

# God the Father Calls Us to Worship Him

## The Eighteenth 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**

He Sat Down & Taught Them

"The values and standards of Jesus are in direct conflict with the commonly accepted values and standards of the world. The world judges the rich to be blessed, not the poor, whether in the material or in the spiritual sphere; the happy-go-lucky and carefree, not those who take evil so seriously that they mourn over it; the strong and brash, not the meek and gentle; the full not the hungry; those who mind their own business, not those who meddle in other men's matter and occupy their time in do-goodery like 'showing mercy' and 'making peace'; those who attain their ends even if necessary by devious means, not the pure in heart who refuse to compromise their integrity; those who are secure and popular, and live at ease, not those who have to suffer persecution."

--John Stott

## **Call to Worship**

Isaiah 2:2-3, 5

It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD

shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it,

and many peoples shall come, and say:

"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that He may teach us His ways and that we may walk in His paths."

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

# **Order of Worship**

# 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 Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman ©2011 Atlas Mountain Songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG 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.

## Commissioning of ESL Teachers (10:30AM)

Brian Wilcox, WEPC Mission Team Member

## **Old Testament Reading**

Psalm 86:1-7

Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and needy. Preserve my life, for I am godly; save your servant, who trusts in you - you are my God. Be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all the day. Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, do I lift up my soul. For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you. Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer; listen to my plea for grace. In the day of my trouble I call upon you, for you answer me.

## The Ministry of Prayer

**Declaration of Faith** The Nicene Creed, Council of Nicaea, 325AD

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man: and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried: and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son;

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets;

and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

# 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

#### Jesus Paid It All

I hear the Savior say Thy strength indeed is small Child of weakness, watch and pray Find in Me thine all in all...

'Cause Jesus paid it all All to Him I owe Sin had left a crimson stain He washed it white as snow

Lord, now indeed I find Thy pow'r and Thine alone Can change the leper's spots And melt the heart of stone...

And when before the throne I stand in Him complete Jesus died my soul to save My lips shall still repeat...

O praise the One who paid my debt And raised this life up from the dead

"And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses." Colossians 2:13

Alex Nifong | Elvina M. Hall | John Thomas Grape. © 2006 Pay Me Please Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) sixsteps Music. Used by Permission. CCLI #708363.

# Children's Worship (10:30 AM)

Children, age 4 through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, will be dismissed prior to the sermon for a Bible Lesson, activity, and fellowship. Pick up from the Chapel. www.wepc.org/grow/children

# Children's Blessing (10:30AM)

Gather round ye children come Listen to the old, old Story Of the power of death undone By an Infant born of glory Son of God, Son of Man

"But Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 19:14 Andrew Peterson ©2005 New Springs (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) Used by permission. CCLI #708363.

# God the Son Renews Us through His Word

## Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:1-2

<sup>1</sup>Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

<sup>2</sup>And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

## Sermon

Each Sunday, Worship Notes with the Scripture text, study questions, and recordings of the sermon are posted at <u>www.wepc.org/worship/sermons-media</u>

# God the Holy Spirit Transforms Us by His Grace

## **Confession of Sin**

Adapted from The Valley of Vision, "God All-Sufficient"

"All Your lovingkindness is in Your Son, I bring Him to You in the arms of faith, I urge His saving name as the One who died for me, I plead His blood to pay for my debts of wrong. Accept His worthiness for my unworthiness His sinlessness for my transgression, His purity for my uncleanness, His sincerity for my guile, His truth for my deceits, His meekness for my pride. His constancy for my backslidings, His love for my enmity, His fullness for my emptiness, His faithfulness for my treachery, His obedience for my lawlessness, His glory for my shame, His devotedness for my waywardness, His holy life for my unchaste ways, His righteousness for my dead works, His death for my life. Amen.

#### Silence

#### Words of Encouragement Hebrews 12:2

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

# Songs of Response to God's Grace

## Father Long Before Creation

Father, long before creation Thou hadst chosen us in love And that love so deep, so moving Draws us close to Christ above Still it keeps us, still it keeps us Firmly fixed in Christ alone

Though the world may change its fashion Yet our God is e'er the same His compassion and His covenant Through all ages will remain God's own children, God's own children Must forever praise His name

God's compassion is my story Is my boasting all the day Mercy free and never failing Moves my will, directs my way God so loved us, God so loved us That His only Son He gave

Loving Father now before Thee We will ever praise Thy love And our songs will sound unceasing Til we reach our home above Giving glory, giving glory To our God and to the Lamb

"Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God." Psalm 90:2 Text: from a Chinese hymn, translated by Francis Johnson (1951) Tune: Andrew Osenga ©2005 The Velvet Eagle Sings. Used by permission. CCLI #708363.

## 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. Music: Christopher Miner. ©1997 Christopher Miner Music. Used by permission.

#### Rock Of Ages (When the Day Seems Long)

Rock of Ages, when the day seems long From this labor and this heartache I have come The skies will wear out but You remain the same Rock of Ages, I praise Your name

Rock of Ages, You have brought me near You have poured out Your life-blood Your love, Your tears To make this stone heart come alive again Rock of Ages, forgive my sin...

