



WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
JUNE 23, 2024

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PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

Holy God, you created the world and all that is in it. You are the source of our strength. All praise be to you, our stronghold and savior. Amen.

THE GATHERING  
PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

PASTORAL GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Nancy Hammond

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on *Let All Things Now Living*

Schulz

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Leader: How very good and pleasant it is  
when sisters and brothers live together in unity!

All: **It is like the precious oil on the head,  
like the dew that falls on the mountains of Zion.**

Leader: Together, let us worship God.

\*HYMN 37

*Let All Things Now Living*

ASH GROVE

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: We strive to be strong and self-sufficient, but in truth we are in constant need of grace.  
In penitence and faith, let us confess our weakness to God and to one another.

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\*Please rise in body or spirit.

Bold type face congregation participates in word or song.

## \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Most merciful God, forgive us. We imagine that we can live without you, when you give us our very breath. We seek control over others rather than strive to live in unity. We allow fear to overtake us, even though our lives are in your hands. Draw us back into your steadfast love and shape us into the likeness of your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

## A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

### \*KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy

Weaver

Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

### \*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Beloved, the good news is this: grace is poured out like water; mercy flows like a never-ending stream, bathing us in goodness and love. Live, then, as those who have received new life, rejoicing in your baptism.

### \*GLORIA

Glory Be to the Father

Weaver

Glo - ry\_\_ be to the Fa-ther, and\_\_  
to\_\_ the\_\_ Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it. As it was in the be -  
gin - ning is now and ev - er shall be, world\_ with-out end. A - men.

**(9:30) At this time any and all children through the 5th grade are invited to come forward for Sharing Faith with Children.**

**(9:30) SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN**

Laura Bechtler

# 37 Let All Things Now Living

G D G Am D

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks-giv - ing  
 2 By law God en - forc - es, the stars in their cours - es,

G C G D G

to God our Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise;  
 the sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;

G D G Am D

who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us,  
 the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains,

G C G D G

by guid - ing us on to the end of our days.  
 the depths of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.

Harmony G E Am D

God's ban - ners are o'er us; pure light goes be - fore us,  
 We too should be voic - ing our love and re - joic - ing;

G Em D A7 D

a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night:  
 with glad ad - o - ra - tion, a song let us raise,

Written for an easy-to-sing folk melody familiar in England as well as Wales, this 20th-century North American text bears many resemblances to both Psalm 148 and the traditional canticle *Benedicite, omnia opera Domini* (Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord).

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE



till shad - ows have van - ished, all fear - ful - ness ban - ished,  
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing:



as for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.  
to God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!

# THE WORD

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

God of eternity, by the power of your Spirit, speak your Word to us this day, that hearing, we may know your truth and live ever more faithfully for you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## FIRST LESSON: *Job 38:1-11*

This is the Word of the Lord!  
**Thanks be to God!**

## PSALM 133 (unison)

How very good and pleasant it is  
when kindred live together in unity!  
It is like the precious oil on the head,  
running down upon the beard,  
on the beard of Aaron,  
running down over the collar of his robes.  
It is like the dew of Hermon,  
which falls on the mountains of Zion.  
For there the Lord ordained his blessing,  
life forevermore.

## SECOND LESSON: *Mark 1:9-15*

This is the Word of the Lord!  
**Thanks be to God!**

## SERMON

*"Weird Jesus"*

Dr. Jacqueline E. Lapsley  
President of Union Presbyterian Seminary  
Richmond, VA and Charlotte, NC

