



West End
presbyterian church

WEPC LECTIONARY PROJECT: UNION WITH CHRIST

In this 25th Anniversary year of West End Presbyterian Church, we are using the Scripture readings recommended by the Revised Common Lectionary as a framework for our corporate worship, and our personal and family devotion. The Lectionary gives us access to the whole counsel of Scripture and these texts are a means for us to grow in our understanding of our union with Christ.

WEPC Weekly Readings

To subscribe to a daily email of these readings, register online at wepc.org/lectionary.

August 25, 2019 | Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost: Ordinary Time

Isaiah 58:9b-14

Call the Sabbath a Delight

Psalms 103:1-8

Bless His Holy Name

Hebrews 12:18-29

Acceptable Worship

Luke 13:10-17

Jesus Heals on the Sabbath

Reflection on Sunday, August 25

Monday

Ezekiel 20:1-17

My Sabbaths They Greatly Profaned

Hebrews 3:7-4:11

Sabbath Rest for the People of God

Tuesday

Ezekiel 20:18-32

Israel Became like the Nations

Revelation 3:7-13

The New Jerusalem

Wednesday

Ezekiel 20:33-44

The LORD Will Restore Israel

Luke 6:6-11

Jesus Heals on the Sabbath

Daily

Psalms 109:21-31

Prayer for Healing

Preparation for Sunday, September 1

Thursday

Proverbs 15:13-17

Better is a Little with the Fear of the LORD

I Peter 3:8-12

Repay Evil with Blessing

Friday

Proverbs 18:6-12

Humility Comes Before Honor

I Peter 4:7-11

Good Stewards of God's Varied Grace

Saturday

Proverbs 21:1-4, 24-26

The Righteous Gives & Does Not Hold Back

Matthew 20:20-28

Requesting Seats of Honor

Daily

Psalms 112

The Righteous are Merciful

PASTOR'S NOTE

Dear Ones,

Human beings were made to work. That is one of the ways we exercise the fact that we are created in the image of God. We exercise God-like dominion over the physical world through our work. Our God is a worker.

Human beings were made for rest. This, too, is one of the ways we exercise the fact that we are created in the image of God. We exercise God-like dominion over time through our Sabbath rest. Our God rested.

Note: We were made to work. We were made for rest. After all, Sabbath rest is our eternal destiny.

Warmly,
Steve

Sunday Worship Services: 9 AM and 10:30 AM
Children's Sunday School: 9 AM

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PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP & COMMUNION

Eleventh 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.

THE SABBATH A DELIGHT

“Every day of my life I rest from my evil ways, let the Lord work in me through His Spirit, and so begin in this life the eternal Sabbath.”

– from *The Heidelberg Catechism*, Q&A 103

“The Resurrection of Christ was the truth of all truths among the early believers. It was not the day of His death they made their Sabbath, but the first day of the week—the day when the sadness of the weeping women at the sepulcher was turned into gladness...conscious that a new and nobler Genesis had dawned on a darkened world.”

– John MacDuff

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 55:2-3

The First Word

Because we believe God initiates with sinners, we begin worship with His Word: His invitation to us to gather in His name.

Listen diligently to Me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to Me;
hear, that your soul may live.

INVOCATION

SONG OF ADORATION

BETTER IS ONE DAY

How lovely is Your dwelling place,
O Lord Almighty!
For my soul longs and even faints for You.
For here my heart is satisfied,
Within Your presence.
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings:

*Better is one day in Your courts,
Better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts,
Than thousands elsewhere!*

One thing I ask and I would seek—
To see Your beauty,
To find You in the place Your glory dwells.

*“For a day in your courts
is better than a thousand
elsewhere.” – Psalm 84:10*

Text/Tune: Matt Redman
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Welcome

*Visitors, we are glad you are here. Following the service, please join
Pastor Steve Shelby for coffee in the Gallery.*

GOSPEL READING

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And behold, there was a woman who had had a disabling spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said to her, “Woman, you are freed from your disability.” And he laid his hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and she glorified God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, “There are six days in which work ought to be done. Come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day.” Then the Lord answered him, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?” As he said these things, all his adversaries were put to shame, and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

Luke 13:10-17

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

Psalm 103:1-8. Of David.

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless His holy name!

**Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all His benefits,**

Who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,

**Who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**

Who satisfies you with good
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

**The LORD works righteousness
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

He made known His ways to Moses,
His acts to the people of Israel.

**The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

Pray for Our Church, Our City, and the World. This week:

- For West End Presbyterian Church: That Your Church would bless You and be used as Your means of blessing.
- For the workplaces and businesses of Metro Richmond: For employment opportunities for people new to the workforce, heads of families, and the long-term unemployed & underemployed.
- For Church Planting in Metro Richmond: For WEPC daughter churches City Church of Richmond (planted in Richmond City, 2007) and Evergreen Community Church (planted in Powhatan, 2009).

OFFERING

If you missed today's offering and wish to give, or if you would like to submit your tear-off, the elders at the front of the sanctuary who are available for prayer following the service will be glad to receive them.

The offering isn't just about money. Our response to the Gospel goes much deeper—God demands our whole selves. The act of giving in worship is a part of offering ourselves as “living sacrifices” to God (Rom. 12:1).

SONG OF PRAISE

STEADFAST

1. I will build my house whether storm or drought
On the rock that does not move.
I will set my hope in your love, O Lord,
And your faithfulness will prove
You are steadfast, steadfast.

2. By the word you spoke all the starry host
Are called out by name each night.
In your watchful care I will rest secure,
As you lead us with your light.
You are steadfast, steadfast.
You are steadfast, steadfast.

