



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.

First Sunday after Christmas Day, December 30, 2018

I Samuel 2:18-20, 26
Samuel Grew in Favor

Psalms 148
God's Splendor Over All the Earth

Colossians 3:12-17
Clothe Yourselves in Love

Luke 2:41-52
Jesus Increased in Favor

Reflection on SUN, December 30

Monday

Psalm 147:12-20
Let Your Face Shine

I Kings 3:5-14
God Grants Discernment

John 8:12-19
I am the Light of the World

Tuesday

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13
To Everything a Season

Psalms 8
Exalted is Your Name

Revelation 21:1-6a
New Heavens & New Earth

Matthew 25:31-46
Sheep and Goats

Wednesday

Psalm 147:12-20
Praise the Lord

Proverbs 1:1-7
Grow in Wisdom

James 3:13-18
Wisdom from Above

Preparation for SUN, January 6

Thursday

Job 42:10-17
The Family of Job

Luke 8:16-21
The Family of Jesus

Friday

Isaiah 6:1-5
Holy

Acts 7:44-53
*What kind of house
will you build for me?*

Saturday

Jeremiah 31:7-14
I Will Lead Them Back

John 1:10-18
God With Us

Daily

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
All Shall Bow

PASTOR'S NOTE

Dear Ones,

It should be remarkable (and a bit mysterious) that the Son of God was once a baby, a toddler, a boy, a teenager, and of course, a young man.

He assumed a fully human nature so that we, regardless of stage of life, would know that we have been redeemed.

He loves and redeems us at every turn of the calendar.

Warmly,
Steve

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

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PCA | pcanet.org

First Sunday after Christmas

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 of Advent, a time that helps us to remember Christ's first coming and reflect on the mystery of the Incarnation. It also teaches us to look eagerly for His second coming when He will come to redeem His creation and exercise His rule with all power and authority.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP & Communion

IN THE TEMPLE

"We want something else which can hardly be put into words - to be united with the beauty that we see, to pass into it, to become part of it.... At present we are on the outside of the world, the wrong side of the door. We discern the freshness and purity of the morning, but they do not make us fresh and pure. We cannot mingle with the splendors that we see. But all the leaves of the New Testament are rustling with the rumor that it will not always be so. Some day, God willing, we shall get in."

—C. S. Lewis

CALL TO WORSHIP

Colossians 3:15-17

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.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
to which indeed you were called in one body.
And be thankful.

**Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,
teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom,
singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,
with thankfulness in your hearts to God.**

And whatever you do, in word or deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

INVOCATION

SONG OF ADORATION

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

Chorus



Go, tell it on the moun - tain o - ver the hills and ev - ery-where;



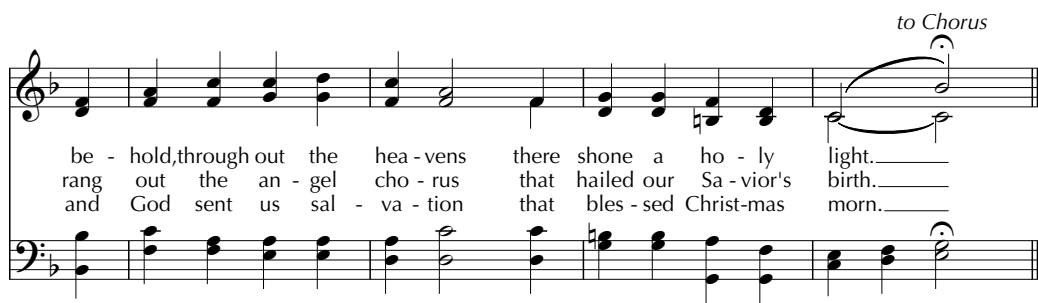
Go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born.

Verse



1 While shep - herds kept their watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep - herds feared and trem - bled when, lo! a - bove the earth
3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,

to Chorus



be - hold, through out the hea - vens there shone a ho - ly light. _____
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sa - vior's birth. _____
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bles - sed Christ - mas morn. _____

"They spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child." – Luke 2:17
African-American Spiritual

Welcome

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

PRESENTATION OF New Member

This morning's membership vows were administered by Pastor Kevin Greene.

10:30 AM
Libby Campbell

OLD TESTAMENT READING

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy clothed with a linen ephod. And his mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the Lord give you children by this woman for the petition she asked of the Lord." So then they would return to their home.

Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the Lord and also with man.

MINISTRY OF PRAYER Psalm 148

Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!

**Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his hosts!**

Praise him, sun and moon,
praise him, all you shining stars!

**Praise him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!**

Let them praise the name of the LORD!
For he commanded and they were created.

