

GOD THE FATHER CALLS US TO WORSHIP HIM

The Seventh 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.

Preparation for Worship & Communion

I WILL KEEP YOU

"Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war."

--Revelation 19:11

"We need the key of David to unlock the chains that imprison us."
--Tish Harrison Warren

"The sons of those who afflicted you shall come bending low to you, and all who despised you shall bow down at your feet; they shall call you the City of the LORD, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel."
--Isaiah 60:14

Call to Worship

Hebrews 10:19-23

The First Word

We believe that God always initiates with sinners, so we begin worship with His Word: His invitation to us to gather in His name. Since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, His body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God:

Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith,

Having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful.

Invocation. Asking God to be with us.

Invocation

Song of Adoration

JESUS, LOVER OF MY SOUL



Adoration.

The God who meets with us in worship is good and powerful. We recognize His greatness and remember His amazing works together in song.

"You have been...a refuge for the needy in his distress." Isaiah 25:4

Charles Wesley (1740); Tune: ©2000 Greg Thompson. 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 <u>Keep in Touch form</u> to introduce yourself, request prayer, or request more information about our church. Following the service, please introduce yourself to Pastor Steve Shelby either in the Gallery or on the front sidewalk.

Installation of Te Isaiah Thomas, associate Pastor (10:30 am)

Questions to the Pastor

- 1. Are you now willing to take charge of this congregation as their pastor, agreeable to your declaration in accepting its call?
- 2. Do you conscientiously believe and declare, as far as you know your own heart, that, in taking upon you this charge, you are influenced by a sincere desire to promote the glory of God and the good of the Church?
- 3. Do you solemnly promise that, by the assistance of the grace of God, you will endeavor faithfully to discharge all the duties of a pastor to this congregation, and will be careful to maintain a deportment in all respects becoming a minister of the Gospel of Christ, agreeable to your ordination engagements?

Questions to the Congregation

- 1. Do you, the people of this congregation, continue to profess your readiness to receive Isaiah Thomas, whom you have called to be your pastor?
- 2. Do you promise to receive the word of truth from his mouth with meekness and love, and to submit to him in the due exercise of discipline?
- 3. Do you promise to encourage him in his labors, and to assist his endeavors for your instruction and spiritual edification?
- 4. Do you engage to continue to him while he is your pastor that competent worldly maintenance which you have promised, and to furnish him with whatever you may see needful for the honor of religion and for his comfort among you?

Declaration of Installation

I now pronounce and declare that Isaiah Thomas has been regularly elected, and installed pastor of this congregation, agreeable to the Word of God, and according to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in America; and that as such he is entitled to all support, encouragement, honor, and obedience in the Lord: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

OLD Testament Reading

In that day I will call my servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, and I will clothe him with your robe, and will bind your sash on him, and will commit your authority to his hand. And he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. And I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David. He shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open. And I will fasten him like a peg in a secure place, and he will become a throne of honor to his father's house. And they will hang on him the whole honor of his father's house, the offspring and issue, every small vessel, from the cups to all the flagons. In that day, declares the LORD of hosts, the peg that was fastened in a secure place will give way, and it will be cut down and fall, and the load that was on it will be cut off, for the LORD has spoken."

Isaiah 22:20-25

Ministry of Prayer

Pray for God's advancing Kingdom. For our Church, City, and World. This week...

Led by Elder Tom Krieger

- For West End Presbyterian Church: That we would come with confidence to our Heavenly Father as we pray with joyful dependence to the One who knows our needs.
- For Metropolitan Richmond: For the governments and governing bodies of Richmond and surrounding counties and towns.
- For God's World Mission: For WEPC partner campus ministries RUF, IVCF, Cru, Bridges, and Young Life and their role in reaching the nations with the Good News of Jesus Christ and discipling a new generation of missionaries. wepc.org/outreach/missions

Offering

You can place your offering and/or tear-off as the plates pass. Please visit www.wepc.org/giving or scan the QR code for online giving options, or mail your offering to the church office (9008 Quioccasin Road, Henrico, VA, 23229).



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).

