



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.

July 7, 2019 | Fourth Sunday After Pentecost: Ordinary Time

Isaiah 66:10-14

I Will Comfort You

Psalms 66:1-9

Come and See what God has Done

Galatians 6:1-16

Boast in the Cross

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Laborers into His Harvest

Reflection on Sunday, July 7

Monday

Jeremiah 6:10-19

Pay Attention

Acts 19:21-27

No Little Disturbance

Tuesday

Jeremiah 8:4-13

*They Have Healed the Wound
of my People Lightly*

Acts 19:28-41

The City was Filled with the Confusion

Wednesday

Joshua 23:1-16

Joshua's Charge to Israel

Luke 10:13-16

Woe to Unrepentant Cities

Daily

Psalms 119:73-80

Faithfulness

Preparation for Sunday, July 14

Thursday

Genesis 41:14-36

Joseph's Plan

James 2:14-26

Faith & Works

Friday

Genesis 41:37-49

God Saves Egypt from Starvation

Acts 7:9-16

God's Provision Rescued Israel

Saturday

Leviticus 19:1-4, 32-37

Love Him as Yourself

John 3:16-21

God So Loved the World

Daily

Psalms 25:1-10

Teach Me Your Paths

PASTOR'S NOTE

Dear Ones,

Usually, our worship gathering isn't amazing, awesome, epic, or immediately life changing. Sometimes we have unintentional glitches and sometimes the sermon is just plain boring. But over time, there's a cumulative effect to all the ordinary Sundays where we worship the Triune God and are fed and formed by the Word and the sacraments and the fellowship of God's people.

The ministry of the Church is life-changing. For most of us, most of the time, that change is slow and incremental, almost imperceptible.

But change is happening in the rhythms of our liturgy and life together.

This encourages me.

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

Fourth 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.

SOW TO THE SPIRIT

“We need to realize that there are deeper harvests that happen even when we don’t meet with much outward success. We will find our own character changing deeply through ministry. Our consciences will be clear and our hearts happier, since we’re less self-indulgent. We’ll develop a less selfish and more satisfied character, which will serve us well when we are under pressure. We may not reap quickly, and we may not see all that we reap; but we can know that there is a great harvest for those who sow to please the Spirit.”

– Tim Keller

“There dwells upon this earth a mysterious Being, whose office is to renew the fallen and restore the wandering. We cannot see Him or hear Him, yet He dwells in some of us as Lord of our nature. His chosen residence is a broken heart and a contrite spirit.”

– Charles Spurgeon

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 66:12-14

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.

For thus says the LORD:

“Behold, I will extend peace to Jerusalem like a river,
and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream;
and you shall nurse, you shall be carried upon her hip,
and bounced upon her knees.

As one whom his mother comforts,
so I will comfort you;
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.”

**You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice;
your bones shall flourish like the grass;
and the hand of the Lord shall be known to His servants,
and He shall show His indignation against His enemies.**

INVOCATION

SONG OF ADORATION

BE THOU MY VISION

The musical score is written in 3/4 time and consists of four systems. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system ends with a double bar line. The second system ends with a fermata over the final note. The third system ends with a fermata over the final note. The fourth system ends with a double bar line.

Be Thou my Vi - sion Lord of my heart;
Be Thou my Wis - dom, and Thou my true Word,
Be Thou my bat - tle shield, sword for my fight;
Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise,
High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me, save that Thou art -
I ev - er with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
be Thou my dig - ni - ty, Thou my de - light,
Thou mine in - her - i - tance now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Thou my Great Fa - ther I Thy true son;
Thou my soul's shel - ter, Thou my high tow - er;
Thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, Thy pre - sence my light.
Thou in me dwell - ing and I with Thee one.
Raise thou me heav - n ward, O pow'r of my pow'r.
High King of heav - en, my trea - sure Thou art.
still be my Vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

"Whatever was gain to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ." – Philippians 3:7

Text: 8th century Irish hymn, trans. by Mary Byrne (1905) Tune: SLANE (trad. Irish melody)

Welcome

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

GOSPEL READING

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

¹ After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. ² And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³ Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. ⁴ Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. ⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house!' ⁶ And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you. ⁷ And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house. ⁸ Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. ⁹ Heal the sick in it and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' ¹⁰ But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, ¹¹ 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.'

¹⁶ "The one who hears you hears me, and the one who rejects you rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects him who sent me."

¹⁷ The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" ¹⁸ And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹ Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. ²⁰ Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (10:30 AM)

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

*Psalm 66:1-9. To the
choirmaster. A Song. A Psalm.*

**Sing the glory of His name;
give to Him glorious praise!**

Say to God, "How awesome are Your deeds!
So great is Your power that your enemies come cringing to You."

**"All the earth worships You
and sings praises to You;
they sing praises to Your name."**

Come and see what God has done:
He is awesome in His deeds toward the children of man.

**He turned the sea into dry land;
they passed through the river on foot.**

There did we rejoice in Him,
who rules by His might forever,
whose eyes keep watch on the nations—
let not the rebellious exalt themselves.

