



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.

August 4, 2019 | Seventh Sunday After Pentecost: Ordinary Time

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23
What Has a Man from All the Toil?

Psalms 49:1-12
No Life through Riches

Colossians 3:1-11
Christ is All, and In All

Luke 12:13-21
The Fool not Rich Toward God

Reflection on Sunday, August 4

Monday

Ecclesiastes 2:1-17
Striving after Wind

Colossians 3:18-4:1
Christ, Lord of our House

Tuesday

Ecclesiastes 3:16-4:8
All Go to One Place

Colossians 4:2-6
Walk in Wisdom toward Outsiders

Wednesday

Ecclesiastes 12:1-8, 13-14
Remember Your Creator

Luke 12:22-31
Your Father Knows

Daily

Psalms 127
Unless the LORD Builds the House

Preparation for Sunday, August 11

Thursday

Job 21:1-16
Why the Wicked?

Romans 9:1-9
God's Sovereign Choice

Friday

Ecclesiastes 6:1-6
Yet Enjoy No Good

Acts 7:1-8
God Spoke to This Effect

Saturday

Genesis 11:27-32
Ancestors of Abram & Sarai

Matthew 6:19-24
Treasures & Masters

Daily

Psalms 33:12-22
Our Soul Waits for the LORD

PASTOR'S NOTE

Dear Ones,

Psalm 49 is a fairly honest appraisal of life, particularly lived outside of the love of God. The first 14 verses are pretty bleak. The Psalm writer is very direct about our pursuit of riches and the futility of that pursuit. In the end we all die, whether wise or not, whether rich or not.

As much as it may be hard for us to really believe, money might buy you a boat or a house or a great vacation, but it cannot ransom your soul. Only God in Jesus Christ can do that.

And he did.

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

Eighth 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.

RICHES

"There is within the human heart a tough, fibrous root of fallen life whose nature is to possess, always to possess. It covets things with a deep and fierce passion...The roots of our hearts have grown down into things, and we dare not pull up one root lest we die. Things have become necessary to us, a development never originally intended. God's gifts now take the place of God, and the whole course of nature is upset by the monstrous substitution."

– A.W. Tozer

"Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom."

– Luke 12:32

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 55:1-3

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.

"Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!

**Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.
Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?**

Listen diligently to Me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
Incline your ear, and come to Me;
hear, that your soul may live."

INVOCATION

SONG OF ADORATION

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING

1 All cre - a - tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us
 2 O ru - shing wind that art so strong, you clouds that sail in heaven a -
 3 All you who are of ten - der heart, for - gi - ving o - thers, take your
 4 Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble -

sing Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Thou bur - ning sun with gol - den
 long, O__ praise Him, Al - le - lu - ia! O ri - sing morn in praise re -
 part, sing_ prai - ses, Al - le - lu - ia! All you who pain and sor - row
 ness, O__ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the Fa - ther, praise the

beam, and sil - ver moon with sof - ter gleam, O__ praise Him, O__
 joice, O lights of eve - ning, find a voice: O__ praise Him, O__
 bear, praise God and on Him cast your care, O__ praise Him, O__
 Son and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One, O__ praise Him, O__

praise Him, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

"All You have made will praise You, O LORD!" -Psalm 145:10

Text: Francis of Assisi (1225), trans. William H. Draper (1926) Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN (arr. Vaughan Williams)

Welcome

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

OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14;
2:18-23*

Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity....

I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind....

I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after me, and who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. So I turned about and gave my heart up to despair over all the toil of my labors under the sun, because sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun? For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity.

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

Romans 11:33-36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!

“For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been His counselor?”

“Or who has given a gift to Him that He might be repaid?”

For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen.

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

- For West End Presbyterian Church: For wisdom to see all of life in submission to the Lord, and to discern vanity.
- For the workplaces and businesses of Metro Richmond: For companies, owners, managers, and all work environments.
- For WEPC Mission Partners J & S serving with Serge in Barcelona, Spain.

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

HOW HIGH AND HOW WIDE

No eye has seen, and no ear has heard,
And no mind has ever conceived,
The glorious things that You have prepared
For every one who has believed.
You brought us near and You called us Your own
And made us joint heirs with Your Son!

