



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.

February 17, 2019 | Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Shrubs & Trees

Psalms 1

Fruit & Chaff

I Corinthians 15:12-20

Death & Firstfruits

Luke 6:17-26

Blessings & Woes

Reflection on SUN, February 17

Monday

II Kings 24:18-25:21

Jerusalem & Judah's Woe

I Corinthians 15:20-34

Woe to Unbelievers

Tuesday

Ezra 1:1-11

Blessing Returns to Jerusalem

II Corinthians 1:12-19

The Day of the Lord Jesus

Wednesday

Jeremiah 22:11-17

Woe to the Unjust

Luke 11:37-52

Woe to You

Daily

Psalms 120

Woe To Me

Preparation for SUN, February 24

Thursday

Genesis 43:16-34

Joseph has Compassion on Benjamin

Romans 8:1-11

The Spirit Dwells in You

Friday

Genesis 44:1-17

God has Found Out the Guilt of Your Servants

I John 2:12-17

Do Not Love the World

Saturday

Genesis 44:18-34

Judah Offers Himself

Luke 12:57-59

Settle With You Accuser

Daily

Psalms 37:1-11, 39-40

Those Who Wait for the LORD Shall Inherit the Land

PASTOR'S NOTE

Dear Ones,

After the 23rd Psalm, Psalm 1 was the next passage of the Bible I memorized when I was a kid. It was important to my parents that I was clear on what the pathway to blessedness depends.

There really are only two ways to live: oriented toward the God who loves you, or independent self-autonomy.

We see this most clearly in the life and work of Jesus Christ. No one has ever loved the word of God more than The Word. No one has ever prospered more spiritually than Jesus. The Lord tells us and demonstrates to us what a good life is.

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

Sixth 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.

LIKE A TREE

"There is no mechanical solution to true spirituality or the true Christian life. Anything that has the mark of the mechanical is a mistake. It is not possible to say, 'Read so many of the chapters of the Bible every day, and you will have this much sanctification.' It is not possible to say, 'Pray so long every day, and you will have a certain amount of sanctification.'...This is a purely mechanical solution, and it denies the whole Christian position. For the fact is that the Christian life, true spirituality, can never have a mechanical solution. The real solution is being cast up into the moment-by-moment communion, personal communion with God Himself, and letting Christ's truth flow through me through the agency of the Holy Spirit."

– Francis Schaeffer

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 100:2-4

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.

Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into His presence with singing!

Know that the Lord, He is God!

It is He who made us, and we are His;

We are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.

**Enter His gates with thanksgiving,
and His courts with praise!**

Give thanks to Him; bless His name!

INVOCATION

SONG OF ADORATION

REJOICE, THE LORD IS KING

1. Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore;
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing,
and triumph evermore,
and triumph evermore.

*Lift up your heart!
Lift up your voice;
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

2. His Kingdom cannot fail
He rules o'er earth and Heav'n,
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus giv'n
Are to our Jesus giv'n.

3. Rejoice in glorious hope!
Our Lord, the King shall come,
And take His servants up
To their eternal home;
To their eternal home.

*"Rejoice in the Lord always."
– Philippians 4:4*

Text: Charles Wesley (1744)

Tune: Alex Mejias ©2009

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CCLI # 708363

Welcome

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

PRESENTATION OF New MEMBERS (10:30 AM)

Steve & Connie Archibald
Rick & Pam Hepner

Pastor Kevin Greene administered this morning's membership vows and baptisms.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (10:30 AM)

Everett Charles Bruster
Pam Hepner
Meredith James Miller
Sadie Marie Milligan

GOSPEL READING

Luke 6:17-26

And he came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all.

And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

“Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

“Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

“Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.

“Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

“Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

Thus says the LORD:

“Cursed is the man who trusts in man
and makes flesh his strength,
whose heart turns away from the LORD.

**He is like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see any good come.
He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.**

“Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.

**He is like a tree planted by water,
that sends out its roots by the stream,
and does not fear when heat comes,
for its leaves remain green,
and is not anxious in the year of drought,
for it does not cease to bear fruit.”**

The heart is deceitful above all things,
and desperately sick;
who can understand it?

**“I the LORD search the heart
and test the mind
to give every man according to his ways,
according to the fruit of his deeds.”**

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

- For West End Presbyterian Church: That the Lord would grant us power to trust Him, and that faith would bear the Spirit’s fruit.
- For Metropolitan Richmond: That God’s Kingdom would come on earth as it is in heaven. For heathy economic development that is a blessing to the common welfare of Metro Richmond. For all businesses, employers, and employees. For the unemployed.
- For the over 1.2 million international students who study at colleges and universities in the United States. For the ministry of CRU Bridges and Lauren Davis serving at Columbia University and Joshua Earman serving at VCU; and for the ministry of International Students, Inc, and Patrick and ChristyLynne Flynn serving at UVA.

Jeremiah 17:5-10

OFFERING

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).

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.