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever" Psalm 136:1

Sandra McCracken Leslie Jordan | Josh Silverberg (adaptations from Henri Nouwen), ©2016 Drink Your Tea Music. Used by permission. CCLI #708363

STEADFAST

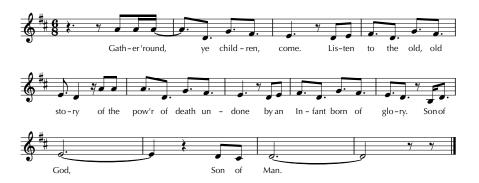


CHILDRen's WORSHIP (10:30am)

Children, age 4 through 2nd grade, will be dismissed prior to the sermon for a Bible Lesson, activity, and fellowship. Pick up from Room 121. www.wepc.org/grow/children

CHILDRen's Blessing (10:30am)

GATHER ROUND YE CHILDREN, COME



"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

GOD THE SON RENEWS US THROUGH HIS WORD & SACRAMENT

Scripture Reading

⁷"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: 'The words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens. 8"'I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. ⁹Behold, I will make those of the synagogue of Satan who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie—behold, I will make them come and bow down before your feet, and they will learn that I have loved you. ¹⁰Because you have kept my word about patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth. ¹¹I am coming soon. Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown. ¹²The one who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God. Never shall he go out of it, and I will write on him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name. 13 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

Revelation 3:7-13

Sermon

A Worship Guide with sermon questions is posted each Sunday at https://wepc.org/worship/sermons-media. You can also find the sermon audio on Apple Podcasts and Spotify under "West End Presbyterian Church RVA."

Preparation for the Lord's Supper

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

from Mark 14:16-25

The disciples prepared the Passover. And when it was evening, Jesus came with the twelve. And they were reclining at the table and as they were eating, He took bread. And after blessing it, He broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

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.

Almighty God, by the power of Your Spirit, You raised Jesus from the grave and crowned Him Lord of all. You have graciously poured out that same Spirit upon Your people. We confess that we have not bowed before our Lord or acknowledged His rule in our lives. We have often persisted in ways that lead to death, and failed to give Him glory. Forgive us and raise us from sin. Give us grace to find our lives in Christ alone. Strengthen us to take up our cross in following Jesus, who rules the world and is Head of the Church, His Body. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

Words of Encouragement

You were once separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

Epheshians 2:12-13

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. The Elders presiding over the Supper are praying for you as the congregation participates in the sacrament.

At each communion station, grape juice is served in purple cups, wine is served in clear cups, and gluten-free bread is served in a separate tray.

At the center aisle station, double-cups are also available, where the small gluten-free wafer is found in the bottom cup. Again, grape juice is in the purple cups and wine is in the clear cups. 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.

Songs of Response to God's Grace

"Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of His glory with great joy." Jude 24

Ada R. Habershon (1906);Tune: ©2013 Getty Music Publishing, Matthew Merker Music. Used by permission. CCLI #708363

HE WILL HOLD ME FAST



WE WILL FEAST IN THE HOUSE OF ZION

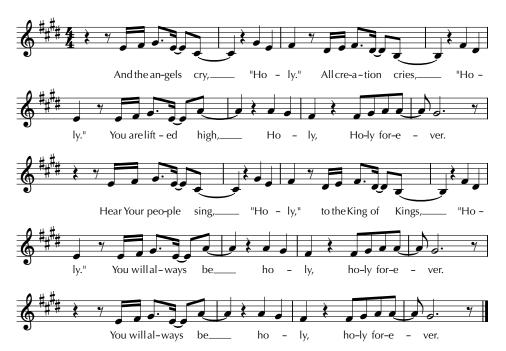


"For a people shall dwell in Zion, in Jerusalem; you shall weep no more." Isaiah 30:19

Sandra McCracken and Joshua Moore © 2015 Drink Your Tea (ASCAP), Joshmooreownsthis Music (ASCAP) Used by permission. CCLI #708363 "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!" Revelation 4:8

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HOLY FOREVER



Doxology



"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-inone) nature.

