

His Love Endures Forever

30

est. 1993



West End
presbyterian church

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

In the Christian year, we are now in the season of Lent. Lent is a time to ask God to help us confront our own mortality and sinfulness, to ask Him to show us our need for grace, to grow in repentance, and to reflect on the amazing truth of the Church's participation in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The season of Lent—the period between Ash Wednesday and the Saturday before Easter—lasts 40 days (not including Sundays), reminiscent of the 40 days Jesus fasted in the wilderness.

Each Sunday this Lent, we will sing “Have Mercy on Me” and hear stories of how Jesus is leading us to repent to trust Him, becoming like Him in His death, and attaining His resurrection
(*Phil. 3:10-11*).

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP & Communion

THE PRESENT SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RESURRECTION

“If Jesus rose from the dead, then you have to accept all that he said; if he didn't rise from the dead, then why worry about any of what he said?”

—*Tim Keller*

“Virtually every hour of the day Paul faced dangers of all kinds...he pressed on with such a dangerous life, because he was convinced that something infinitely better awaited him in the resurrection-life of heaven...wrong thinking, about the resurrection or any other fundamental articles of faith, inevitably leads to wrong behavior.”

—*David Prior*

“Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.”

—*Proverbs 13:20*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Job 19:25-27; Psalm 124:8

I know that my Redeemer lives,
and that in the end He will stand on the earth.
And after my skin has been destroyed,
yet in my flesh I will see God;

**I myself will see Him
with my own eyes—I, and not another.**

How my heart yearns within me!

**Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**

INVOCATION

SONG OF ADORATION

HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US

1. How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That He would give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the chosen One
Bring many sons to glory

2. Behold the Man upon a cross
My guilt upon His shoulders
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished

3. I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no pow'r's, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain
From His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom

*"See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God."
1 John 3:1*

Stuart Townend
©1995 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing).
Used by permission. CCLI #708363

Welcome

We are glad you have joined us this morning! If you are visiting our church for the first time, or are a regular attender or church member, we encourage you to use our online or paper "[Keep in Touch](#)" form to introduce yourself, request prayer, or request more information about our church. Following the service, please introduce yourself to Pastor Isaiah Thomas either in the Gallery or on the front sidewalk.

PRESENTATION OF New MEMBERS (10:30am)

Sophie Mailloux, Malachy Vance

STORIES FROM THE CHURCH: TURNING TO JESUS

Fields Gravitt

Each Sunday in Lent we will hear testimonies of how Jesus is leading us to repent to trust Him, becoming like Him in His death, and attaining His resurrection (*Philippians 3:10-11*).

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Man in his pomp will not remain; he is like the beasts that perish. This is the path of those who have foolish confidence; yet after them people approve of their boasts. 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. But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol, for he will receive me.

Psalm 49:12-15. To the choirmaster. A psalm for the sons of Korah.

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

OFFERING

You can place your offering and/or tear-off as the plates pass. If you miss today's offering, please visit www.wepc.org/giving for online giving options or mail your offering to the church office (9008 Quiocasin Road, Henrico, VA, 23229).

FAST FROM, FEAST ON

1. Fast from the swelling darkness
Feast on the power of His light
Fast from discontentment
Feast on the joy that He brings...

*Sustainer, Protector, the Well of Life
My Helper, my comfort, the Bread of Life
Sustainer, Protector, the Well of Life
My Helper, my comfort, the Bread of Life
Is You
Is You*

2. Fast from the fear that haunts us
Feast on the power of His might
Fast from the trap of judgment
Feast on all that's been redeemed...

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP (10:30am)

Children, age 4 through 2nd grade, will be dismissed prior to the sermon for a Bible Lesson, activity, and fellowship. Pick up from the Chapel. www.wepc.org/grow/children

CHILDREN'S BLESSING (10:30am)

Gather round ye children come
Listen to the old, old Story
Of the power of death undone
By an Infant born of glory
Son of God, Son of Man

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 (Romans 12:1).