SONG OF PRAISE

STREAMS OF LIVING WATER

*“Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. For the Lamb... will lead them to springs of living water.”
– Revelation 7:16-18*

*Text: Thomas Kelly
Tune: Jeff Koonce
& Brian T. Murphy*

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1. See, from Zion's sacred mountain,
Streams of Living Water flow.
God has opened there a Fountain
That supplies the plains below.
*They are blessed, they are blessed
Who Its sovereign virtues know.*

2. Through ten thousand channels flowing,
Streams of mercy find their way.
Life and health and joy bestowing,
Making all around unstained.
*O believer, O believer,
All your sins are washed away.*

3. Gladdened by the flowing Treasure
All enriching as it goes.
Lo, the desert smiles with pleasure,
Buds and blossoms as the rose.
*Every sinner, every sinner
Sings for joy where'er it flows.*

4. Trees of life the banks adorning,
Yield their fruit to all around.
Those who eat are saved from mourning,
Pleasure comes and hopes abound.
*Fair their portion, fair their portion
Endless life with glory crowned.*

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

¹ Blessed is the man
who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
² but his delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law he meditates day and night.

Psalm 1

³ He is like a tree
planted by streams of water
that yields its fruit in its season,
and its leaf does not wither.

In all that he does, he prospers.

⁴ The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

⁶ for the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

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

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.

O Lord, Your Law is holy and Your blessings are abundant, but we receive them with ingratitude and neglect them both. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.

Jesus, You alone are our Hope. You are rich, yet You became poor for our sakes. You are Lord, yet You were meek among us. You deserve all honor, yet You grant us all mercy. You are without sin, yet You bore God's wrath for our rebellion. We can only trust Your intercession for our forgiveness and Your merit for our righteousness.

In Your name, we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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.

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT TRANSFORMS US BY HIS GRACE

SONGS OF RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

NONE OTHER LAMB

1. None other Lamb, none other name,
None other hope in heaven or sea,
No hiding place from guilt and shame,
None beside Thee, none beside Thee!

*All who labor and are heavy laden
Come unto Me and I will give you rest.*

2. My faith burns low, my hope burns low;
Only my heart's desire cries out in me
By the deep thunder of its want and woe,
Cries out to Thee, cries out to Thee.

3. Lord, Thou art Life, though I be dead;
Love's fire Thou art, however cold I be:
No heav'n have I, no place for my head,
No home but Thee, no home but Thee!

"Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you." – Psalm 73:25

Text: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894) Tune: Alex Mejias, Ross Byrd (2009)

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JESUS, I AM RESTING, RESTING

1. Jesus, I am resting, resting,
In the joy of what Thou art;
I am finding out the greatness
Of Thy loving heart.
Thou hast bid me gaze upon Thee,
And Thy beauty fills my soul,
For by Thy transforming power,
Thou hast made me whole.

*Jesus, I am resting, resting,
In the joy of what Thou art;
I am finding out the greatness
Of Thy loving heart.*

2. O, how great Thy loving kindness,
Vaster, broader than the sea!
O, how marvelous Thy goodness,
Lavished all on me!
Yes, I rest in Thee, Beloved,
Know what wealth of grace is Thine,
Know Thy certainty of promise,
And have made it mine.

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith." – Hebrews 12:2

Text: Jean S. Pigott (1876) Music: David B. Hampton ©1998 New Spring Publishing, Inc. Used by permission. CCLI # 708363

ARISE, MY SOUL, ARISE

1. Arise, my soul, arise, shake off your guilty fears;
Thy bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears.
Before the throne my Surety stands,
Before the throne my Surety stands;
My name is written on His hands.

*Arise! Arise! Arise!
Arise, my soul arise!
Shake off your guilty fears and rise!*

2. He ever lives above for me to intercede,
His all-redeeming love, His precious blood to plead.
His blood atoned for ev'ry race,
His blood atoned for ev'ry race,
And sprinkles now the throne of grace.

Therefore He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him." – Hebrews 7:25

Text: Charles Wesley (1742) Tune: Kevin Twit ©1996 Kevin Twit Music. Used by permission. CCLI # 708363

3. Simply trusting Thee, Lord Jesus,
I behold Thee as Thou art,
And Thy love, so pure, so changeless,
Satisfies my heart;
Satisfies its deepest longings,
Meets, supplies its every need,
Compasseth me round with blessings:
Thine is love indeed!

4. Ever lift Thy face upon me
As I work and wait for Thee;
Resting 'neath Thy smile, Lord Jesus,
Earth's dark shadows flee.
Brightness of my Father's glory,
Sunshine of my Father's face,
Keep me ever trusting, resting,
Fill me with Thy grace.

3. Five bleeding wounds He bears,
received on Calvary.
They pour effectual prayers,
they strongly plead for me.
"Forgive Him, oh, forgive," they cry.
"Forgive Him, oh, forgive," they cry.
"Nor let that ransomed sinner die."

4. My God is reconciled,
His pard'ning voice I hear.
He owns me for His child;
I can no longer fear.
With confidence I now draw nigh,
With confidence I now draw nigh,
And, "Father, Abba, Father," cry.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all bles - sings flow; Praise Him, all crea - tures
here be - low Praise Him a - bove ye heavn - ly host; Praise
Fa - ther Son and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

*"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 Trey Wickham, along with Jen Wickham, Jill Wiebe-King, Randall Ingram, Katie Jensen, Rick Hepner, Pat Reynolds, and Jason Weippert.