Benediction

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

Pastor Steve Shelby preached today's sermon and administered the Lord's Supper. Pastor Kevin Greene led worship. Erin Bouknight, Evangeline Bouknight, Pastor Kevin Greene, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, Buddy Miner, and Donald Smith led this morning's congregational singing. Greg Stiles and Deacon Tim Andrews managed today's audio and video live stream. Cody Hahn 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 Illinistry

www.wepc.org/adults

Adult Sunday School: 9AM / Room 810

Fellowship Day / March 2

Join us for a Fellowship Day in Adult Sunday School for a time of food, great conversation, and hear a testimony from one of our new members.

1 Peter / March 9 - Apr 13

In times of suffering where do we find hope? 1 Peter reminds us that hope is offered in Jesus Christ. Join us as we learn that suffering is more than just hardship, it can be an opportunity to see and share the love of Christ. Led by Elder Chris Newlin and Matt Bouknight. (matt@wepc.org).

Young Adult Ministry

Meets every other Thursday / 7 PM

Next Meeting: February 27

Young Adults at WEPC is for those in their 20s & 30s looking for a space to grow in their faith and connect with others. Contact: Matt Bouknight (matt@wepc.org)

Wednesday Night Fellowship: The Cross-Shaped Life

www.wepc.org/WNF

Wednesdays through April 2 / 6-7:30 PM / Chapel The Cross of Christ is the heart of God and the way we live as disciples. Led by Kevin Greene, Brian Wilcox, and Becca Wethered. Contact: Kevin Greene (<u>kevin@wepc.org</u>)

Women's Ministry

www.wepc.org/grow/women

Wellspring & Restore Bible Studies

Join us as we continue studying the Sermon on the Mount. New women are welcome. Wellspring: Tuesdays / 9:15-11:30 AM Restore: Wednesdays / 6-7:30 PM Contact: Brice Bowman (brice@wepc.org)

The Table Fellowship & Prayer

Fridays / 12 - 1 PM / Room 810 The Table is an informal gathering to pray and fellowship as a church, open to anyone that would like to attend. We'll have a short devotional, pray for the needs of the church and each other, and eat lunch together. Please bring a packed lunch. No need to RSVP. Contact: Matt Bouknight (matt@wepc.org)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/children

Sundays

9 AM: Nursery (infant-3 years old)

- **10:30 AM:** Nursery (infant-3 years old) & Children's Message or Worship (4 years-2nd grade; Children's Worship does not meet on the 1st Sunday of the month. Instead, there will be a Children's Message during the 10:30 AM worship service.)
- Nursing Mom's Room (service audio available during both services)

Kids Club

Wednesdays / 6-7:30 PM / Kindergarten-5th Grade Join us for Bible teaching, games, crafts, and fellowship!

Mother/Son BINGO: March 8 / 6-8 PM / FH Join us for fellowship, fun, food, and suprises!

Youth Ministry

www.wepc.org/grow/youth

Sunday School: 9 AM / Youth Lounge

• Youth Group: February 26

Homework Time: Tuesdays / 6-8 PM

 MS Boys Board Game Day: March 1 / 2-5 PM / YL • **High School Modgni:** April 11-13 / <u>Register here!</u>

Heighborhood 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 12 Official training is each Saturday morning at 8AM. Sign up <u>here</u> to be part of the training team. Contact: Changiwok Deng (changiwok@wepc.org)

Simple English Bible Study

2nd & 4th Sundays / 5-6:30 PM / Room 810

Next Meeting: TONIGHT!

Join our multicultural community twice a month as we meet to study the Bible using the book of Acts. Contact: Changiwok Deng (changiwok@wepc.org)

Wepc Community Preschool

www.wepc.org/preschool

Enrollment Now Open!

Classes available for 1-5 year olds! For more information, visit <u>wepc.org/preschool</u> or contact Casey Zollinhofer (casey@wepc.org). Enrollment packets available online and in the WEPC office.

Missions

www.wepc.org/outreach/missions

Donations Needed for Bloom by PRC Richmond WEPC Supported Missions Partner Bloom by PRC (Pregancy Resource Center) is collecting donations of baby lotion, shampoo/body wash, petroleum jelly, and grooming sets. Please drop items in the bin outside the WEPC office. This is the LAST WEEK for donations. Contact: Maren Judge (phillygirl54@verizon.net).

