

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.

March 31, 2019 | Fourth Sunday in Lent

Joshua 5:9-12

No Longer Manna, Fruit

Psalms 32

You Preserve Me

II Corinthians 5:16-21

Be Reconciled to God

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Lost & Found

Reflection on Sunday, March 31

Monday

Leviticus 23:26-41

Days of Atonement & Feasting

Revelation 19:1-8

Marriage Feast of the Lamb

Tuesday

Leviticus 25:1-19

Promised Rest & Jubilee

Revelation 19:9-10

Blessed Are Those

Wednesday

II Kings 4:1-7

You and Your Sons Can Live

Luke 9:10-17

They All Ate and Were Satisfied

Daily

Psalms 53

Oh, That Salvation Would Come

Preparation for Sunday, April 7

Thursday

Isaiah 43:1-7

I Am With You

Philippians 2:19-24

Paul Sends Timothy

Friday

Isaiah 43:8-15

Witnesses

Philippians 2:25-3:1

So Receive Him

Saturday

Exodus 12:21-27

It is the Sacrifice of the LORD's Passover

John 11:45-57

The Passover Plot

Daily

Psalms 126

Restore Our Fortunes, O LORD

PASTOR'S NOTE

Dear Ones,

Fleming Rutledge writes this:

The victory of God's domain is certain. The cross and resurrection marks the decisive turn in the cosmos. Repentance does not make this possible; God engenders the whole thing, including our repentance. There is a new creation. The fix we were in has been dramatically and decisively reversed.

We are now "the righteousness of God."

Warmly,
Steve

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

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PCA | pcanet.org

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP & Communion

THE GREAT EXCHANGE

Fourth 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 Jesus 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.

“When St. Paul says that God has given him the ministry of reconciliation, he means that he is a preacher of this peace. He ministers reconciliation to the world....It is not the main part of his vocation to tell men to make their peace with God, but to tell them that God has made peace with the world. At bottom, the Gospel is not good advice, but Good News. All the good advice it gives is summed up in this – Receive the Good News...When Christ's work was done, the reconciliation of the world was accomplished. When men were called to receive it, they were called to a relation to God, not in which they would no more be against Him – though that is included – but in which they would no more have Him against them. There would be no condemnation thenceforth to those who were in Christ Jesus”

– James Denney

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 43:18-19

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.

Forget the former things;
do not dwell on the past.

See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.

INVOCATION

SONG OF ADORATION

LET US LOVE AND SING AND WONDER

1. Let us love and sing and wonder,
Let us praise the Savior's name!
He has hushed the Law's loud thunder,
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame:
He has washed us with His blood,
He has washed us with His blood,
He has washed us with His blood,
He has brought us nigh to God.

2. Let us love the Lord who bought us,
Pitied us when enemies,
Called us by His grace, and taught us,
Gave us ears and gave us eyes:
He has washed us with His blood,
He has washed us with His blood,
He has washed us with His blood,
He presents our souls to God.

3. Let us wonder; grace and justice
Join and point to mercy's store;
When through grace in Christ our trust is,
Justice smiles and asks no more:
He Who washed us with His blood,
He Who washed us with His blood,
He Who washed us with His blood,
Has secured our way to God.

4. Let us praise, and join the chorus
Of the saints enthroned on high:
Here they trusted Him before us,
Now their praises fill the sky:
You have washed us with Your blood,
You have washed us with Your blood,
You have washed us with Your blood,
You are worthy Lamb of God!

"To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins... to Him be glory and power for ever and ever!" – Revelation 1:5-6
Text: John Newton (1774) Music: Laura Taylor © 2001 Laura Taylor Music Used by permission. CCLI #708363

Welcome

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

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Joshua 5:9-12

The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you." And so the name of that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the people of Israel were encamped at Gilgal, they kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month in the evening on the plains of Jericho. And the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate of the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. And the manna ceased the day after they ate of the produce of the land. And there was no longer manna for the people of Israel, but they ate of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

Psalm 32:6-11
A Maskil of David.

Let everyone who is godly
offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;
surely in the rush of great waters,
they shall not reach him.

**You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

**Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding,
which must be curbed with bit and bridle,
or it will not stay near you.**

Many are the sorrows of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.

**Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!**

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

- For West End Presbyterian Church: For grace to trust the Lord.
- 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 Reformed University Fellowship (RUF)—for campus staff Harrison Ford (VCU), Jacob Hotinger (VCU), and Andy Wood (VT & Texas).

