. After an extensive nationwide search, the LORD made it clear to the entire team that Isaiah Thomas was that man. After a candidating weekend on May 21-23, where he met with students, parents, volunteers, and staff, Isaiah was interviewed by the Session of WEPC and was offered the job.

Since graduating from William & Mary in 2016, Isaiah has been learning and serving the Church in various roles on staff, spending time working in youth ministry, college ministry, and two different pastoral internships. He and his wife, Abbey, have been married since 2018, and he is currently finishing up an M.A. in Biblical Studies at Reformed Theological Seminary in Washington, DC, and hopes to finish his degree this Fall. His favorite Richmond activities include exploring Richmond's restaurant scene, going to the Goochland Drive-In Theatre, and doing anything outdoors.

Isaiah will begin as the WEPC Youth Director on August 1 and will jump right into the summer youth trip, <u>The Landing, from August 8-13</u>. Please pray for Isaiah and Abbey in this time of transition, and welcome him in early August.