

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.

March 10, 2019 | First Sunday in Lent

Deuteronomy 26:1-11 The LORD Brought Us Out

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 *I Will*

Romans 10:8b-13 Everyone Who Calls on the LORD

Luke 4:1-13 Forty Days, Tempted by the Devil

Reflection on SUN, March 10

Monday

I Chronicles 21:1-17 David Tempted

I John 2:1-6 An Advocate

Tuesday

Zechariah 3:1-10 Joshua Tempted

II Peter 2:4-21 The Lord Knows How to Rescue

Wednesday

Job 1:1-22 Job Tempted

Luke 21:34-22:6 Satan Entered Into Judas

Daily

Psalm 17 Deliver My Soul

Preparation for SUN, March 17

Thursday

Genesis 13:1-7, 14-18 Arise, Walk

Philippians 3:2-12 I Press On

Friday

Genesis 14:17-24 Abram Blessed

Philippians 3:17-20 *Citizenship in Heaven*

Saturday

Psalm 118:26-29 Blessed is He

Matthew 23:37-39 How Often Would I Have Gathered

Daily

Psalm 27 That I May Dwell

Pastor's Note

Dear Ones,

Few of us are able to resist temptation for very long. Jesus resisted an onslaught from the devil himself for 40 days. It was a battle for the ages. Literally for you and me, not just for Jesus himself.

Jesus' triumph over temptation and the Tempter was just one more act in a divine love story. Out of love for his Father and for us, he fought. He continues that conflict even today for your soul and your affections.

Warmly, Steve

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

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GOD THE FATHER CALLS US TO WORSHIP HIM

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP & COMMUNION

TEMPTED

First Sunday in Lent

In the Christian year, we are now in the season of Lent. Lent is a time to ask God to help us confront our own mortality and sinfulness, to ask Him to show us our need for grace, to grow in repentance, and to reflect on the amazing truth of the Church's participation in the death and resurrection of lesus Christ. The season of Lent-the period between Ash Wednesday and the Saturday before Easter-lasts 40 days (not including Sundays), reminiscent of the 40 days Jesus fasted in the wilderness. "It is written." (Luke 4:4,8,10) Teach me, O Lord, to fight like Thee; With weapons from Thine armory My foe I then shall quell, Skillful to use Thy two-edged sword, Victorious through Thy written Word O'er all the powers of hell.

– John Wesley

"As men and women after God's own heart, we are called to walk the path Jesus walked. Jesus, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering, never once dealt with reality by turning to dark cynicism, blasé acceptance, angry strength, and empty hope. The route to Golgotha was strewn with temptations to sidestep death, yet Jesus learned obedience through suffering. Jesus' choice to embrace life to the point of death resulted in the healing of the greatest wound of our hearts: separation from God. As His followers, we are on the same path." – Dan Allender

Call to Worship

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in Him will not be put to shame."

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing His riches on all who call on Him.

For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Invocation

Romans 10:9-13

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.

Song of Adoration

A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD



"The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress."– Psalm 46:7 Text: based on Psalm 46, by Martin Luther (1529), transl. Frederick Hedge (1853) Tune: EIN'FESTE BURG (Luther, 1529)

Welcome

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

OLD TESTAMENT ReaDING Deuteronomy 26:8-13

The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O LORD, have given me. And you shall set it down before the LORD your God and worship before the LORD your God. And you shall rejoice in all the good that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the sojourner who is among you.

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place the Most High, who is my refuge no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent.

For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone. Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

"Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name.

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him.

With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation."

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

- For West End Presbyterian Church: For wisdom, faith, and strength in the midst of temptation. That God would give us grace to daily repent and believe the Good News.
- For Metropolitan Richmond: Pray for health care: for the sick and suffering and those who care for them. For doctors, nurses, hospice workers, medical personnel, clinics, home healthcare workers, and all who minister to the health of others.

• For WEPC Mission Partner, CrossOver Ministry, as they provide high quality healthcare for people in need in the name of Jesus Christ.

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

WE LONG TO MOVE AND BREATHE

1. We long to move and breathe in Thee, inspired by Thine own breath, To live Thy life, O Lord, and be baptized into Thy death.

> Above we shall Thy glory share, As we the Cross have borne; And we shall crowns of honor wear, When we the thorns have worn.

2. Thy death to sin we dieBelow, but we shall rise in love;We here are planted inThy woe, but we shall bloom above.

3. Thy crown of thorns is all Our boast, while now we fall before The Father, Spirit, Son And tremble, love, adore. To live Thy life, O Lord "Baptized into His death" - Romans 6:3

Text: Anonymous, late18th c.; Tune: Robert Waits (2018)

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

¹And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness ² for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. ³The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." ⁴ And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.'" ⁵ And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, ⁶ and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸ And Jesus answered him, "It is written,

> "'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.'"