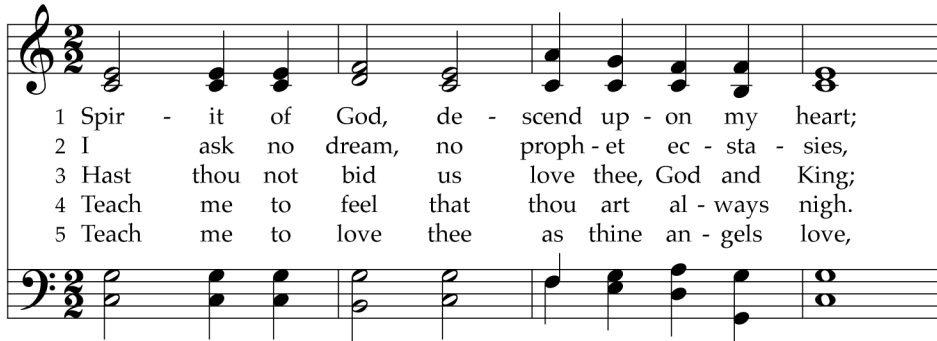
# RESPONDING TO THE WORD

**\*HYMN 688**

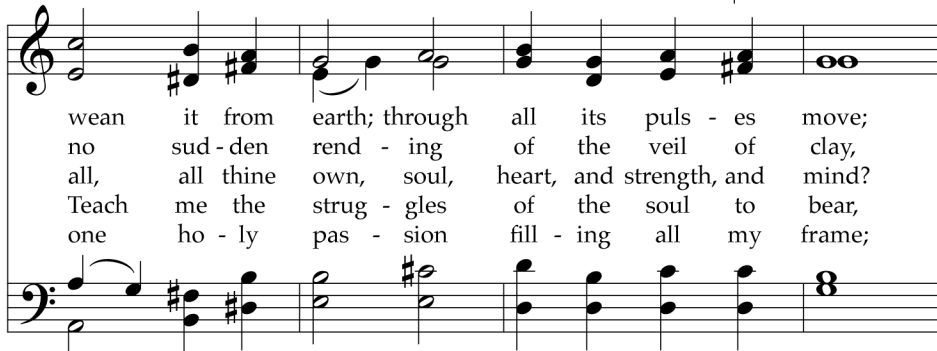
*Spirit of God, Descent Upon My Heart*

MORECAMBE

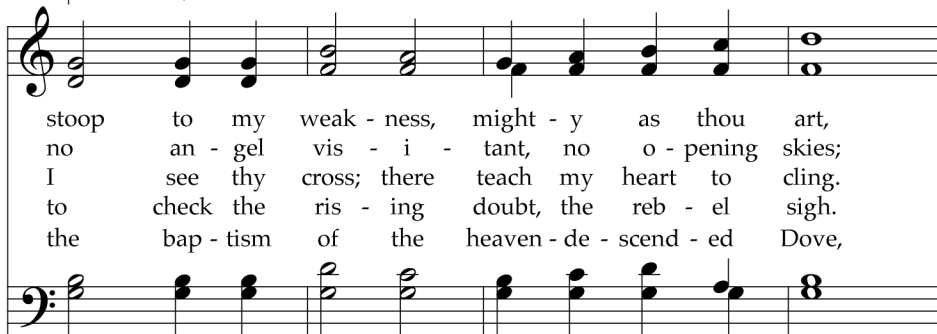
# Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart 688



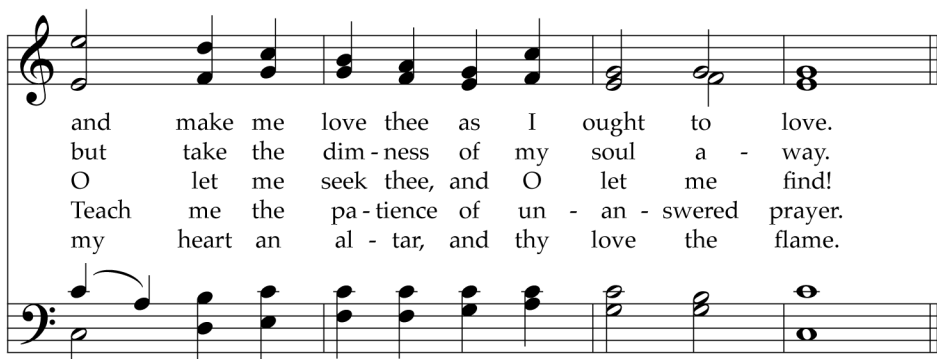
1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;  
2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,  
3 Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King;  
4 Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh.  
5 Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love,



wean it from earth; through all its puls - es move;  
no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,  
all, all thine own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?  
Teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear,  
one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;



stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as thou art,  
no an - gel vis - i - tant, no o - pening skies;  
I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.  
to check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh.  
the bap - tism of the heaven - de - scend - ed Dove,



and make me love thee as I ought to love.  
but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.  
O let me seek thee, and O let me find!  
Teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.  
my heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.

