

PASTOR'S NOTE

Dear Ones,

The fact that our God speaks to us through His word is a remarkable gift. The Lord has communicated clearly to us in the Bible about what we must believe to be redeemed. Not only that, the Scriptures are full of wisdom and insight about life, the character of God, and where real joy is found. The Bible also rebukes and corrects where necessary.

Our God does not hide His thoughts or His ways. Enjoy the fact today that our God reveals Himself to us in clear and joyful ways.

Warmly,

Steve

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP & COMMUNION

The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

In the Christian year, we are now in the season of Epiphany.

Epiphany is a time that helps us to remember Jesus as the long awaited Hebrew Messiah and His mission to the nations.

Epiphany has a particular focus on Jesus as the Light of the World and "God with us," and the Church's role in proclaiming that Jesus is Lord.

THE PROPHETS WERE WITH THEM

"Zechariah utters the word of the Lord, 'I am jealous for Jerusalem'... Her jealous Husband shall roll away her shame; her reproach shall be forgotten; her glory shall be fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners, for He that is jealous is jealous for her fair fame."

Charles Spurgeon

"The LORD has made known His salvation."

Psalm 98:2

"This is what we should in short seek in the whole of Scripture: truly to know Jesus Christ, and the infinite riches that are comprised in Him and are offered to us by Him from God the Father. If one were to sift through the whole Law and the Prophets, he would not find a single word which would not draw and bring us to Him."

John Calvin

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 27:1, 4, 8

The Lord is my Light and my Salvation. Whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the Stronghold of my life, of whom shall I be afraid?

One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek,

That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

To gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek Him in His temple.

My heart says of You, "Seek His face!" Your face, Lord, I will seek.

INVOCATION

SONG OF ADORATION

NONE OTHER LAMB

None other Lamb, none other Name,
None other Hope in Heaven or sea,
No hiding place from guilt and shame,
None beside Thee, none beside Thee!

My faith burns low, my hope burns low;
Only my heart's desire cries out in me
By the deep thunder of its want and woe,
Cries out to Thee, cries out to Thee.

*All who labor
And are heavy laden,
Come unto me,
And I will give you rest.*

Lord, Thou are life, though I be dead;
Love's fire Thou art, however cold I be:
Nor heav'n have I, no place for my head,
No home, but Thee; no home but Thee!

"Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire other than you." -Psalm 73:25

Words by Christina Rossetti.
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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.

Covenant BAPTISM (9 am)

Grace Lenore Camidge
Benjamin Brian Camidge
Camille Elizabeth Meeks

PRESENTATION OF New MEMBERS

Craig & Tressa Camidge (9 am)

Grace Deng (10:30 am)
Fields Gravitt
Jane Martin Brown

New Testament Reading

1 Peter 2:4-6

As you come to Him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in Him will not be put to shame."

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

Psalm 111

The Reformed tradition has long emphasized the reading, singing and praying of Psalms in worship. During WEPC's sermon series on Ezra & Nehemiah, corporate prayer will include Psalms associated with the return, restoration, and renewal of God's people returning from exile.

Praise the LORD!

**I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.**

Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.

**Full of splendor and majesty is His work,
and His righteousness endures forever.**

He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.

**He provides food for those who fear Him;
He remembers His covenant forever.**

He has shown His people the power of His works,
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

**The works of His hands are faithful and just;
all His precepts are trustworthy;**

They are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

**He sent redemption to His people;
He has commanded His covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is His name!**

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever!

PRAYER FOR RESTORATION & RENEWAL

Pray for grace to strengthen us against every evil thought, word, and work; breaking of the power of sin, that it may be put to death in us.

Our "Prayer for Restoration and Renewal" comes each week from Matthew Henry's Method for Prayer, (www.matthewhenry.org).

6 February 16, 2020

OFFERING

If you miss 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

NOTHING TO FEAR

When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you,
And the depths of the river
Shall not overwhelm;
When you walk through the fire,
You will not be burned,
I am the Lord, I am the Lord...

*And there is nothing to fear, nothing to fear,
There is nothing to fear, nothing to fear,
For I am with you always.*

In the depths of your sorrow, I wept beside you.
When you walked through the shadow, I drew you near,
And yesterday, today, tomorrow,
Always the same.
I am the Lord, I am the Lord...

*“Fear not, for I am with you.”
- Isaiah 41:10*

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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.

SCRIPTURE READING

Ezra 5:1-2

¹ Now the prophets, Haggai and Zechariah the son of Iddo, prophesied to the Jews who were in Judah and Jerusalem, in the name of the God of Israel who was over them. ² Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel and Jeshua the son of Jozadak arose and began to rebuild the house of God that is in Jerusalem, and the prophets of God were with them, supporting them.

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

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

CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty Father, we are gathered before You, the Maker of Heaven and Earth, whose chosen dwelling place is with the broken and contrite. We confess that we have sinned against You in thought and word and deed; we have not loved You with all our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves.

You call us to worship You in spirit and in truth, but we often worship only what we wish You to be. We have sought concessions, when we required guidance. We have used Your gifts for private ambition, instead of for Your mission and glory. We use worship to shape You, rather than seeking to be formed into the likeness of the One we worship.

You are exceedingly jealous for Your Church. Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

Confession & Encouragement

Often we find that our hearts worship 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

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. If anyone is in Christ, He is a new creation. The old has gone, the new has come.

1 Peter 3:3; II Corinthians 5:17

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

First Communion

Grace Deng, Fields Gravitt, Jane Martin Brown (10:30 AM)

Grace, Fields, and Jane Martin recently met with the Elders, who heard their testimonies of faith in Jesus Christ. We invite the Deng, Gravitt, and Brown families 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

PSALM 121 (I LIFT MY EYES UP)

I lift my eyes up to the mountains.
Where does my help come from?
My help comes from You maker of heaven,
Creator of the earth.

Oh how I need You Lord.
You are my only hope,
You're my only prayer.
So I will wait for You
To come and rescue me,
Come and give me life.

ALL THINGS NEW

Come Lord and tarry not.
Bring the long looked for day.
O why these years of waiting here,
These ages of decay?

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.*

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

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

*"My help comes from the
Lord, who made heaven and
earth." -Psalm 121:2*

Tune: Brian Doerksen
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*Therefore, if anyone is in
Christ, he is a new creation.
The old has passed away;
behold, the new has come.
-2 Corinthians 5:17*

Horatius Bonar (1779);
Tune: ©2009 Clint Wells
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WE WILL FEAST IN THE HOUSE OF ZION

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

Text/Tune: Sandra McCracken
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*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.*

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.

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!

Every vow we've broken and betrayed,
You are the faithful one.
And from the garden to the grave,
Bind us together, bring shalom.

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

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, Erin Bouknight, Mark Schairbaum, Buddy Miner, Becca Wethered, Donald Smith, and Troy Arnold.

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.