**And he established them forever and ever;
he gave a decree, and it shall not pass
away.**

Praise the LORD from the earth,
you great sea creatures and all deeps,
fire and hail, snow and mist,
stormy wind fulfilling his word!

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

- For West End Presbyterian Church, that God's Holy Spirit would give us power to relish God's favor and grow in charity.
- For the households and families of Metropolitan Richmond: For peace, reconciliation, forgiveness, and accord among family members.
- For the United Kingdom, for British South Asians, and for Matt & Jenn Irvine serving with Serge in greater London.

**Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!**

Beasts and all livestock,
creeping things and flying birds!

**Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!**

Young men and maidens together,
old men and children!

**Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is exalted;
his majesty is above earth and heaven.**

He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his saints,
for the people of Israel who are near to him.

Praise the Lord!

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

JOY TO THE WORLD

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re - ceive her
 2 Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns; let all their songs em -
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in - fest the
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions

King, Let ev - ery heart pre - pare him
 ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 prove the glo - ries of his right - eous -

room, and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heaven and na - ture sing,
 and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.
 heaven and na - ture sing,

"Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth." – Psalm 98:4

Text: Isaac Watts (1719) Tune: ANTIOCH, attr. Handel (1742), arr. Lowell Mason (1846)

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.16 for more information.

GOD THE SON RENEWS US THROUGH HIS WORD & SACRAMENT

SCRIPTURE Reading

⁴¹ Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³ And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴ but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵ and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." ⁴⁹ And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹ And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

Luke 2:41-52

⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

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

*1 Timothy 3:9;
1 Corinthians 5:7-8,
10:16-17, 15:3-4
from the
Book of Common Prayer*

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

John Wesley (1703-1791)

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.

**Forgive them all, O Lord;
Our sins of omission and our sins of commission;
The sins of our youth and the sins of our riper years;
The sins of our souls and the sins of our bodies;
Our secret and our more open sins;
Our sins of ignorance and surprise,
And our more deliberate and presumptuous sin;
The sins we have done to please ourselves,
And the sins we have done to please others;
The sins we know and remember,
And the sins we have forgotten;
The sins we have striven to hide from others
And the sins by which we have made others offend You;**

**Forgive them, O Lord, forgive them all for His sake,
Who died for our sins and rose for our justification,
And now stands at Thy right hand
To make intercession for us,
Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Silent Confession

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

John 1:29

“Behold, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world!”

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

First Communion (10:30 AM)

Libby Campbell

Libby recently met with the Elders, who heard her testimony of faith in Jesus Christ. We invite the Campbell family to receive communion first.

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

HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US

"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." – Ephesians 2:4-5

Stuart Townend
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1. How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss.
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

2. Behold the Man upon the cross,
My sin upon His shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life.
I know that it is finished.

3. I will not boast in anything:
No gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ:
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom.

WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

1 What Child is this who, laid to rest On Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing?
 2 Why lies He in such mean es - tate, Where ox and ass are feed - ing?
 3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, Come pea - sant, king to own Him;

Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, While shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 Good Chris - tian, fear, for sin - ners here The si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings, Let lo - ving hearts en - throne Him.

This, this is Christ the King, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 Nails, spear shall pierce Him through; the cross be borne for me, for you.
 Raise, raise the song on high. The vir - gin sings her lull - a - by.

Haste, haste, to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Ma - ry!
 Hail, hail, the Word made flesh,
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born,

"They spread the word concerning what had been told them about this Child." – Luke 2:17

Text: Placide Cappeau (1847), trans. John S. Dwight Music: Adolphe Adam

HARK, THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing; — "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored; — Christ the ev - er - last - ing Lord!
 Hail the heav'n born Prince of peace! — Hail the Sun - of right eous - ness!

peace on earth and mer - cy mild, — God and sin - ners rec - on ciled!"
 Late in time be - hold him come, — off - spring of the vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, — ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, — join the tri - umph of the skies; —
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; — hail th'in - car - nate de - i - ty, —
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, — born that man no more may die, —

with th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is — born in Beth - le - hem!"
 pleased as man with men to dwell. Je - sus — our, Em - man - u - el.
 born to raise the sons of earth, born to — give them sec - ond birth.

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry — to the new - born King!"

"Glory to God in the highest." — Luke 2:14

Text: Charles Wesley (1739) Tune: Felix Mendelssohn (1840)

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 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.

Pastor Steve Shelby preached today's sermon.

Pastor Kevin Greene led worship.

Music was led by Worship Arts Directors Taylor Barnett & Tiffanie Chan, along with Robin Huff, Sonya Smith, Diane Spoor, Courtney Spoor, Andrew Bogle, Doug Wells, and Tyler Pease.