This reflection on Galatians 5:25 was written by a literary Anglican clergyman whose preaching drew people of many social classes to one of the formerly poorer London churches. The tune was created for "Abide with Me" (no. 836) but more often appears with the present text.

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT** (unison)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

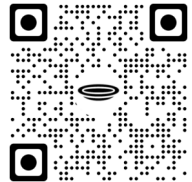
**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER** (unison)

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.

**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](http://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**

The Storm Is Passing Over

arr. Barbara Baker

Have courage, my soul, and let us journey on.  
Though the night is dark, and I am far from home.  
Thanks be to God, the morning light appears.

The storm is passing over.  
The storm is passing over.  
The storm is passing over.  
Hallelu!

Hallelujah! The storm is passing over, Hallelu!

**\*DOXOLOGY***Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise

God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

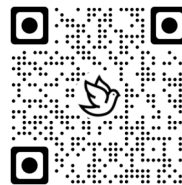
**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

## 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 [mywpc.org/friendship](http://mywpc.org/friendship) or scan the QR code at the right to access the online friendship register.

**\*HYMN 619***Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven*

LAUDA ANIMA

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE**

Fugue in C Major

Buxtehude

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.



# Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven 619

(Psalm 103)

1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; glad of heart your  
2 Praise God for the grace and fa - vor shown our fore - bears  
3 Like a lov - ing par - ent car - ing, God knows well our  
4 An - gels, teach us ad - o - ra - tion; you be - hold God

car - ols raise; ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,  
in dis - tress; God is still the same for - ev - er,  
fee - ble frame, glad - ly all our bur - dens bear - ing,  
face to face. Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion,

who, like me, should sing God's praise? Al - le - lu - ia!  
slow to chide, and swift to bless. Al - le - lu - ia!  
still to count - less years the same. Al - le - lu - ia!  
dwell - ers all in time and space: Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the Mak - er all your days!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Sing our Mak - er's faith - ful - ness!  
Al - le - lu - ia! All with - in me, praise God's name!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

This adaptation of an older paraphrase of Psalm 103 (see no. 620) is informed by an awareness that much of the received language of religious traditions enshrines social values that obscure the goodness of God, which far transcends all our labels and categories and hierarchies.

❧ **THE CHANCEL FLOWERS** ❧

The flowers this morning are given today to the glory of God by  
Cynthia McCraw, Sarah McCraw Crow, Carrie McCraw Higgins and John Andrew McCraw  
in loving memory of her husband, John, and their father.

❧ **THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY** ❧

**PASTOR**

John E. Morgan, Pastor/Head of Staff

Pam Hrcir, Associate Pastor

**GUEST PASTOR**

Dr. Jacqueline E. Lapsley,

President of Union Presbyterian Seminary, Richmond, VA and Charlotte, NC

**MUSIC MINISTRY**

Norman Elton, Organist and Assistant Director of Music

**GREETER**

9:30am Cheryl Roettger

11:00am Louis Skidmore, Dick Hubbard

**USHERS**

9:30am Rebecca Caprio, Pat Underwood, Tom Cahill, Matt Underwood, David Littell

11:00am Ric Cheston, Ruth Cobb, Tom Moul, Rebecca Caprio

**LITURGIST**

Nancy Hammond

**SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN**

Laura Bechtler

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOST**

Sarah Dulaney, Jane Vogel and Laura Hild

**\*WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHERS**

Terry Backus

**\*WINDSOR MEADE USHER**

Paul Hotinger

**AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS:** Dick Sahlen and John Schoenberger

\*Satellite campuses

## ☞ 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 10am 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 ☞

To share a joy or concern, please visit [www.mywpc.org](http://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 (757) 229-4235 with your request. The Prayer Chain Coordinator is: Jo Ann Youhas ([handbellringer2@gmail.com](mailto: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, June 23 – Saturday, June 29**

