



West End  
presbyterian church

# WEPC LECTIONARY PROJECT: UNION WITH CHRIST

In this 25<sup>th</sup> 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](http://wepc.org/lectionary).

### July 21, 2019 | Sixth Sunday After Pentecost: Ordinary Time

Genesis 18:1-10a

*The LORD Appeared to Abraham*

Psalms 15

*He Who Walks Blamelessly*

Colossians 1:15-28

*In Him All the Fullness of God was Pleased to Dwell*

Luke 10:38-42

*Mary has Chosen the Good Portion*

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### Reflection on Sunday, July 21

#### Monday

Exodus 18:1-12

*Now I Know that the LORD is Greater*

Colossians 1:27-2:7

*God Chose to Make Known*

#### Tuesday

Proverbs 9:1-18

*Wisdom & Folly*

I John 2:1-6

*Walk in the Same Way*

#### Wednesday

Deuteronomy 12:1-12

*You Shall Eat Before the LORD*

John 6:41-51

*Eat This Bread, Live Forever*

#### Daily

Psalms 119:97-104

*How Sweet Are Your Words*

### Preparation for Sunday, July 28

#### Thursday

Esther 2:19-3:6

*Haman's Fury*

Acts 1:15-20

*Judas Desolate*

#### Friday

Esther 3:7-15

*Decreed That They Be Destroyed*

Acts 2:22-36

*This Jesus Whom You Crucified*

#### Saturday

Esther 4:1-17

*For Such a Time as This?*

Luke 8:22-25

*Jesus' Disciples Cry Out*

#### Daily

Psalms 138

*Your Right Hand Delivers Me*

# PASTOR'S NOTE

Dear Ones,

Prayer born of frustration is my sweetest prayer—especially when my frustration is “righteously” directed at someone I love, who is not doing what I want them to do.

Martha welcomed Jesus into her home. Martha passionately served the Lord. Martha became distracted and overwhelmed and blamed Jesus for not noticing her sister’s laziness.

Comparing our place and state with another’s often leads to pride, despair, and anger.

Martha, Martha....

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 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.

### **THE GOOD PORTION**

"To concentrate on service and activity for God may often actively thwart our attaining of the true goal, God Himself. At first sight, it seems heroic to fling our lives away in the service of God and of our fellows. We feel it is bound to mean more to Him than our experience of Him. Service seems so unselfish, whereas concentrating on our walk with God seems selfish and self-centered. But it is the very reverse. The things that God is most concerned about are our coldness of heart towards Himself and our proud, unbroken natures. Christian service of itself can, and so often does, leave our self-centered nature untouched."

—Roy & Revel Hession

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalm 73:25-26*

### **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.

Whom have I in heaven but You?

**There is nothing on earth that I desire besides You.**

My flesh and my heart may fail,

**But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.**

## INVOCATION

# SONG OF ADORATION

## A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD

A musical score for the hymn 'A Mighty Fortress is Our God'. The score is written in 4/4 time and consists of six systems of music. Each system includes a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests and ties. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4.

A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark  
Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing  
And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en  
That Word a - bove all earth - ly powers— no thanks to  
nev - er fail - ing; our help - er he, a - mid the flood  
would be los - ing; were not the right Man on our side,  
to un - do us, we will not fear, for God has willed  
them— a - bid eth; the Spir - it and the gifts are ours  
of mor - tal ills pre - vail - - ing. For still our an - cient foe  
the Man of God's own choos - - ing. You ask who that may be?  
his truth to tri - umph through us. The prince of dark - ness grim,  
through him who with us sid - - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go,  
does seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great,  
Christ Je - sus, it is he; the Lord of Hosts His name,  
we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,  
this mor - tal life al - so; the bod - y they may kill:  
and armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - - qual.  
from age to age the same; and he must win the bat - - tle.  
for lo! his doom is sure; one lit - tle word shall fell him.  
God's truth a - bid - eth still; his king - dom is for - ev - - er!

*"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.*

## PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

Pastor Kevin Greene presented this morning's new members and administered the sacrament of baptism.

Peter & Gayle Mellis (10:30 AM)  
J.T. Van Horn

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

J.T. Van Horn (10:30 AM)

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Genesis 18:1-10*

And the LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the door of his tent in the heat of the day. He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth and said, "O LORD, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham went quickly into the tent to Sarah and said, "Quick! Three seahs of fine flour! Knead it, and make cakes." And Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to a young man, who prepared it quickly. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them. And he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?" And he said, "She is in the tent." The LORD said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him.

# MINISTRY OF PRAYER

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

*Colossians 1:15-18*

**For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him.**

And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

**And He is the head of the body, the church.**

He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent.

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

- For West End Presbyterian Church: For faith to see Jesus—and to see ourselves in relation to Him.
- For the governments and governing bodies of Metropolitan Richmond. For the boards of supervisors, councils, and administrators of Hanover and Chesterfield counties.
- For WEPC Mission Partners Phil & Shanna Davis serving with Serge in Prague, Czech Republic.

