

WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 26TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST NOVEMBER 17, 2024

PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

Merciful God, you hear our cries and honor our prayers. Stir in us such a passion during worship that we might vow to give you our best, for the glory of your name. Amen.

THE GATHERING PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

PASTORAL GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Penny Pulley

MINUTE FOR MISSION: Stewardship Update

Pete Osman

PRELUDE

Trumpet Tune in C Major

David Lasky

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Leader: No matter how far we wander from you, O God,

All: your steadfast love finds us.

Leader: No matter how unjust the world seems to us, O God,

All: your steadfast righteousness sustains us.

Leader: No matter how vulnerable our lives seem to us, O God,

All: your steadfast presence gives us hope.

Leader: No matter how unloved and uncared for we feel, O God,

All: you hear our cries and answer our prayers.

Bold typeface indicates that the congregation participates in word or song.

^{*}Please rise in body or spirit.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: Christ came into the world to save us from sin, once and for all. Because of his sacrifice for us, God waits in mercy to forgive. Let us confess our sin before God and one another.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Forgive us, Lord, when we think too highly of ourselves and clamor after privilege and honor. Forgive us, Lord, when we cannot lift our gaze because we do not believe we have anything to give. You have given us the best gift of all: freedom from all that harms us and the way to abundant life. Have mercy on our foolishness and heal our lovesick hearts, that we may live faithfully for you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER





Addressing the first two stanzas to the singers of the hymn and the last three to God, this free paraphrase of Psalm 104 recasts the psalmist's imagery with baroque verve. Though it was first published in England, the tune has been more popular in North America than there.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: People of God, Jesus Christ, who gave himself once and for all, forgives and saves.

Therefore, be reconciled to one another, holding fast to the confession of our hope, through Christ our Lord.



(11:00) At this time any and all children through the 5th grade are invited to come forward for Sharing Faith with Children.

(11:00) SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Jim Kirkpatrick

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Almighty God, speak your Word to us, and guide our feet, that we might be hearers and doers of your word. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: 1 Samuel 2:1–10 Penny Pulley (9:30)

Mollie Teague (11:00)

Leader: My heart is overjoyed, and God has made me stronger than ever. There is no Holy

One like God.

All: Our God is a rock.

Leader: Humble yourself before the God of all knowledge. Before God, the strongest weapons

are broken. And the weakest are made strong.

All: Our God is a rock.

Leader: The ones who filled themselves are empty and the hungry ones have more than they

can eat. Those who had no children are surrounded by happy little ones. God makes poor and rich, kills and brings to life again. God raises up the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the streets and brings them into the palace to sit next to

the king.

All: Our God is a rock.

Leader: God built the pillars of the earth that the world is set on. God protects those who are

faithful, but sends away the wicked. God's thunder rumbles in the heavens, and

decides whom to strengthen.

All: Our God is a rock.

(Paraphrase from God's Word, My Voice by Lyn Zill Briggs)

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

(9:30) **PSALM 121** (unison)

(11:00) PSALM 121 - Embodying the Psalm

Children of WPC

I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in,
from this time on and forevermore.

SECOND LESSON: Hebrews 10:19–25

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Hold Fast

Pastor John E. Morgan

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 840 When Peace Like a River VILLE DU HAVRE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: From A Brief Statement of Faith, 1–6, 77–79 (unison)

In life and in death we belong to God.

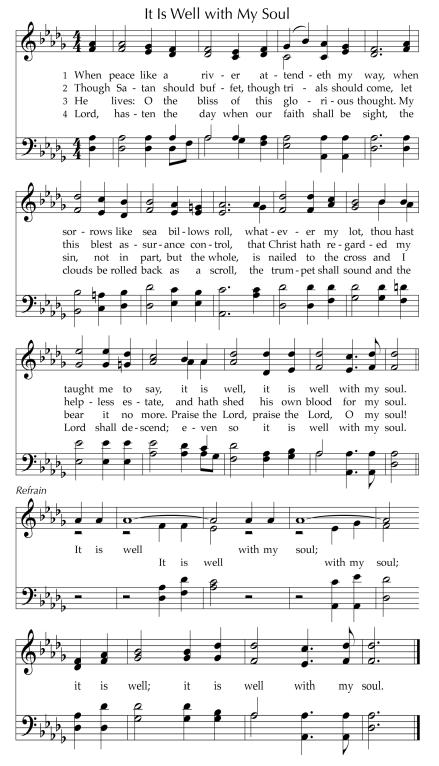
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.