Pastor Pam Hrcir • [Phrncir@mywpc.org](mailto:Phrncir@mywpc.org) • 757-508-4668

#### **Please pray for:**

- Carroll Creech, Wolf Koenig, Nell Stowe, Doris Gilfillan, Carole McNeel, Ellie Thuermer, Stephen Custer.
- Those who have recently lost loved ones, those recovering from various surgeries and our sick and shut-ins who are at home or facility bound.
- Those serving our country in the military services and their families.
- Those affected by the wars in Gaza, Israel and Ukraine.

## ⌘ THIS MORNING IN WORSHIP ⌘

Please welcome Dr. Jacqueline E. Lapsley, President of Union Presbyterian University, Richmond, VA and Charlotte, NC. Dr. Lapsley will preach at both worship services this morning.

## ⌘ SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT ⌘ 226TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The theme of GA226, "**Live into Hope**", is based on the hymn of the same name by Jane Parker Huber. Daily themes have been chosen based on verses of the hymn. The Stated Clerk of the General Assembly chose the theme as an opportunity to charge the denomination after being in a space of lament and hope. We are now being charged to live into that hope.

WPC member Hank Vernon has been selected by PEVA to represent our Presbytery at GA226.

To follow along with the daily events of GA226, visit their website at [ga-pcusa.org](http://ga-pcusa.org).

## ⌘ ANNOUNCEMENTS ⌘

- Christopher Bechtler is attending Continuing Education at Princeton Seminary.
  - Adrian Williams is leading a workshop this week at Massanetta leading the Middle School Conferences. WPC members, Megan Davis and Jim Kirkpatrick are also at Massanetta with several of our youth Tuesday, June 18 - Sunday, June 23.
  - **Calling all book lovers! The WPC Book Club will gather for an informal "book chat" on Monday, June 24, at 2pm in the WPC Library.** Bring your favorite book (or whatever you're currently reading) and enjoy a free-wheeling conversation! Questions? Contact Ellen Peters\* or Margie Ambrose\*.
  - **Save the Date for Day of Caring:** WPC's Outreach Ministry is sponsoring a work day at the Grove Christian Outreach Center as part of the **United Way Day of Caring on Friday, September 20.** Please consider joining us to help our neighbors in need and put the date on your calendar.
  - **Summer Meals for Kids has begun. A special thank you to all who have baked cookies, shopped for food donations, donated to the program and volunteered to help prepare the lunches.** We are still in need of the following:
    - \* Cookies or brownies for our Wednesdays. Home baked ones are truly welcome. Please no nuts or peanut butter. 2 per zip loc bag. These can be put in the WPC freezer, marked **SUMMER LUNCHES**
    - \* Food donations (see list in Welcome Center) PLEASE check expiration date on food. The Health Dept checks periodically the dates and throws out expired food.
    - \* CASH DONATIONS are ALWAYS welcome. Make checks payable to Williamsburg Area Meals on Wheels (subject line- Summer Meals for Kids) P.O. Box 709, Williamsburg, VA 23187
    - \* Volunteers are also needed to be on a Substitution List.
- Sign up for cookies in Welcome Center or go on-line. Contact Roban Graham\* for more info.

**\*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/](http://mywpc.org/news/) or on the church calendar.**

*After seasons of lament and hope, the theme of General Assembly 226 – **Live into Hope** – is a charge for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) as we continue in a time of deep questions about the shape and future of Christ's church. This summer's GA, which will address some of those questions, will be held both online and in person in Salt Lake City, Utah.*

# LIVE INTO HOPE

## ► Virtual and In-Person

Committee meetings, Tuesday, June 25 - Thursday, June 27, will be online, and while the committee structure has been set, post-pandemic GA continues to evolve. GA226 will mark the **absence of an exhibit hall**, which had served as a gathering place for conference attendees and a space for ministries to offer education on their areas. There will, however, be opportunities in Salt Lake City to meet denominational agencies.