General information

Deacons of the Week

Taylor Miller, Stan Cover, Chris May, & EJ Fogarty

Volunteer Greeters Needed

We are looking for 10 Greeters to fill upcoming team openings on Sunday mornings. Commitment is approximately once every 10 weeks. Contact: Karen Howe (karen@wepc.org)

Goochland Presbyterian Church "Send-off" Celebration & Potluck

March 23 / 12 PM / Fellowship Hall All are invited! Join us as we celebrate with the Goochland Presbyterian Church Core Group as they prepare to launch their first public worship service on Easter! We will share a meal together and spend time praying and thanking God for His provision for GPC. Please bring a food item to share for the potluck lunch. Contact: Kristin Tetterton (kristin@wepc.org)

Our Lives for Christ: While We're Together & When We're Apart March 28-29

A conference and time of fellowship, worship, and Biblical teaching for Christians experiencing same-sex attraction. For more information or to register, visit https://tinyurl.com/4wa5pktx

2025 DivorceCare Men & Women's Group Tuesdays through May 6 / 7-9 PM / Room 810 Join us for a Christ-centered program addressing the complexity of life when facing marital separation or divorce. Register at www.divorcecare.org/findagroup. Contact: Bryan Finch (Bryanlfinch@gmail.com) or Matt Osenga (Osengam@hotmail.com)

Fiscal Year Giving Report (as of 2/16/2025):

Operating gifts YTD: \$1,597,132.82 Forecasted gifts YTD: \$1,721,381.24 % of expected budget received: 92.78%

Youth Ministry Summer Internships Applications Available Now!

For those interested in applying for a Youth Ministry Summer Internship (May 27-August 3, 2025), please click <u>HERE</u> for the job description and the WEPC Employment Application. Applications due March 1, 2025. Contact: Isaiah Thomas (isaiah@wepc.org)

FOOD Pantry

www.wepc.org/mercyministry

We have some CRITICAL food item needs. Please continue to check our <u>weekly list</u> or join a <u>Food Item Team</u> to help keep the shelves stocked for our neighbors.

Lent & Caster 2025 at WCPC

www.wepc.org/lent-and-easter

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5, and ends on the Saturday before Easter, April 19. 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

Ash Wednesday

March 5 / 6:30 PM / Sanctuary
This communion service will be an opportunity
to worship God in light of the grace He gives His
people to repent and trust Christ alone for hope and
salvation. An offering will be taken for the WEPC
Deacon's Fund.

- Maundy Thursday / April 17 / 6 PM
- •Good Friday / April 18 / 7 PM
- Easter Sunday / April 20 / 9 & 10:30 AM

Personal Retreat

March 22 / 8:30 AM-12:30 PM Roslyn Retreat Center Join us for a time alone in prayer, reflection, Scripture readings, and communion. Register <u>here</u>. Contact: Kevin Greene (<u>kevin@wepc.org</u>)

Lent 2025 Devotional & WEPC Lent 2025 Playlist Available March 5.

Keep in Touch

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



Date:			
Name:			
Children's Names:			
Address:			
City:			
Phone:			
Email:			
Who invited you to WEPC? H	low did you	first hear abou	t us?

♦ Check if this is <u>NEW</u> contact information for you.

Please check the appropriate boxes:

- ♦ Visitor <u>Age:</u>
- ♦ Male ♦ 20 or younger
- ♦ Female
 ♦ Single
 ♦ Student (Grade ___)
 ♦ Student (College)
 ♦ 50-64
- \Diamond Student (College) \Diamond 50-64 \Diamond Married \Diamond 65 and older
- ♦ Parent♦ Widowed

I would like info about:

- ♦ WEPC
- ♦ Women's Ministry
- ♦ Men's Ministry
- ♦ Childrens Ministry
- ♦ Youth Ministry
- ♦ Adult Classes
- $\Diamond \ Home \ Groups$
- ♦ 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 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.