



WEPC Lectionary Project: *Union with Christ*

West End Presbyterian Church is using the Scripture readings recommended by the Revised Common Lectionary as a framework for our corporate worship and our personal and family devotion. This project is part of WEPC's 25th Anniversary Year and will run from December 2018 through November 2019. 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.

To learn more and subscribe to a daily email of Daily Scripture Readings, visit www.wepc.org/lectionary.

Sunday, September 8, 2019

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Ordinary Time

[Deuteronomy 30:15-20](#) *Life & Good, Death & Evil*

[Psalm 1](#) *Delight in the Law of the LORD*

[Philemon 1:1-21](#) *Yet for Love's Sake*

[Luke 14:25-33](#) *His Own Cross*

Monday, September 9

[Psalm 101](#) *Walk with Integrity of Heart*

[II Kings 17:24-41](#) *Idolatry*

[I Timothy 3:14-4:5](#) *The Church of the Living God*

Tuesday, September 10

[Psalm 101](#) *Walk with Integrity of Heart*

[II Kings 18:9-18](#) *They Neither Listened nor Obeyed*

[I Timothy 4:6-16](#) *Trained in the Words of the Faith*

Wednesday, September 11

[Psalm 101](#) *Walk with Integrity of Heart*

[II Kings 18:19-25; 19:1-7](#) *Hezekiah Repents*

[Luke 18:18-30](#) *Then Who Can Be Saved?*

Thursday, September 12

[Psalm 51:1-10](#) *Have Mercy*

[Genesis 6:1-6](#) *Evil Continually*

[I Timothy 1:1-11](#) *Speculations Rather Than the Stewardship*

Friday, September 13

[Psalm 51:1-10](#) *Have Mercy*

[Genesis 7:6-10; 8:1-5](#) *But God Remembered Noah*

[II Peter 2:1-10a](#) *The Lord Knows How to Rescue*

Saturday, September 14

[Psalm 51:1-10](#) *Have Mercy*

[Genesis 8:20-9:7](#) *Will Require a Reckoning*

[John 10:11-21](#) *I Lay Down My Life*

My Disciple

This week, Steve Shelby preached on Luke 14:25-33

²⁵ Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them,²⁶ "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple."²⁷ Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.²⁸ For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock

him,³⁰ saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.'³¹ Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace.³³ So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

- "Great crowds" (25). Jesus is less interested in the size of His following than the heart of His followers
- How do I know if I love someone or something else more than Jesus?
- What is this "cross" (27) that I am required to take up?
- Why this is the most loving thing that Jesus can offer us?
- "Think about what Jesus is actually saying. On the one hand, it is terrifying and unreasonable: in order to gain salvation, life, and reconciliation, you have to lose every amenity, every relationship, every last scrap of the good life you might have. In short, you have to be dead. On the other hand, the deal is a bargain to end all bargains: sooner or later, you're going to have to lose all those things anyway- willy-nilly, the death that is your wherewithal for buying a new world is already in the bank." (*Robert Farrar Capon*)
- We have the secret to life-- and that secret is death.
- Look at what Jesus says next: "Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear." ([Luke 14:34-35](#))
- How does salt go with the words about counting the cost?
- The taste, zip and zing that the church at its best can give to the world is the joy and freedom of losing everything to gain everything.
- The Gospel is not a tragedy. The tragedy is not seeing how loss is gain.

To hear sermons and access past study guides visit www.wepc.org/archivedsermons
Questions? Contact Pastor Kevin Greene, kevin@wepc.org