God the Father Calls Us to Worship Him

The First Sunday after the Epiphany

In the Christian year, we are now in the season of Epiphany. Epiphany is a time that helps us to remember Jesus as the long awaited Hebrew Messiah and His mission to the nations. Epiphany has a particular focus on Jesus as the Light of the World and "God with us," and the Church's role in proclaiming that Jesus is Lord.

Preparation for Worship

Poured Out with Family

"The church is the family, the household, of God. In our postmodern culture, with its tremendous sense of homelessness, both socially and cosmically, I can think of no more powerful attraction than to find one's home in the family of God." —Bill Kynes

"Never, I believe, was there one child of God who reached paradise without a cross. Suffering is the diet of the Lord's family.... Let us try to settle this down into our hearts also. The sons of God have all to bear a cross. A suffering Savior generally has suffering disciples." —J.C. Ryle

Call to Worship

Deuteronomy 6:4-6

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts.

Invocation

Song of Adoration

Psalm 121 (I Lift My Eyes Up)

I lift my eyes up to the mountains Where does my help come from My help comes from You maker of heaven Creator of the earth

Oh how I need You Lord You are my only hope You're my only prayer So I will wait for You To come and rescue me Come and give me life

""I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth." Psalm 121:1-2
Brian Doerksen ©1990 Mercy / Vineyard Publishing CCLI # 708363.
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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 68:4-6, 19

Sing to God, sing praises to His name; lift up a song to Him who rides through the deserts;

His name is the LORD; exult before Him!

Father of the fatherless and Protector of widows is God in His holy habitation.

God settles the solitary in a home; He leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.

Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up; God is our salvation.

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

Your Labor Is Not In Vain

Your labor is not in vain Though the ground underneath you is cursed and stained Your planting and reaping are never the same

But your labor is not in vain

Your labor is not unknown
Though the rocks they cry out and the sea it may groan.
The place of your toil may not seem like a home
But your labor is not unknown...

For I am with you, I am with you I am with you, I am with you For I have called you, Called you by name Your labor is not in vain

The vineyards you plant will bear fruit
The fields will sing out and rejoice with the truth
For all that is old will at last be made new
The vineyards you plant will bear fruit...

The houses you labored to build Will finally with laughter and joy be filled The serpent that hurts and destroys shall be killed And all that is broken be healed...

"Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain." I Corinthians 15:58 ©2017 Porter's Gate Publishing (BMI), Hymns From the Porter's Gate (ASCAP), and Porter's Gate Publications (SESAC). CCLI License # 708363. Used by permission.

Backyard Children's Worship

Children's Worship will resume on 1/24/21.

God the Son Renews Us through His Word

Scripture Reading

Philippians 2:17-24

¹⁷ Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸ Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me. ¹⁹ I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you. ²⁰ For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. ²¹ For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. ²² But you know Timothy's proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel. ²³ I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me, ²⁴ and I trust in the Lord that shortly I myself will come also.

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

from the Book of Common Prayer

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone what we ought to have done, and we have done what we ought not to have done, and there is no health in us. Yet, good Lord, have mercy on us: restore those who repent, according to Your promises declared to us in Jesus Christ our Lord. And grant, merciful Father, for His sake, that we may live a godly, righteous, and obedient life, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

Words of Encouragement

1 John 3:1

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

Songs of Response to God's Grace

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

We will feast in the house of Zion We will sing with our hearts restored He has done great things we will say together We will feast and weep no more

We will not be burned by the fire He is the Lord our God We are not consumed by the flood Upheld protected gathered up...

In the dark of night before the dawn My soul be not afraid For the promised morning oh how long Oh God of Jacob be my strength...

Every vow we've broken and betrayed You are the faithful one And from the garden to the grave Bind us together bring shalom...

"For a people shall dwell in Zion, in Jerusalem; you shall weep no more." – Isaiah 30:19

Text/Tune: Sandra McCracken and Joshua Moore © 2015 Drink Your Tea (ASCAP), CCLI #708363. Used by permission.

On Jordan's Stormy Banks

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand And cast a wishful eye To Canaan's fair and happy land Where my possessions lie

All o'er those wide extended plains Shines one eternal day There God the Son forever reigns And scatters night away...

I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound for promised land,
I am bound (I am bound) I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound for promised land

No chilling winds Nor pois'nous breath Can reach that healthful shore Sickness and sorrow Pain and death Are felt and feared no more...

When shall I reach
That happy place
And be forever blest
When shall I see
My Father's face
And in His bosom rest...

"Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Luke 12:33-34

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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 100th", 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. Elder Chris Newlin, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, Erin Bouknight, Pastor Kevin Greene, and Troy Arnold led this morning's congregational singing. Elder Gordon Kuhfuss, Deacon Luke Shrader, Elder Mike Perzanowski, and Deacon Chris Scoggins managed today's audio and video live stream. Scott Dicken 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

In the event that an attender of a worship service tests positive for COVID-19, WEPC will contact the Virginia Department of Health and follow the advised protocols for notifying attenders who may have been exposed to the virus.

Announcements (listed alphabetically)

Adult Ministry www.wepc.org/grow/adults

Begins January 20: Ecclesiastes Livestreamed Panel Discussion and Bible Study

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

Backyard Children's Worship will resume on January 24.

Food Pantry needs www.wepc.org/foodpantry

Simple English Christian Service www.wepc.org/simpleenglish January 10, 12PM, Chapel

Tutoring Ministry volunteers needed www.wepc.org/tutoring

One-on-one tutoring help with virtual learning

Wednesday Night Fellowship

www.wepc.org/wednesdaynightfellowship

TRUE: A study of the New Testament letter to Titus Begins January 13, 6PM, Chapel *RSVP Required*

WEPC Community Preschool www.wepc.org/preschool

Wrap Around Foster Care www.wepc.org/fostercare

1/10/21: Speaker (10:30 AM) & monthly meeting (11:30 AM)

Youth Ministry www.wepc.org/grow/youth

Youth Group will resume on January 17.