**Bless our God, O peoples;
let the sound of His praise be heard;**

Who has kept our soul among the living
and has not let our feet slip.

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

- For West End Presbyterian Church: For grace to follow Jesus Christ, faith to trust His promises, and power to proclaim His Good News.
- For the governments and governing bodies of Metropolitan Richmond. For Richmond Mayor Levar Stoney, the City Council of Richmond, for City Manager Carlos Martinez, and all city employees.
- For WEPC Mission Partners serving on CRU staff: Lauren Davis (Bridges, Columbia University) Joshua Earman (Bridges, VCU), Matt & Anna Shenk (City Life RVA), Dave & Mary Peery (Family Life), John-Mark & Meg Walker (Richmond/VCU).

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

WONDERFUL MERCIFUL SAVIOR

*“The Lord upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.”
— Psalm 145:14*

Dawn Rodgers, Eric Wyse
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1. Wonderful, merciful Savior,
Precious Redeemer and Friend
Who would have thought that a Lamb
Could rescue the souls of men?
Oh! You rescue the souls of men.

*You are the One that we praise!
You are the One we adore!
You give the healing and grace
Our hearts always hunger for,
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.*

2. Counselor, Comforter, Keeper,
Spirit we long to embrace—
You offer hope when our hearts
Have hopelessly lost the way,
Oh, we hopelessly lost the way.

3. Almighty, infinite Father,
Faithfully loving Your own—
Here in our weakness You find us
Falling before Your throne,
Oh, we're falling before Your throne.

SCRIPTURE READING

¹ Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. ² Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. ³ For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. ⁴ But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. ⁵ For each will have to bear his own load.

Galatians 6:1-16

⁶ Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. ⁷ Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. ⁸ For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. ⁹ And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. ¹⁰ So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

¹¹ See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. ¹² It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who would force you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³ For even those who are circumcised do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. ¹⁴ But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵ For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. ¹⁶ And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel 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

from Mark 14:16-25

The disciples prepared the Passover. And when it was evening, Jesus came with the twelve. And they were reclining at the table and as they were eating, He took bread. And after blessing it, He broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Psalms 51:1-12

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.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Silent Confession

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Titus 3:4-6

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior.

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.

Songs of Response to God's Grace

PSALM 147



1. Praise the Lord, O Zi - on; sing Him songs of praise!
2. He whose un - der - stand - ing knows no mea - sur - ing,
3. Praise the Lord, O Zi - on; sing Him songs of praise!



He who formed the heav - ens calls you by your name:
cares not for our wis - dom, right - eous - ness and strength.
He who rules the world gives peace with - in your gates.



"Hear my voice, O out - cast; Bro - ken heart - ed come!____
Come in - stead with weak - ness, hum - ble - ness, and trust.____
He whose Word is migh - ty makes your chil - dren safe.____



I will bind your wounds and make for you a home."
He de - lights in those who hope in His great love.
Rest in God, O Zi - on; sing Him songs of praise!

"Praise the LORD."—Psalm 146:1

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TIS SO SWEET TO TRUST IN JESUS

1. 'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,
Just to take him at his Word;
Just to rest upon his promise;
Just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."

*Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him;
How I've prov'd him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
O for grace to trust him more!*

2. O how sweet to trust in Jesus,
Just to trust His cleansing blood;
Just in simple faith to plunge me
'Neath the healing cleansing flood!

*"And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." – Galatians 2:20
Text: Louisa M. R. Stead (1882) Tune: William J. Kirkpatrick (1882)*

3. Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus,
Just from sin and self to cease;
Just from Jesus simply taking
Life and rest, and joy and peace.

4. I'm so glad I learn'd to trust thee,
Precious Jesus, Saviour, Friend;
And I know that thou art with me,
Wilt be with me to the end.

GRACE GREATER THAN OUR SIN

1. Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,
Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt!
Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured,
There where the blood of the Lamb was spilled.

*Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that is greater than all our sin!*

2. Sin and despair, like the sea waves cold,
Threaten the soul with infinite loss;
Grace that is greater, yes, grace untold,
Points to the Refuge, the mighty Cross.

*"Where sin increased, grace abounded all the more." –Romans 5:20
Julia H. Johnston (1911) Tune: MOODY (Towner)*

3. Dark is the stain that we cannot hide;
What can we do to wash it away?
Look! There is flowing a crimson Tide,
Brighter than snow you may be today.

4. Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace,
Freely bestowed on all who believe!
You that are longing to see His face,
Will you this moment His grace receive?

DOXOLOGY

*"Let everything that has
breath praise the LORD."
– Psalm 150:6*

Text: Thomas Ken (1709)

*Tune: OLD HUNDREDDTH
(Bourgeois, 1551)*

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.

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.

Pastor Joe Brown gave today's Children's Message.

Music was led by Worship Arts Directors Taylor Barnett & Tiffanie Chan, along with Becca Wethered and Jill Wiebe-King.