When Peace like a River



OFFERING

Thank you for your continued faithful stewardship to WPC. May our offerings continue to help us be the light for our neighbors and our siblings in Christ all over the world. Offering envelopes can be found inside the friendship register book. We invite you to make your offering or pledge payment in one of the following ways:

- Place your offering into the plates as you exit the sanctuary
- Visit mywpc.org/offering or scan the QR code at the right to give online
- Mail your offering to the church office at 215 Richmond Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

My Lord, What a Morning

arr. Charles McKinley

Refrain:

My Lord, what a morning! My Lord, what a morning! My Lord, what a morning! When the stars begin to fall.

You will hear the trumpet sound To wake the nations underground, Looking to my God's right hand When the stars begin to fall. (Refrain)

You will hear the sinner cry
To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand
When the stars begin to fall. (Refrain)

You will see my Jesus come, His glory shining like the sun, Looking to my God's right hand When the stars begin to fall. (Refrain)

You will hear the Christian shout To wake the nations underground, Looking to my God's right hand When the stars begin to fall. (Refrain)



*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

*Invitation and The Lord's Day Greeting

We are glad you are worshiping with us today! If you are joining us online, please remember to "sign" our online friendship register:

- Click on the "Welcome to WPC! Click here to sign the Friendship Register" banner at the top of the website page
- Visit <u>mywpc.org/friendship</u> or scan the QR code at the right to access the online friendship register.

*HYMN 838 Standing on the Promises PROMISES

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Fanfare for Organ Robert Powell

The service of worship concludes after the postlude. The music can be enjoyed or used as an opportunity for prayer. You may remain seated; if you wish to depart, please do so quietly and without disturbing those who choose to stay.



Perhaps because this hymn is so well known, its language sounds vaguely scriptural; but while there are various biblical uses of "stand" and "promise(s)," the two words are never combined. The confidence here is similar to that of "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" (see no. 353).



>> THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY ◆

PASTORS

John E. Morgan, Pastor/Head of Staff

Pam Hrncir, Associate Pastor

MUSIC MINISTRY

Chris Bechtler, Director of Music Ministries

Sarah Bland, Guest Organist

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Melody Dillon, Director of Children and Family Ministries

GREETERS

9:30 a.m. Nick Nicastro

11:00 a.m. Elizabeth Padgett , Bruce Powell

USHERS

9:30 a.m. Matthew Underwood, Pat Underwood, John VanAken, Anne Nicastro

11:00 a.m. Bob Bolstad, Donna Powell, Pat Murray, Rick Murray;

Mollie, Walker, Sara and Armand Teague

LITURGISTS

9:30 a.m. Penny Pulley

11:00 a.m. Mollie Teague

SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Jim Kirkpatrick

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Sarah Dulaney, Eric Beckhusen, Karol Sibley

*WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHERS

Bill and Janice McGuire

*WINDSORMEADE USHERS

Paul Hotinger and Peter Moriarty

AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS: Dave McLain and John Schoenberger

^{*}Satellite campuses

> WPC Elders, Deacons & Staff < ≤

SESSION: CLASSES OF 2025, 2026, 2027

Moderator: John E. Morgan **Clerk of Session:** Diane Schwarz

Administration: Faith Shartzer* (25), Sarah Houghland (25), Margie Newcomer (26), Larry Pulley (26) Christian Education: Sallie McLain* (25), Kelly Kirkpatrick (26), JD Due* (26), Kathryn Hall (27)

Christian Outreach: * Jim Winthrop* (25), Joseph Kinard (27)