3. I will not trust in the strength of kings,
On your promise I will stand.
I will shout for joy, I will raise my voice,
Hallelujah to the Lamb!
You are steadfast, steadfast.
You are steadfast, steadfast.
You are steadfast, steadfast.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. – Psalm 136:1

Sandra McCracken,
Leslie Jordan, & Josh Silverberg
(with adaptations
from Henri Nouwen)
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CHILDREN'S WORSHIP (10:30 AM)

During the 10:30 AM service, children (pre-K to second grade) are dismissed for Children's Worship. See p.14 for more information.

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 58:9b-14

- ^{9b} If you take away the yoke from your midst,
the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness,
¹⁰ if you pour yourself out for the hungry
and satisfy the desire of the afflicted,
then shall your light rise in the darkness
and your gloom be as the noonday.
¹¹ And the LORD will guide you continually
and satisfy your desire in scorched places
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters do not fail.
¹² And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to dwell in.
¹³ “If you turn back your foot from the Sabbath,
from doing your pleasure on my holy day,
and call the Sabbath a delight
and the holy day of the LORD honorable;
if you honor it, not going your own ways,
or seeking your own pleasure, or talking idly;
¹⁴ then you shall take delight in the LORD,
and I will make you ride on the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

Sermon

*A Worship Guide with sermon notes and recordings is posted each Sunday
at wepc.org/sermons.*

PREPARATION FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The disciples prepared the Passover. And when it was evening, Jesus came with the twelve. And they were reclining at the table and as they were eating, He took bread. And after blessing it, He broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

from Mark 14:16-25

CONFESSION OF SIN

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us. That we might delight in Your will, and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your name. Amen.

Silent Confession

The Book of Common Prayer

Confession & Encouragement

Often we find that our hearts are worshipping something other than God. In confessing our sins, the Holy Spirit probes our hearts and minds and graciously shows us what we mistakenly believe will give us life. Jesus is good to lead us from sorrow over our sin to the sweetness of His grace.

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Matthew 11:28-29

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

West End Presbyterian Church welcomes all baptized Christians who actively trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, who are willing to forsake their sin and heart-idols, and who are members of congregations that proclaim the Gospel to participate in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper with us.

Wine is in the outer ring of the communion tray, grape juice is in the inner rings. All bread is gluten-free.

Please come forward as you are ready to participate in the Lord's Supper individually, with a friend, or as a family.

If you need special assistance and are not able to come forward for Communion, raise your hand and we will come to you at the conclusion of the Lord's Supper.

Elders & Deacons are glad to pray for your children who have not yet become communing members. If your child is ready to make a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ, please mark today's tear-off or contact the WEPC office.

SONGS OF RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

O COME TO THE ALTAR

Are you hurting and broken within?
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin?
Jesus is calling!
Have you come to the end of yourself?
Do you thirst for a drink from the well?
Jesus is calling!

*O come to the altar,
The Father's arms are open wide!
Forgiveness was bought with
The precious blood of Jesus Christ.*

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes—
Come today there's no reason to wait,
Jesus is calling!
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy,
From the ashes a new life is born—
Jesus is calling!

*Oh what a Savior, isn't he wonderful?
Sing alleluia, Christ is risen!
Bow down before him for he is Lord of all!
Sing alleluia, Christ is risen!*

"I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow." –Jeremiah 31:13
Chris Brown, Mack Brock, Steven Furtick, Wade Joye © 2015 Elevation Worship Used by permission. CCLI: 708363

GIVE ME JESUS

1. In the morning, when I rise,
In the morning, when I rise,
In the morning, when I rise,
Give me Jesus.

*Give me Jesus,
Give me Jesus,
You can have all this world
But give me Jesus.*

2. And when I am alone,
Oh when I am alone,
And when I am alone,
Give me Jesus.

3. And when I come to die,
Oh when I come to die,
And when I come to die,
Give me Jesus.

"For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?" – Mark 8:36
Traditional African-American Spiritual

IN CHRIST ALONE

1. In Christ - lone, my hope is found, He is my light my strength_ my song. This Cor - ner
 2. In Christ - lone, who took on flesh, full - nes of God in help - less Babe. This gift of
 3. There in the ground, His bo - dy lay, Light of the world by dark - ness slain. Then, burs - ting
 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ, in me. From life's first

stone, this so - lid ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and storm. What heights of
 love, and right - eous ness, scorned by the ones He came to save. 'Til on that
 forth, in glor - ious day, up from the grave He rose a - gain. And as He
 cry, to fin - al breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of

love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when stri - vings cease; my Com - fort
 cross, as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is - fied. For ev' - ry
 stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost, its grip on me. For I am
 hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His hand; 'til He re -

er my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.
 sin on Him was laid, here in the death of Christ I live.
 His and He is mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
 turns, or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

"I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord." – Philippians 3:8
 Keith Getty, Stuart Townend © 2002 Kingsway Thankyou Music Used by permission. CCLI #: 708363

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures
here below Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise
Father Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*"Let everything that has breath praise the LORD."
– Psalm 150:6*

*Text: Thomas Ken (1709)
Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH
(Bourgeois, 1551)*

What does "doxology" mean?

It's derived from two Greek words meaning "glory" and "word." A doxology, then, is a spoken word or song that ascribes glory to God. Today's doxology calls all of creation to praise God as the source of all blessing and acknowledges His Trinitarian (three-in-one) nature.

BENEDICTION

The Last Word

God always has the last word in our worship. For those who are in Christ Jesus, these are always words of blessing.

After the service, the Elders are available at the front of the sanctuary to pray with you or for you, and to answer questions about the sermon or West End Presbyterian Church.

Pastor Steve Shelby preached today's sermon. Pastor Kevin Greene led worship. Music was led by Kevin Shaffer, along with Lori Bowman, Becca Wethered, Tyler Pease, Jamison Taggart, and Gordon Collier.