"Even to your old age I am He, and to gray hairs I will carry you. I have made, and I will bear; I will carry and save." Isaiah 46:4

Latifah Alattas
©2014 Page CXVI.
Used by permission

"But Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.'"
Matthew 19:14

Andrew Peterson ©2005
New Springs (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) Used by permission.
CCLI #708363

SCRIPTURE READING

²⁹Otherwise, what do people mean by being baptized on behalf of the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized on their behalf? ³⁰Why are we in danger every hour? ³¹I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day! ³²What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die."³³Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals."³⁴Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

1 Corinthians 15:29-34

SERMON

A Worship Guide with sermon questions and testimony is posted each Sunday at wepc.org/worship/sermons-media.

PREPARATION FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

1 Corinthians 11:23-32

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.

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your steadfast love and atoning sacrifice, You took our place and proved Yourself to be the Friend of sinners. You were punished that we might be pardoned, and broken that we would be made whole. In Your resurrection You demonstrated Your power over death, and secured our future--triumphant, redeemed, and blessed eternally. While we await Your return, we confess that we have been faithless and anxious in heart. In our restlessness we have sought peace for our souls in a salvation of our own making. Apart from You, we find ourselves dangerously proud, alone and worn. Forgive us, Savior! Renew our faith and restore to us the true rest You alone offer us. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

Praying to the Lord for mercy is a worship practice with roots in ancient Israel (Psalm 51:1), and heard in the cries of those who came to Jesus in the Gospels (Matthew 15:22, 17:15, 20:30). As a part of confessing our sin in worship this Lent, the followers of Jesus expectantly sing, "have mercy".

Sandra McCracken | Thad Cockrell
©2015 Drink Your Tea Music.
Used by permission.

HAVE MERCY

Have mer - cy on me.

C F G C
Have mer - cy on me. O

G F C
Lord, have mer - cy. O

Em F C
Lord, have mer - - - cy.

Have mercy on me
Have mercy on me
O Lord, have mercy
O Lord, have mercy

O, help my unbelief
O, help my unbelief
O Lord, have mercy
O Lord, have mercy

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Hebrews 12:2

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

First Communion: Sophie Mailloux (10:30AM)

Sophie recently met with the Elders, who heard her testimony of faith in Jesus Christ. We invite the Mailloux 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. The Elders presiding over the Supper are praying for you as the congregation participates in the sacrament.

At the center aisle station, wine and grape juice with gluten-free wafers are available in double cups. The gluten-free wafer is found in the bottom cup. Juice is in the purple cup. Wine is in the clear cup. At all the other stations, grape juice is in purple cups, wine is in the clear cups on the outer ring of the tray, and gluten-free bread is served alongside. For a list of ingredients in the wafers, see www.wepc.org/communion.

If your child is ready to make a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ, please contact the WEPC office.

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT TRANSFORMS US BY HIS GRACE

SONGS OF RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

AMAZING GRACE

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind, but now I see
2. 'Twas Grace that taught my heart to fear
And Grace, my fears relieved
How precious did that Grace appear
The hour I first believed
3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home
4. The Lord has promised good to me
His Word my hope secures
He will my Shield and Portion be
As long as life endures
5. When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun

*"For by grace you have been saved through faith."
Ephesians 2:8*

John Newton (1779; Tune: NEW BRITAIN, Virginia Harmony (1831). Public domain.

*"These are they which
follow the Lamb... they
are without fault before
the throne."
Revelation 14:4-5*

Charitie Lees Bancroft
(1863); Tune: Hubert
Parry (1916). ©1997
PDI Worship. Used by
permission.

BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE

1. Before the throne of God above
I have a strong, a perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

2. When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end to all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God, the Just, is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me
To look on Him and pardon me

3. Behold Him there! the risen Lamb
My perfect, spotless Righteousness
The great unchangeable I AM
The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ, my Savior and my God
With Christ, my Savior and my God

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Fa - ther Son and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

“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

A team is available for prayer at the front of the Sanctuary following the 9 AM & 10:30 AM services.

Pastor Isaiah Thomas preached today’s sermon and administered the Lord’s Supper. Pastor Kevin Greene led worship. Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, Ford Hendrix, Georgia Collier, Mya Wilcox, Deacon Karl Kuder, and Tim Drummond led this morning’s congregational singing. Andy Becker and Rob MacBride managed today’s audio and video live stream. Luke Farkas managed the in-house video system.