Communications: Ellen Peters (27)

Facilities: Dale Trowbridge* (25), Jerry Howell (26), Ric Cheston (27) Resources: Elaine McBeth (25), Jay Eaton (26), Marc Moyers (27)

Worship: Becky McKinley* (27)

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE:

Hank Vernon* (25), Jim Austin (26), Joseph Kinard (26), Martha Squire (27), Al Thomas* (25)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: CLASS OF 2024-25

Moderator: Jerry Howell*, Ric Cheston**, Roban Graham, Ellen D'Orsogna, Jay Hardy, Dave McLain,

Bev Whitley

*Moderator **Second Chair

BOARD OF DEACONS: CLASSES OF 2025, 2026, 2027

Moderator: Copper Perry (25) Vice-Moderator: Eric Beckhusen (26)

Pastoral Advisor: Pam Hrncir, Associate Pastor

Secretary: Jo Ann Youhas (25)

CARE TEAMS

Care Connections: Harold Herring (25), Jennifer LaDow (26), Suzanne Stuart (27)

Grief: Copper Perry (25), Bev Whitley (27)

Brookdale and Other Asst. Living: Robin Sabo (26)

Patriot's Colony: Sue Rennagel (25)

Williamsburg Landing: Doris Gilfillan(26), Carolyn Lodzieski (26)

WindsorMeade: Happy Simmons (25), Martha Burian (26)

MINISTRY TEAMS

Celebrations and Concerns: Sarah Horner (25), Laura Osman (27)

Christian Fellowship: Happy Simmons (25), Sue Rennagel (25), Sarah Dulaney (25), Jim Carey (27)

Flower Sharing: Laura Bechtler (25): Leigh Sutherland (26), Carol Thomas (26) New Member: Deborah Rockafellow (25), Eric Beckhusen (26), Rodney Lawrence (27)

Memorial Receptions: Rebecca Caprio (26), Jo Ann Youhas (25), Karen Lauritzen (27), Julia Smith (27)

Memorial Services: Ford Moseley (27), Jack Lassiter (27), Kathy Chambers (27), Dave Littell (25)

STAFF

Pastoral Staff: John E. Morgan, Pastor/Head of Staff; Pam Hrncir, Covenant Pastor for Congregational Care Program Staff: Melody Dillon, Director of Children and Family Ministries; Adrian Williams, Director of Youth, Campus, and Adult Ministries

Music Staff: Christopher Bechtler, Director of Music; Norman Elton, Organist, Assistant Director of

Music: Rebecca Elton, Carol Choir Director

Administrative Staff: Stephen Foster, Director of Finance and Administration: Vanessa Gamble, Church Secretary; Martha Reier, Administrative Assistant; Sherry Volk, Director of Communications; Barbara Walker, Accounting Assistant

Facility Staff: Elbert Fleming, Facility Manager; Hugh Jamerson, Sexton

Audio Booth: John Schoenberger, Technician

≫ CHILDREN'S STATEMENT ≪

Children are welcome at WPC! We have Sunday School for all ages at 9:30 a.m. and a nursery for children ages 3 and below during both services. We also have children's worship bags and sensory objects available to be borrowed while in the building. Please ask an usher if you need assistance in locating anything.

The way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know, and let us show them, that they are at home in this house of worship. Parents, feel free to sit near the front where children can see, explain the parts of the service to them, and invite them to learn by watching and copying. And relax, God put the wiggle in children, so don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome!

SUPPORT FOR OUR MEMBERS ≪

- In need of one-on-one prayer? Please look for a Stephen Minister in the Fellowship Hall or the church foyer after the morning services. They will find a private place to talk and pray with you. Just look for the blue Stephen Ministry name tags.
- Monthly grief support group meets the first Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. in room 220 on the second level. During this meeting we check in with one another and occasionally watch videos about a specific grief topic. All are welcome to attend.