Also different for the 226<sup>th</sup>: **The Hands and Feet Initiative**, which began as a (then unnamed) service project in 2016 by the National Hispanic/Latino-a Presbyterian Caucus at the 222<sup>nd</sup> GA and expanded during J. Herbert Nelson's time as stated clerk, will not be an organized, denominational event. Instead, GA attendees are encouraged to worship on Sunday, June 30, with one of the PC(USA) churches in the Salt Lake City area, and the Presbytery of Utah has extended an invitation to all in attendance.

Plenary, in-person meetings begin on July 1.

## ► Stated Clerk Nominee: The Rev. Jihyun Oh

The General Assembly Nominating Committee has selected **Jihyun Oh** as its nominee for stated clerk. Oh, who was born in South Korea and reared in Kansas, would be the first Korean American to serve in the denomination's highest ecclesial office. Commissioners will vote on Oh's nomination during the conference.

## ► Co-moderators:

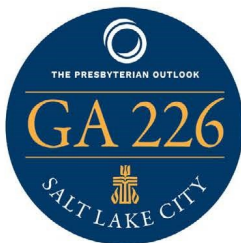
Four are standing as GA co-moderator nominees. The **Rev. CeCe Armstrong** and **Rev. Tony Larson**, both of South Carolina, are standing together, and **Rev. Dr. Marian McClure Taylor** of Kentucky will stand with the **Rev. Danny Morales** of Florida. The election for co-moderators will be at 8 p.m. on Sunday, June 30, in Salt Lake City. It also can be viewed online.

## ► Flexibility for small churches

Several overtures could have a direct effect on the lives of small congregations. Curriculum development, the roles of commissioned pastors and alternative ways for worshiping communities to be formed, supervised and led will be considered.

## ► Unification of OGA and PMA

The Office of the General Assembly and the Presbyterian Mission Agency – which handle the ecclesiastical (OGA) and the mission (PMA), respectively – are about to become one, with commissioners at GA approving one unified budget instead of two. The Unification Commission will make a report on progress to-date. The commission has already combined PMA's and OGA's communication offices.



## ☞ THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ☞

### **SUNDAY, JUNE 23**

- 9:30am In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Live-Stream Worship; visit [mywpc.org](http://mywpc.org) to access  
9:30am Thriving Congregations: Guest Speaker Bobby Braxton / LL049  
10:30am Fellowship Coffee Hour / Stevenson Hall  
11:00am In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740 or [wmbgradio.com](http://wmbgradio.com)  
12:00pm VBS Decorating and Volunteer Training / Throughout WPC

**Note:** The nursery for our youngest set will be available during the 9:30 worship service through Labor Day Weekend! The nursery will not be open during the 11:00am service.

### **MONDAY, JUNE 24**

- 9am-12pm Vacation Bible School / Throughout WPC  
1:00pm Caregiver Support Group / Rm 123

### **TUESDAY, JUNE 25**

- The 226th General Assembly of the PCUSA begins in Salt Lake City, Utah.  
9am-12pm Vacation Bible School / Throughout WPC  
7:00pm AA Williamsburg Big Book Study / LL009 and LL049

### **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26**

- The 226th General Assembly of the PCUSA continues.  
9am-12pm Vacation Bible School / Throughout WPC

### **THURSDAY, JUNE 27**

- The 226th General Assembly of the PCUSA continues.  
9am-12pm Vacation Bible School / Throughout WPC  
7:00pm Session Meeting / Rm 220

### **FRIDAY, JUNE 28**

- The 226th General Assembly of the PCUSA continues.  
9am-12pm Vacation Bible School / Throughout WPC  
1:00pm Sanctuary Cleaning

### **SATURDAY, JUNE 29**

The 226th General Assembly of the PCUSA continues.

## ☞ NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP ☞

### **June 30, 2024 • 6th Sunday after Pentecost**

The sermon will be based on Mark 5:21-43.