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.

Announcements

ADULT MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/adults

Adult Sunday School

- **Lenten Hymn Sing**
March 24 / 9 AM / Chapel
Join us in singing Lenten hymns and hymns of praise, followed by food and fellowship.
- **Easter Devotional**
March 31 / 9 AM / Room 810
- **The Life of Jesus**
April 7 / 9 AM / Room 810
Join us as we study the life of Christ. Using videos from the great 20th century theologian RC Sproul's "Dust to Glory" series, we will examine the moment in redemptive history when the second Person of the Trinity revealed Himself to His people in the most profound way.

Wednesday Night Fellowship

BELOVED: A Study of the letter of FIRST JOHN

www.wepc.org/WNF

Wednesdays through March 20
6-7:30 PM / Chapel

Join us as we grow in understanding how Jesus loves us, and how His Spirit gives us power to love God and our neighbor. Led by Kevin Greene, Graham Howell, & Becca Wethered. Contact Kevin (kevin@wepc.org) with questions.

Women's Ministry

www.wepc.org/grow/women

Wellspring & Restore Bible Studies

Join us as we continue studying the book of Jonah. New women are welcome.
Wellspring: Tuesdays / 9:15-11:30 AM
Restore: Wednesdays / 6-7:30 PM
Contact: Brice Bowman (brice@wepc.org) or visit [our website](#) to register.

YOUTH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/youth

- **Sunday School:** 9 AM
- **Youth Group:** Wednesdays
6-7:30 PM--Middle School
7:30-9 PM--High School
- **Homework Time:** Tuesdays / 6-8 PM
- **Parent Meeting:** TODAY / 12:15 PM / FH
- **MS Boys Yard Games:** March 23
- **HS Modgnik:** April 12-14 / Register [HERE](#)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/children

Sundays

- **9 AM:** Nursery (infant-3 years old) & Sunday School (PreK-5)
- **10:30 AM:** Nursery (infant-3 years old) & Children's Worship (4 years-2nd grade)

**Nursing Mom's Room (service audio available during both services)*

Kids' Club (K-5th grade)

Wednesdays / 6-7:30 PM

Join us for Bible teaching, games, crafts, and fellowship!

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

10K Training Team

Join the Good News Can't Lose Team if you are interested in running, jogging, or walking the Monument Avenue 10k on Saturday, April 20. Official training is each Saturday morning at 8AM. For more information and to sign up, visit [our website](#). Contact: Misti Prociuous (misti@wepc.org) with questions.

MISSIONS

www.wepc.org/outreach/missions

Patty's Thrift - Volunteers Needed!

Patty's Thrift, a consignment store that is part of the Patty's Hope Ministry, is looking for volunteers to help with sorting and other tasks, as they get ready to open their new store. Please sign up [here](#) for details on how to help, or visit their [website](#) to reach out directly.

Prison Discipleship (PDM) Awareness Dinner

April 12 / 6:30-8:15 PM / Fellowship Hall
Join us to hear about about the work of WEPC Missions Partner Prison Discipleship Ministry, serving men and women in jails and prisons in central Virginia. RSVP by April 1 to Al Yancey (804-801-4035)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Deacons of the Week

Cory Payne, Sean Winterhalter, Stephen Hunn, & Bryan Meeks

Community Dinners

There are still openings for community dinners in March. Visit [our website](#) to sign up! Contact: Joy Andrews (joy@wepc.org)

Goochland County Church Plant

Do you live in Goochland County, VA? Are you, or someone you know, interested in hearing more about a new Presbyterian Church in America church plant in Goochland County? Contact: Pastor Joe Brown (joe@wepc.org)

WEPC Community Preschool Run for the FUNd 5K

Join us on **March 23** as the WEPC Community Preschool brings back the Run for the FUNd 5K event - open to all! Visit [our website](#) for more information - [Registration](#) now open!

WEPC Men's Softball Team

For any former athletes interested in playing softball on Tuesday nights, the season starts April 9th. We still have a couple roster spots available, so if you're interested in joining in on the competition and fellowship, please contact Bryan Meeks (meeks.b@gmail.com) or Ross Bruning (ross6536@gmail.com).