*How high and how wide,
How deep and how long,
How sweet and how strong is Your love.
How lavish Your grace,
How faithful Your ways,
How great is Your love, O Lord!*

Objects of mercy who should have known wrath—
We're filled with unspeakable joy,
Riches of wisdom, unsearchable wealth,
And the wonder of knowing Your voice.
You are our treasure and our great reward,
Our hope and our glorious King!

“...how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.” – Ephesians 3:18

*Text/Tune: Mark Altrogge
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SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 49:1-15
To the choirmaster.
A Psalm of the Sons of Korah.

- ¹ Hear this, all peoples!
Give ear, all inhabitants of the world,
² both low and high,
rich and poor together!
³ My mouth shall speak wisdom;
the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.
⁴ I will incline my ear to a proverb;
I will solve my riddle to the music of the lyre.
⁵ Why should I fear in times of trouble,
when the iniquity of those who cheat me surrounds me,
⁶ those who trust in their wealth
and boast of the abundance of their riches?
⁷ Truly no man can ransom another,
or give to God the price of his life,
⁸ for the ransom of their life is costly
and can never suffice,
⁹ that he should live on forever
and never see the pit.
¹⁰ For he sees that even the wise die;
the fool and the stupid alike must perish
and leave their wealth to others.
¹¹ Their graves are their homes forever,
their dwelling places to all generations,
though they called lands by their own names.
¹² Man in his pomp will not remain;
he is like the beasts that perish.
¹³ This is the path of those who have foolish confidence;
yet after them people approve of their boasts. *Selah*
¹⁴ Like sheep they are appointed for Sheol;
death shall be their shepherd,
and the upright shall rule over them in the morning.
Their form shall be consumed in Sheol, with no place to dwell.
¹⁵ But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol,
for he will receive me. *Selah*

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

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover."

Luke 12:13-21

When the hour came, Jesus and His apostles reclined at the table. And He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God." After taking the cup, He gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. For I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after the supper He took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."

"And I assign to you, as my Father assigned to me, a kingdom, that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom."

CONFESSION OF SIN

*Jeremiah 2:11-13
& Psalm 79:5,8-9*

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.

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus,

“Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”

But Jesus said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?” And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” And he told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself,

‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’

And he said,

‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.”’

But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’

So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

Silent Confession

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Colossians 3:2-3

Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in 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 NEED

In need of grace, in need of love,
In need of mercy raining down, from high above.
In need of strength, in need of peace
In need of things that only You can give to me.

In need of Christ, the perfect Lamb
My Refuge strong, the great I AM;
This is my song, my humble plea
I am Your child, I am in need.

"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." – Hebrews 4:16

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I CRY OUT

I cry out for Your hand of mercy to heal me
For I am weak and I need Your love to free me
O Lord, my Rock, my Strength in weakness,
Come rescue me, O Lord.

You are my hope, and Your promise never fails me.
You're my desire, and I'll follow You forever.

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. – Psalm 91:15

Craig Musseau
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*For You are good, for You are good, for You are good to me.
For You are good, for You are good, for You are good to me.*

HOW GREAT THOU ART

1. O Lord, my God, when I in awe-some won-der, con - si - der all the
 2. And when I think, that God his Son not spar-ing, sent Him to die, I
 3. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me home, what

worlds Thy hands have made. I see the stars, I hear the roll - ing thun - der,
 scarce can take it in. That on the cross, my bur - den glad - ly bear - ing,
 joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble a - dor - a - tion,

Thy pow'r through - out the un - i - verse dis played. Then sings my soul, my
 He bled and died to take a - way my sin.
 and there pro - claim, "My God, how great Thou art!"

Sav - ior God to Thee: How great Thou art, how great Thou art! Then sings my

soul, my Sav - ior God to Thee: how great Thou

art, how great Thou art!

"Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised." – Psalm 48:1

Text: Carl Boberg (1885), Trans. Stuart K. Hine Tune: Swedish Folk Melody, arr. by Stuart K. Hine

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 Trey Wickham, along with Jen Wickham, Jill Wiebe-King, Randall Ingram, Pat Reynolds, and Jesse Reynolds.