

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.

June 30, 2019 | Third Sunday After Pentecost: Ordinary Time

I Kings 19:15-16, 19-21 Elijah Calls Elisha to Follow

Psalm 16 You Are My Lord

Galatians 5:1, 13-25 Keep In Step With the Spirit

Luke 9:51-62
The Cost of Following Jesus

Reflection on Sunday, June 30

Monday

Genesis 24:34-41, 50-67 I Will Go

I John 2:7-11 Love & Hate

Tuesday

Jeremiah 3:15-18

Nations Shall Gather & Cease

Ephesians 5:6-20

Now You are Light in the Lord

Wednesday

Jeremiah 23:16-22

Stubbornly Follows His Own Heart

Matthew 10:16-25

Sheep in the Midst of Wolves

Daily

Psalm 140 Deliver Me

Preparation for Sunday, July 7

Thursday

II Kings 21:1-15 Manassah's Idolatry

Romans 7:14-25 Who Will Deliver?

Friday

Jeremiah 51:47-58

The LORD is Laying Babylon Waste

II Corinthians 8:1-7
The Grace of Generosity

Saturday

Zechariah 14:10-21

Jerusalem Shall Dwell in Security

Luke 9:1-6

Preaching the Gospel and Healing

Daily

Psalm 66:1-9

Come and See what God has Done

Pastor's Note

Dear Ones,

When I think about freedom, I think about being left alone to pursue my life as I see fit. When Paul thinks about the precious freedom bought with the blood of Christ, he thinks about the freedom to rest as a child of God and to love.

A besetting sin of this church is to embrace what we call "freedom" and indulge our flesh. We think, "I know this thought, word, or deed is sinful, but I am free in Christ and God loves me, so I am going to do it anyway."

This is a poor use of freedom because, just like the legalism we all abhor, this pathway leads back to bondage.

Let freedom ring and reign—the true freedom that Jesus lived and died to give us.

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

Third Sunday after Pentecost: Ordinary Time

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 His glory as King of all.

KEEP IN STEP WITH THE SPIRIT

"Paul said, 'You are free. Your services are no longer required. The salt mine has been closed. You have fallen under the ultimate statute of limitation. You are out from under everything: Shame, Guilt, Blame. It all rolls off your back like rain off a tombstone.' It is essential that you see this clearly. The Apostle is saying that you and I have been sprung. Right now; not next week or at the end of the world. And unconditionally, with no probation officer to report to. But that means that we have finally come face to face with the one question we have scrupulously ducked every time it got within a mile of us: You are free. What do you plan to do? One of the problems with any authentic pronouncement of the Gospel is that it introduces us to freedom."

- Robert Capon

"This is the will of God for you: your freedom. Uncompromising, unrelenting, indomitable freedom. For this Christ died. For this he rose. For this he sent his Spirit. There is nothing He wills with more intensity under the glory of His own name than this: your freedom."

John Piper

Call to Worship

Psalm 124:8

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. "Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth." Let us worship Him.

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.
- 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

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Welcome

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

Gospel Reading

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." And Jesus said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Yet another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Luke 9:57-62

Ministry of Prayer

Psalm 16. A Miktam of David.

Preserve me, O God, for in You I take refuge.

I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from You."

As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight. The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names on my lips.

The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; You hold my lot.

The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.

I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

I have set the LORD always before me; because He is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure.

For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let Your holy one see corruption.

You make known to me the path of life; in Your presence there is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

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

- For West End Presbyterian Church: For grace to shamelessly repent and believe the Good News.
- For the criminal justice system in Metropolitan Richmond: For institutions, ministries, and churches seeking to retrain and restore the formerly incarcerated who are reuniting with family and returning to public life.
- For the country of Uganda and for WEPC Mission Partner Jenna Murphy serving with Serge alongside the local church in the city of Fort Portal.

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

COME, BEHOLD THE WONDROUS MYSTERY



"How great...are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory." – Colossians 1:27 Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, Michael Bleecker © 2012 Bleecker Publishing Used by permission. CCLI #708363

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.

GOD THE SON RENEWS US THROUGH HIS WORD & SACRAMENT

Scripture Reading

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

¹ For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. ¹⁴ For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵ But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

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

Lord Jesus, You declared, "If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." Through Your sacrifice on the Cross, we have been granted full access to enter into God's presence, to truly worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.

Lord Jesus, You have not left us as orphans. You graciously asked the Father, and He gave us the Spirit of truth.

Yet, there is a terrible coldness in our hearts, a hardness toward You, a lack of love for our neighbor, an unwillingness to admit our sin and need for You. Forgive us our sins. Come near, Good Lord, and strengthen us by Your Spirit until Christ reigns supreme within us, in every thought, word, and deed. Give us a faith that renews the heart, overcomes the world, works by love, fastens us to You, and always clings to the Cross. *Amen*.

Silent 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.

Words of Encouragement

You were dead in your trespasses. God made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This He set aside, nailing it to the Cross.

from Colossians 2:13-14

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

JESUS, I COME

- 1. Out of my bondage, sorrow and night, Jesus, I come; Jesus I come. Into Thy freedom, gladness and light, Jesus, I come to Thee. Out of my sickness into Thy health, Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth, Out of my sin and into Thyself, Jesus, I come to Thee.
- 2. Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come. Into the glorious gain of Thy cross, Jesus, I come to Thee. Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm, Out of life's storms and into Thy calm, Out of distress into jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to Thee.
- 3. Out of unrest and arrogant pride, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come. Into Thy blessed will to abide, Jesus, I come to Thee. Out of myself to dwell in Thy love, Out of despair into raptures above, Upward forever on wings like a dove, Jesus, I come to Thee.
- 4. Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come. Into the joy and light of Thy home, Jesus, I come to Thee. Out of the depths of ruin untold, Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold, Ever Thy glorious face to behold, Jesus, I come to Thee.

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[&]quot;Out of the depths, I call to you, Lord! - Psalm 130:1

AMAZING GRACE (MY CHAINS ARE GONE)

"To the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved." – Ephesians 1:6

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound— That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas Grace that taught my heart to fear, And Grace my fears relieved; How precious did that Grace appear The hour I first believed.

My chains are gone, I've been set free, My God, my Savior has ransomed me. And like a flood His mercy rains— Unending love, amazing grace. The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures; He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, The sun forbear to shine; But God who called me here below, Will be forever mine.

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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.
- 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.

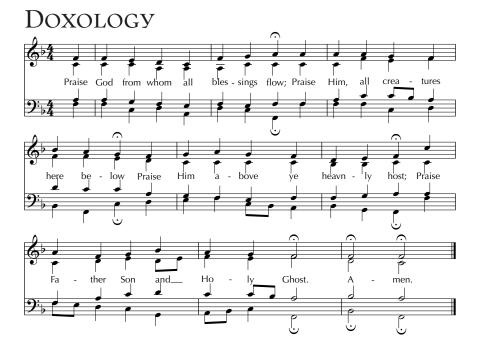
Therefore He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him." — Hebrews 7:25
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"Let everything that has breath praise the LORD." - Psalm 150:6

Text: Thomas Ken (1709) Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH (Bourgeois, 1551)

What does "doxology" mean?

It's 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 Becca Wethered, Jill Wiebe-King, Tiffanie Chan, Rick Hepner, Pat Reynolds, and Jesse Reynolds.