⁹ And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written,

"'He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,'

11 and

"'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'"

¹² And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³ And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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

On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus. They did as He had directed them, and prepared the Passover.

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body."

And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we are guilty of rejecting Your commands, of doubting Your promises, of proud self-reliance, of neglect to rest in You. Daily we fail to love You and our neighbor as we ought. Praise You for providing the Savior in Jesus, who takes our sin and gives us His righteousness! Lord, continue the work of salvation in us: Conquer our weakness with Your strength, blot out our self-centeredness with Your glory. Meet us in our suffering and disappointments, refine us as You see fit. Keep us from returning to sin's bondage, brighten our hearts with Your grace. Redirect our desires so that we delight deeply in You. *Amen*.

Silent Confession

from Matthew 26:17-29

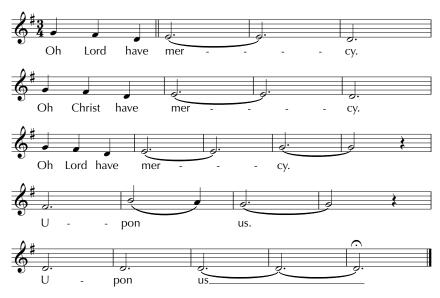
Confession & Encouragement

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.

LORD, Have Mercy

"God, have mercy on me, a sinner" – Luke 18:13

Ancient Greek hymn, 4th c. Tune: Kevin W. Greene (2019)



WORDS OF Encouragement

Hebrews 4:15-16

We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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

MINDFUL

Since I am so weak, since I am in need, Since I have no healing within me, O, my God, be mindful of me, You are my Help and my Redeemer; O, my God, be mindful of me, You are my Help and my Redeemer.

Unto You, O Lord, I lift up my soul, In Your loving-kindness I believe. Surely those who wait on You will never be ashamed All of those who call on You will know the faithfulness of Your name.

Surely those who wait on You will never be ashamed All of those who call on You will know the faithfulness of Your name. "What is man that You are mindful of him, the son of man that You care for him?" – Psalm 8:4-5

Since I Am So Sick Don Chaffer ©1999 Hey Ruth Music Used by permission. CCLI #: 708363

APPROACH, MY SOUL, THE MERCY SEAT

1. Approach, my soul, the Mercy seat, Where Jesus answers prayer; There humbly fall before His feet, For none can perish there.

For none can perish there, For none can perish there; There humbly fall before His feet, For none can perish there.

2. Thy promise is my only plea,
With this I venture nigh;
Thou callest burdened souls to Thee,
And such, O Lord, am I.
And such, O Lord, am I;
Thou callest burdened souls to Thee,
And such, O Lord, am I.

3. Bowed down beneath a load of sin By Satan sorely pressed;
By wars without, and fears within
I come to Thee for rest.
I come to Thee for rest,
I come to Thee for rest;
'Mid wars without, and fears within 4. Be Thou my Shield and Hiding Place! That, sheltered near Thy side, I may my fierce accuser face, And tell him, "Thou hast died!" And tell him, "Thou hast died," And tell him, "Thou hast died;" I may my fierce accuser face, And tell him, "Thou hast died!"

5. O wondrous Love! to bleed and die,
To bear the Cross and shame;
That guilty sinners such as I,
Might plead Thy gracious name.
Might plead Thy gracious name;
Might plead Thy gracious name;
That guilty sinners such as I,
Might plead Thy gracious name.

"Since we have a great high priest...let us approach the throne of grace with confidence." – Hebrews 4:14,16

Text: John Newton (1779) Tune: ETERNAL FOUNTAIN (Mason, 1830)

JESUS, WHAT A FRIEND FOR SINNERS

1. Jesus! what a Friend for sinners! Jesus! Lover of my soul; Friends may fail me, foes assail me, He, my Savior, makes me whole.

I come to Thee for rest.

Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend! Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end.

2. Jesus! what a Strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in Him. Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, He, my Strength, my victory wins. 3. Jesus! what a Help in sorrow! While the billows over me roll, Even when my heart is breaking, He, my Comfort, helps my soul.

4. Jesus! what a Guide and Keeper! While the tempest still is high, Storms about me, night overtakes me, He, my Pilot, hears my cry.

5. Jesus! I do now receive Him, More than all in Him I find. He hath granted me forgiveness, I am His, and He is mine.

"A friend of tax collectors and sinners" – Luke 7:34 Text: J. Wilbur Chapman (1910) Tune: HYFRYDOL (Prichard, 1830)



"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.

WEPC Elder and Neighborhood Outreach Director Changwok Deng led worship. Music was led by Pastor Kevin Greene, along with Sonya Smith, Sarah Jurewicz, Rick McMahon, Taylor Barnett, Kim Forquer, Suzie Bird, Donald Smith, and Jonathan Melin.