>> PRAYER CONCERNS, JOYS, & TOUCH NOTES ◆ S

To share a joy or concern, please visit www.mywpc.org, select GET CARE on the menu bar, then PRAYER REQUEST from the drop-down menu. Complete the form and click SEND REQUEST on the bottom of the form. Per your instructions, your request will be shared with our pastors, prayer chain or will be included in the worship bulletin. If the internet is not available to you, please call the church office at (757) 229-4235 with your request. The Prayer Chain Coordinator is Jo Ann Youhas (handbellringer2@gmail.com). Please notify Jo Ann when you would like to remove your name from the prayer chain.

If you are in need of a pastor after hours or on the weekend with an emergency request, please contact the Pastor-on-Call listed below for this week. To reach a Pastor during the week, please call the church office.

Sunday, November 10 – Saturday, November 16

Pastor John Morgan • jmorgan@mywpc.org • 757-903-7800

The WPC Family extends its deepest Christian sympathy and prayers to:

- The families of WPC who have lost beloved family members or friends recently.
- Vanessa Gamble, WPC Secretary, who is recovering from an accident.

Please pray for our sick and shut-in:

• Michelle, daughter of Ellen and Gene D'Orsogna, Denny Yeingst, Bob Siclari, Carol Sorensen, George Harris, Lee Beach, Clara Crumbly, Wolf Koenig, Nell Stowe, Doris Gilfillan, Carole McNeel

Please pray for those:

• Recovering from various surgeries and our sick and shut-ins who are at home or facility bound, who have family and friend concerns, affected by Hurricanes Helene and Milton, attending and serving in the school systems, serving our country in the military services and their families, affected by the wars in Gaza, Israel, Sudan, Lebanon and Ukraine.

➢ ANNOUNCEMENTS ←

- Sponsor a Poinsettia in Memory or Honor of Someone: The joyful season of Christmas is upon us. As we prepare to celebrate our Lord's birth, you are invited to help decorate the church by sponsoring a poinsettia. Envelopes for poinsettias can be found in the pew fellowship books and in the Welcome Center. Orders may also be placed online. The deadline for ordering is Sunday, December 1. Poinsettias are to remain in place until after the 10 p.m. Worship Service on Christmas Eve. Please leave the plastic saucer and cross your name off the list on the chancel steps if you choose to take your plant.
- Volunteers are needed for COFM Homeless Shelter November 26, 2024. St Martin's Episcopal Church on Jamestown Road is hosting the homeless shelter from November 24–Dec 1. WPC will staff the shelter on November 26 starting at 5:30 p.m. and ending the following day, November 27 at 7 a.m. We need volunteers for the following tasks and times:

Shift 1, check in crew from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. on November 26.

Shift 2, dinner crew from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on November 26.

Shift 3 overnight crew from 8:45 p.m. to 7 a.m. t on November 26.

Shift 4 breakfast servers from 5:15 a.m. to 7 a.m. on November 27.

If you can help or have any questions, please contact Jim Winthrop* or Joe Avellar.*

- Today is FISH Food Collection Sunday: FISH currently needs turkey/chicken gravy packets; yams; pasta; cold cereals (especially kid's cereals); peanut butter and jelly; boxed macaroni and cheese; canned fruit, soup, and vegetables; shampoo; toothpaste; diapers (size 4 and 5), and laundry detergent. We also welcome donations of hotel toiletries. Please place your donations in or near the red shopping cart located by the rear entrance. We have donated 373 bags of groceries to FISH this year, already surpassing last year's annual total.
- Please gather in Stevenson Hall on December 8 after the 11:00 a.m. service to bid farewell to "A" Williams and express our deep gratitude for his years of service.
- Children's Ministry is GROWING and needs your help. Your wisdom, experience, and knowledge are such a blessing to our families. Prayerfully consider sharing your gifts to support our nursery and Sunday School. The only qualification needed for these roles is a heart for children! During the school holidays, our college students who work in the nursery and Sunday School are enjoying a well-deserved break. Therefore, we need your help in the nursery and Sunday School from Dec. 1 to Jan. 22. Let's continue to support our children and families by sharing God's love. Please contact Melody Dillon with questions and to volunteer.

