

Pastor's Note

Dear Ones,

In the Gospel of Luke chapter one, the disciples asked Jesus to teach them how to pray. In reply, Jesus told them "When you pray, say: "Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come." (Luke 1:2)

In today's parable, we meet a widow who teaches us how we could pray for the Kingdom to come, as we live and work in this broken world, without losing heart.

In Christ, Changjwok Deng

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

9008 Quioccasin Road, Richmond, VA 23229 (804) 741.6562 | mail@wepc.org website: wepc.org

PCA | pcanet.org

Preparation for Worship & Communion

PERSISTENCE

"God loves importunate prayer so much that He will not give us much blessing without it. And the reason He loves such prayer is that He loves us, and knows that it is a necessary preparation for our receiving the richest blessing He is waiting and longing to bestow."

-Adoniram Iudson

"Because we are so weak in ourselves that we cannot stand even for a moment, and moreover, our sworn enemies—the devil, the world, and our own flesh—do not cease to attack us. Will You, therefore, keep and strengthen us by the power of Your Holy Spirit, so that we may firmly resist them and not go down to defeat in this spiritual war, but remain persistent until we finally obtain the complete victory and reign together with Your Son, our Lord and Protector, Jesus Christ, in Your kingdom forevermore."

-Prayer of Zacharias Ursinus

Ordinary Time

The Christian year, anchored in the main events of the New Testament, provides a pattern for understanding the Christian life. 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 glory as King of all.

Call to Worship

I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten You. Ask of me, and I will make the nations Your heritage, and the ends of the earth Your possession."

Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way, for His wrath is quickly kindled.

Blessed are all who take refuge in Him.

Psalm 2:7-8,11-12

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.

Songs of Adoration

BETTER IS ONE DAY

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

Text/Tune: Matt Redman © 1995 Thankyou Music Used by permission. CCLI #708363 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.

Welcome

Visitors, we are glad you are here. Following the service, please join Changjwok Deng for coffee in the Gallery.

OLD Testament Reading

Jeremiah 9:23-24

Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD."

Ministry of Prayer

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

LORD, I NEED YOU

Lord, I come, I confess, Bowing here I find my rest. Without You I fall apart, You're the One that guides my heart.

> Lord, I need You, Oh, I need You Every hour I need You! My one defense, my righteousness Oh God, how I need You!

Where sin runs deep your grace is more, Where grace is found is where You are, And where You are, Lord, I am free: Holiness is Christ in me.

Teach my song to rise to You, When temptation comes my way. When I cannot stand, I'll fall on you— Jesus, You're my hope and stay. "Hear, O Lord, and answer me, for I am poor and needy." – Psalm 86:1

Text/Tune: Christy Nockels, Daniel Carson, Jesse Reeves, Kristian Stanfill, Matt Maher © 2011 sixsteps Music Used by permission. CCLI #:706383

*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

Luke 18:1-8

¹ And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. ² He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. ³ And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' ⁴ For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.'" ⁶ And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. ⁷ And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? ⁸ I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper He took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

I Corinthians 11:23-26

Prayer of Confession

Hear our words and our groanings, O Lord. Give attention to our cry for mercy. You are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with You. The boastful shall not stand before Your eyes; You hate all evildoers. You destroy those who speak lies; You abhor the bloodthirsty and deceitful. Forgive us, good Lord. We have sinned against You and our neighbor. We have sought to justify ourselves before You. We have attempted to atone for our own sins and punish the sins of others. And so, we have boasted in sin and self. By Your mercy alone, by the abundance of Your steadfast love may we enter Your house. Because of Your Son, O Lord, let us find refuge in You. Take away our sins and let us ever sing for joy. Cover us with Your favor as with a shield. For the sake of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silent Confession

Based on Psalm 5, a Psalm of David

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

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. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Ephesians 2:4-5, 8-9

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 heartidols, 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.

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT TRANSFORMS US BY HIS GRACE

Songs of Response to God's Grace

COME BOLDLY TO THE THRONE OF GRACE

- 1. Come boldly to the throne of grace, Ye wretched sinners come; And lay your load at Jesus' feet, And plead what he has done.
- 2. "How can I come?" Some soul may say, "I'm lame and cannot walk; My guilt and sin have stopped my mouth; I sigh, but dare not talk."
- 3. Come boldly to the throne of grace, Though lost, and blind, and lame; Jehovah is the sinner's Friend, And ever was the same.

- 4. He makes the dead to hear his voice; He makes the blind to see; The sinner lost he came to save, And set the prisoner free.
- 5. Poor bankrupt souls, who feel and know The hell of sin within, Come boldly to the throne of grace; The Lord will take you in.

"Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace" – Hebrews 4:14-16 from the Gadsby Hymnal # 675 Text: D. Herbert (1838) Music: Brian T. Murphy, Clint Wells © 2005 Red Mountain Music. Used by permission. CCLI #: 708363

ROCK OF AGES (WHEN THE DAY SEEMS LONG)

1. 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.

2. Rock of Ages, when in want or rest, My desperate need for such a Savior I confess. Pull these idols out from my heart 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.

3. 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. "Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock." – Isaiah 26:4

Text Sandra McCracken
Tune: Kevin Twit
© 2005 Same Old Dress Music
and Kevin Twit Music.
Used by permission.
CCLI #: 706383

ALL MUST BE WELL

Text: Mary Bowley-Peters (1813-1856) Tune: Matthew Smith © 2007 Detuned Radio Music (ASCAP) Used by permission. CCLI #: 708363

"We know that for those who love God all things work together for good. — Romans 8:28 1. Through the love of God our Savior, all will be well; Free and changeless is His favor, all is well; Precious is the blood that healed us, Perfect is the grace that sealed us, Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us, All must be well.

- 2. Though we pass through tribulation, all will be well; Ours is such a full salvation, all is well; Happy still in God confiding, Fruitful if in Christ abiding, Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding, All must be well.
- 3. We expect a bright tomorrow, all will be well; Faith can sing through days of sorrow, all is well; On our Father's love relying, Jesus every need supplying, Yes, in living or in dying, All must be well.

Doxology



"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 a word 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.

Changjwok Deng, WEPC Elder and Neighborhood Outreach Director, preached today's sermon. Pastor Kevin Greene led worship and administered the Lord's Supper.

Music was led by **Tim Toy**, along with Erin Bouknight, Buddy Miner, Tiffanie Chan, Donald Smith, and Troy Arnold.