Rock of Ages Rock of Ages Bind Your children until the kingdom comes Rock of Ages, Your will be done

Rock of Ages, when in want or rest My desperate need for such a Savior I confess Pull these idols out from my heart's embrace Rock of Ages, I need Your grace

Rock of Ages, broken scorned for me Who am I that You would die to make me free To give me glory, You took the death and pain Rock of Ages, my Offering...

Rock of Ages, it is done You cried The curtain's torn and I see justice satisfied Now write Your mercy on my heart and hands Rock of Ages, in faith I stand

Rock of Ages, my great hope secure Your promise holds just like an anchor to my soul Bind Your children with cords of love and grace Rock of Ages, we give You praise...

"He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken." Psalm 62:2 Kevin Twit | Sandra McCracken © 2005 Same Old Dress 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<sup>th</sup>", 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, Robin Huff, Elder Tom Krieger, Jamison Taggart and Deacon Jason Weippert led this morning's congregational singing. Andy Becker, Deacon Tim Andrews, and Aaron Sutten managed today's audio and video live stream. Luke Farkas 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

## **Adult Ministry**

Adult Sunday School www.wepc.org/grow/adults 9:00 AM / Library

**Discipleship Podcast** www.wepc.org/adults A Study of the Book of Acts Episodes post every Friday through September 30

#### Home Groups Fall 2021 / Registration now open!

Inquirer's Weekend <u>www.wepc.org/inqweekend</u> Learn more about WEPC & church membership / Nov. 12-14

## Men's Ministry: Second Monday

https://www.wepc.org/grow/men/ October 11 / 5:30PM / Side Parking Lot

## Parenting Class: Parenting in Anxious Times

www.wepc.org/parentingclass Beginning Wed. September 29 / 6-7:30PM / Library

## Third Saturday Mature Singles Fellowship

www.wepc.org/MASfellowship Next Meeting: October 16 / 4-5:30PM

## Wednesday Night Fellowship: How Worship Changes Us

www.wepc.org/worshipclass Beginning Wed. September 29 / 6-7:30PM / Chapel

## Women's Ministry www.wepc.org/grow/women

Wellspring & Restore Bible Studies: Fall 2021
<u>Register now!</u>

Young Singles <u>www.wepc.org/grow/adults</u> October 24: Lunch, Worship, & Prayer (following 2<sup>nd</sup> service)

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

## 9 A M

- Nursery (infant-3 years old)--upstairs
- Preschool Quest (4 & 5 years old)--downstairs
- Sunday School (K-5)--downstairs

## 10:30 AM

- Nursery (infant-3 years old)--upstairs
- Children's Worship (4 years old 2nd grade)--Chapel

## Wednesdays 6-7:30PM

• Kids Club (Beginning 9/29)

Food Pantry needs www.wepc.org/foodpantry

#### Missions www.wepc.org/outreach/missions/

#### **MTW Missions Conference**

October 8-10 / See MTW's website for information on how to register

## Neighborhood Outreach Ministry www.wepc.org/neighborhood

Simple English Christian Service <u>www.wepc.org/simpleenglish</u> Second Sunday of Each Month / 12PM / Chapel

#### Volunteers Needed!

- Kids Club Adult Volunteer / Tuesdays, 6:15-8PM
- ESL Adult Volunteer / Tuesdays PM or Thursdays AM
- Tutoring Volunteer (K-12) / One hour per week

Contact Neighborhood Outreach Director Changiwok Deng if interested!

## Worship Arts Ministry wepc.org/prayerworshipnight

Prayer & Worship Night: Sunday, October 3 / WEPC Courtyard

Worship Guide: Worship notes with the Scripture text, study questions, and sermon recordings are posted every Sunday at <a href="http://www.wepc.org/worship/sermons-media">www.wepc.org/worship/sermons-media</a>

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

Youth Sunday School: 9AM / Fellowship Hall

## Wednesday Night Youth Group

- Middle School: 6-7:30PM / Gym
- High School: 7:30-9PM / Gym

## General Information

#### Church-Wide Tailgate www.wepc.org/tailgate

October 10 / Side Parking Lot Join us for a tailgate lunch served by the WEPC Youth after the 10:30AM Service. <u>RSVP here.</u>

## Fiscal Year Giving Report (as of 9/19/21):

Operating gifts YTD: \$ 402,426.14 Forecasted gifts YTD: \$ 456,652.61 % of expected budget received: 88.13%

## Leading the Way

The leadership of WEPC hopes to have most of the church's regular programs back up and running by the Fall. We need one another and we need your help. Fill out our <u>Member Service Survey</u> here and visit <u>Leading the Way | West End Presbyterian Church</u> (wepc.org) (see QR code) for more information.



#### Counseling

Lara Finnie, WEPC's Resident in Counseling, is available by appointment. Visit <u>Abiding Branches</u> for more information.