Singing at PCA General Assembly 2024?

Our denomination, The Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), will be conducting its 51st General Assembly this summer in Richmond, VA. During that assembly on June 11, a choral prelude will be sung prior to an evening worship service, and volunteers are welcome to sing and be a part of this choral offering. Contact Jack Templeton (jack.and.minda@gmail.com) if you are interested in helping or for more information.

WEPC Preschool Enrollment is Open!

We'd love your little ones to join us at WEPC with classes available for 1-5 year olds! For more info, visit wepc.org/preschool, contact Casey (casey@wepc.org), or pick up an enrollment packet outside the WEPC Community Preschool office in the gallery.

Sandra McCracken in Concert

May 2 / 7:30PM

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church
Sandra McCracken is coming to Richmond for a concert that will support Sandra's latest album, "[Light in the Canyon](#)." Opening the evening will be her latest side project, [Paper Horses](#), including Taylor Leonhardt. Tickets available online at <http://tinyurl.com/mccrackentickets>.

Fiscal Year Giving Report (as of 3/10/2024):

Operating gifts YTD: \$1,799,063.38

Forecasted gifts YTD: \$1,787,506.34

% of expected budget received: 100.65%

Lent & Easter 2024 at WEPC

www.wepc.org/lent-and-easter

*"I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead."
Philippians 3:10-11*

The season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday, February 14, and ends on the Saturday before Easter, March 30. Lent, a tradition from the early centuries of church history, is a season of preparation preceding the celebration of Easter, focused on repentance. Speaking biblically, to repent means to make a change in our attitudes, words, and lifestyle. Those who follow Jesus must learn that we must die before we rise. Beginning when we first trust Christ, and continuing throughout our lives, we turn more and more away from sin and self-centeredness and instead turn more and more to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Worship Services

•Maundy Thursday / March 28 / 7 PM

We gather to worship, to remember Christ's work on the cross, to celebrate communion, and to respond to Christ's mandate to serve each other.

•Good Friday / March 29 / 7 PM

This service of corporate prayer, Scripture reading, confession, and celebration of our Lord's death helps us consider and respond to the crucifixion and atonement of Jesus Christ for us.

•Easter Sunday / March 31 / 9 & 10:30 AM

Lenten Hymn Sing

March 24 / 9AM / Chapel

Join us in singing Lenten hymns and hymns of praise, followed by food and fellowship.

Lent 2024 Devotional

A weekly worship devotional to guide the church in practicing repentance as we prepare to celebrate Christ's victory over death through Scripture, prayer, and song. Available [online](#) and in the church gallery.

WEPC Lent 2024 Playlist

Listen to [this soundtrack](#) to sing along with Lenten songs of repentance and dependence on God. Many of these songs are sung in our worship services and are also used in our Lent 2024 Devotional.

FOOD PANTRY

www.wepc.org/mercyministry

Please continue to check our [weekly list](#) or join a [Food Item Team](#) to help keep the shelves stocked for our neighbors.

Keep in Touch

Especially if this is your first Sunday with us —welcome!

Date: _____

Name: _____

Children's Names: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Who invited you to WEPC? How did you first hear about us?

◇ Check if this is NEW contact information for you.

Please check the appropriate boxes:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| ◇ Visitor | Age: |
| ◇ Male | ◇ 20 or younger |
| ◇ Female | ◇ 21-26 |
| ◇ Single | ◇ 27-34 |
| ◇ Student (Grade ____) | ◇ 35-49 |
| ◇ Student (College) | ◇ 50-64 |
| ◇ Married | ◇ 65 and older |
| ◇ Parent | |
| ◇ Widowed | |

I would like info about:

- ◇ WEPC
- ◇ Women's Ministry
- ◇ Men's Ministry
- ◇ Childrens Ministry
- ◇ Youth Ministry
- ◇ Adult Classes
- ◇ Home Groups
- ◇ Neighborhood Outreach
- ◇ Becoming a member of WEPC
- ◇ Other: _____

◇ Please include me on the WEPC email list.

◇ I am interested in learning more about becoming a Christian.

Prayer Requests:

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment, and forgiving me. I run from my sins—my old life living for myself—and receive you as Savior. Amen.