## 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

## HELP MY UNBELIEF

*"I believe; help my unbelief!"*  
– Mark 9:24

*Text: John Newton*  
*Music: Clint Wells (2005)*  
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1. I know the Lord is nigh,  
And would but cannot pray,  
For Satan meets me when I try  
And frights my soul away,  
And frights my soul away.

2. I would but can't repent,  
Though I endeavor oft;  
This stony heart can ne'er relent  
Till Jesus makes it soft,  
Till Jesus makes it soft.

*Help my unbelief.*  
*Help my unbelief.*  
*Help my unbelief.*  
*My help must come from Thee.*

3. I would but cannot love,  
Though wooed by love divine;  
No arguments have power to move  
A soul as base as mine,  
A soul so base as mine.

4. I would but cannot rest,  
In God's most holy will;  
I know what He appoints is best,  
And murmur at it still,  
I murmur at it still.

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GOD THE SON RENEWS US THROUGH HIS WORD & SACRAMENT

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## SCRIPTURE READING

*Luke 10:38-42*

<sup>38</sup> Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. <sup>39</sup> And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. <sup>40</sup> But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." <sup>41</sup> But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, <sup>42</sup> but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."

## Sermon

*A Worship Guide with sermon notes and recordings is posted each Sunday at [wepc.org/sermons](http://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."

*from Matthew 26:17-29*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Father in Heaven, forgive us for attempting to avoid You. We have fixed our eyes and our hope on ourselves instead of worshiping You. We indulge in our striving instead of trusting You. We indulge in our shame instead of resting in You. We indulge in grumbling and complaining instead of crying out to You. We have been given over to anxious isolation instead of following Jesus in His mission. Yet Your compassions yearn over us, You hasten to our rescue. In the Cross of Christ, we see that Your Love endured our curse, Your Mercy bore our justice. Forgive us all of our sin and renew our hearts. Turn us back to You. 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

In Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross.

*Colossians 1:19-20*

# THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

## **First Communion**

J.T. Van Horn (10:30 AM)

*J.T. recently met with the Elders, who heard his testimony of faith in Jesus Christ. We invite the Van Horn family to receive communion first.*

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

### WE WILL FEAST IN THE HOUSE OF ZION

*We will feast in the house of Zion,  
We will sing with our hearts restored!  
"He has done great things," we will say together—  
We will feast and weep no more.*

1. We will not be burned by the fire;  
He is the Lord our God!  
We are not consumed, by the flood—  
Upheld, protected, gathered up.
2. In the dark of night, before the dawn—  
My soul, be not afraid.  
For the promised morning, oh how long?  
Oh God of Jacob, be my strength!
3. Every vow we've broken and betrayed;  
You are the Faithful One.  
And from the garden to the grave  
Bind us together, bring shalom.

*"For a people shall dwell  
in Zion, in Jerusalem; you  
shall weep no more."  
— Isaiah 30:19*

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## JESUS, LOVER OF MY SOUL

1. Jesus, lover of my soul,  
Let me to Thy bosom fly,  
While the nearer waters roll,  
While the tempest still is high.  
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,  
'Til life's storm is past;  
Safe into the haven guide;  
Receive my soul at last.

2. Other refuge have I none,  
I helpless, hang on Thee;  
Leave, oh leave me not alone,  
Support and comfort me.  
All my trust on Thee is stayed,  
All help from Thee I bring;  
Cover my defenseless head  
In the shadow of Thy wing.

3. Thou, O Christ, are all I want,  
Here more than all I find;  
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,  
Heal the sick, and lead the blind.  
Just and holy is Thy Name,  
I am all unrighteousness;  
False and full of sin I am;  
Thou art full of truth and grace.

4. Plenteous grace with Thee is found,  
Grace to cover all my sin;  
Let the healing streams abound;  
Make and keep me pure within.  
Thou of life the fountain art,  
Let me take of Thee;  
Spring Thou up within my heart;  
For all eternity.

*"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? – Romans 8:35*

Text: Charles Wesley (1740) Tune: Greg Thompson ©2000 Greg Thompson Music Used by permission. CCLI #708363

## HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD

1. The splendor of the King  
Clothed in majesty—  
Let all the earth rejoice,  
Let all the earth rejoice!

He wraps Himself in light  
And darkness tries to hide,  
And trembles at His voice,  
And trembles at His voice:

*How great is our God!  
Sing with me:  
How great is our God!  
All will see how great,  
How great is our God!*

2. Age to age He stands  
And time is in His hands  
Beginning and the End,  
Beginning and the End.

The Godhead three-in-one:  
Father, Spirit, Son;  
The Lion and the Lamb,  
The Lion and the Lamb:

*Name above all names,  
Worthy of all praise,  
My heart will sing  
How great is our God!*

*"You are clothed with splendor and majesty." – Psalm 104:1*

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# DOXOLOGY



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.

*“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 WEPC Elder Chris Newlin, along with Sonya Smith, Buddy Miner, Tiffanie Chan, Donald Smith, and Troy Arnold.*