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

LOOK TO JESUS

1. Come ye souls by sin afflicted,
Bowed with fruitless sorrow down;
By the broken law convicted,
Through the cross behold the crown;
Look to Jesus! Look to Jesus! Look to Jesus!
Mercy flows through Him alone.

2. Take His easy yoke and wear it;
Love will make your obedience sweet;
Christ will give you strength to bear it,
While His grace shall guide your feet
Safe to glory, safe to glory, safe to glory,
Where His ransomed captives meet.

3. Blessed are the eyes that see Him,
Blest the ears that hear His voice;
Blessed are the souls that trust Him,
And in Him alone rejoice;
His commandments, His commandments, His commandments
Then become their happy choice.

4. Sweet as home to pilgrims weary,
Light to newly opened eyes,
Like full springs in deserts dreary,
Is the rest the Cross supplies;
All who taste it, all who taste it, all who taste it
Shall to rest immortal rise.

Look to Jesus! Look to Jesus! Look to Jesus!
Mercy flows through Him alone.

*"Take my yoke upon
you...and you will find
rest for your souls. For
my yoke is easy, and my
burden is light."
– Matthew 11:28-29*

*Text: Joseph Swain (alt. Twit)
Tune: Kevin Twit
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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

II Corinthians 5:16-21

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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 delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when 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 also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Psalms 32:1-5

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.

**Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven,
whose sins are covered.**

**Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against them
and in whose spirit is no deceit.**

When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

**For day and night Your hand was heavy on me;
my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.**

Then I acknowledged my sin to You and did not cover up my iniquity.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."

And You forgave the guilt of my sin.

Silent Confession

LORD, HAVE MERCY

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

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

Oh Lord have mer - - - cy.

Oh Christ have mer - - - cy.

Oh Lord have mer - - - cy.

U - - - pon us.

U - - - pon us.

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

II Corinthians 5:21

God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

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

IN THE NAME OF GOD THE FATHER

In the Name of God the Father,
In the Name of God the Son,
In the Name of God the Spirit,
One in Three, and Three in One;

In the Name which highest angels
Speak not 'ere they veil their face,
Crying, Holy, Holy, Holy,"
Come we to this sacred place.

*Lo, in wondrous condescension,
Jesus seeks His altar-throne;
Though in lowly symbols hidden,
Faith and love His Presence own.
When the Lord His temple visits,
Let the listening earth be still;
May the Spirit's sweet indwelling
Each believing heart fulfill.*

Here, in Figure represented,
See the Passion once again;
Here behold the Lamb most Holy,
As for our redemption slain;

Here the Saviour's Body broken,
Here the Blood which Jesus shed,
Now the offer of communion,
Into lasting joy be led.

*Here shall highest praise be offered,
Here shall meekest prayer be poured,
Here, with body, soul, and spirit,
God Incarnate be adored.
Holy Jesus, for Thy coming
May Thy love our hearts prepare;
Thine we pray would have them wholly,
Enter, Lord, and tarry there.*

*"This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me... This cup that is poured out for you is
the new covenant in my blood." – Luke 22:19-20*

Text: J. W. Hewett (1867) Tune: The Ironsides ©2011 The Ironsides Used by permission. CCLI #: 708363

*"At the name of
Jesus every knee should
bow" – Philippians 2:10*

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BREAK EVERY CHAIN

There is power in the name of Jesus
There is power in the name of Jesus
There is power in the name of Jesus
To break every chain, break every chain, break every chain
To break every chain, break every chain, break every chain

All sufficient sacrifice
So freely given, such a price
Bought our redemption
Heaven's gates swing wide

ALL THINGS NEW

*"And he who was seated on
the throne said, 'Behold, I
am making all things new.'
– Revelation 21:5*

Text: Horatius Bonar (1846)
Music: Clint Wells
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1. Come, Lord, and tarry not;
Bring the long looked for day;
O, why these years of waiting here,
These ages of decay?

2. Come, for Thy saints still wait;
Daily ascends their sigh;
The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come";
Does Thou not hear the cry?

*O come and make all things new!
Come and make all things new!
O come and make all things new!
Build up this ruined Earth—
Come and make all things new,
All things new.*

3. Come, for creation groans,
Impatient of Thy stay,
Worn out with these long years of ill,
These ages of delay.

4. Come, for love waxes cold,
Its steps are faint and slow;
Faith now is lost in unbelief,
Hope's lamp burns dim and low.

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.

WEPC Elder and Neighborhood Outreach Director Changjwok Deng led worship.

*Music was led by Worship Arts Directors Taylor Barnett and Tiffanie Chan, along with
Audrey Snyder, Andrew Bogle, Tyler Pease, Karl Kuder, and Troy Arnold.*