- Youth Choir is looking for new members! The WPC Youth Choir is open to all middle and high school students. We sing, ring handbells, and more. Come make a joyful noise with us on Sunday afternoons at 4:45, right before the weekly Youth Group meeting. Contact music director Chris Bechtler at cbechtler@mywpc.org with any questions.
- Our next Third Sunday Family Afternoon event is Today, November 17: Faith at Home. As we navigate through the everyday tasks of grocery pickups, carpools, never-ending emails, and finding the bin that holds the next size of clothes for the kid that grew 3 inches overnight, it can be challenging to remain grounded in the tenets of our faith. We will meet at noon in Stevenson Hall, followed by a session with guest speaker Elizabeth Christie. The event is open to all and will also be available via Zoom! Learn more and sign up at mywpc.org/faith@home.
- Help Feed our UKirk Students! We are looking for people or groups willing to help feed our UKirk Students on Tuesday Nights at 6:30 p.m. We have a group of around 15 students who would love to meet you, and share in a home cooked meal.

Can't be there or don't cook? Sign up to have food delivered or to give a gift card to a favorite restaurant. https://mealtrain.com/oy3ggn

- Attention All WPC Staff and Kitchen Event Volunteers: Food Storage in the Kitchen Refrigerator
 and Freezer. Please remember to label any food left in the refrigerator or freezer with your name and
 the date. Labels and a pen are attached to the refrigerator for your use. Too much food is left inside, and
 the Kitchen Committee often has no idea who it belongs to or how long it has been stored. In the future,
 if items are not labeled we will be making a concerted effort to discard food each week. Thank you from
 the WPC Kitchen Committee.
- Cleaning of the sanctuary takes place weekly on Thursday morning by the Church Sexton. Lately coffee cups, plastic cups, food wrapping, and lots of crumbs have been found in the sanctuary. We ask that you refrain from eating and drinking in the sanctuary during worship services. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

*Contact information can be found in our online directory. You may also contact the church office at 757-229-4235.

More information about the events and announcements listed above can be found on our website at mywpc.org/news or on the church calendar.

>> THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE OF EVENTS <>> €

SUNDAY. NOVEMBER 17

FISH Food Collection Sunday

9:30 a.m.–12 p.m. Nursery open during both worship services 9:30 a.m. Sunday School / Christian Education Wing

9:30 a.m. In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Live-Stream Worship; visit mywpc.org to access

11:00 a.m. In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740 or wmbgradio.com

12:00 p.m. WPC Family Afternoons: Faith at Home

3:00 p.m. Williamsburg Women's Chorus Fall Concert / Sanctuary

4:45 p.m. Youth Choir / Choir Room and Bell Room 5:30 p.m. PYF Youth Fellowship / Rm 220, Youth Room

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18

1:00 p.m. Caregiver Support Group / Rm 123

1:00 p.m. Presbyterian Women's Circle 3 / Rm 220 and Zoom 6:30 p.m. Williamsburg Choral Guild Rehearsal / Sanctuary

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study / Rm 220

11:45 a.m. Communications Ministry Meeting / Rm 220

1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting / Zoom

6:30 p.m. UKirk Dinner & Dialogue / UKirk Rm

7:00 p.m. AA Williamsburg Big Book Study / LL009 and LL049

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

9:30 a.m. Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team Meeting / Rm 220

6:00 p.m. Joyful Ringers Rehearsal / Bell Rm 7:00 p.m. Administration Ministry Meeting / Rm 220

7:00 p.m. Wednesday Wonders—Life Skills / LL012 UKirk

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Rm

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

9:00 a.m. Sanctuary Cleaning

4:30 p.m. Carol and Junior Choir Rehearsal / Children's Choir Rm

5:00 p.m. Christian Outreach Ministry Meeting / Rm LL010

7:30 p.m. Westminster Ringers Rehearsal / Bell Rm

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

➢ NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP ≪

November 24, 2024 • Reign of Christ Sunday

Pastor John's sermon, "The Alpha and Omega," will be based on Revelation 1:4b-8.