



WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
WPC FAMILY SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

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## PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

God of love, you teach us a life journey that calls us to deny what is unhealthy and unloving. Lead us in that pathway. Awaken us to the ever-new abundance that is ours through your Word, in Jesus name Amen.

## THE GATHERING PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

### PASTORAL GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Scott Stabler

#### PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on *Though I May Speak*

Diemer

#### CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Leader: I love the Lord because God has heard my voice.

**All: Because God heard me I will call on the name of the Lord as long as I live.**

Leader: Gracious is the Lord, and righteous;

**All: our God is full of compassion.**

Leader: Let us walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

#### \*HYMN 722

*Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak*

CANONBURY

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\*Please rise in body or spirit.  
Bold type face congregation participates in word or song.

## 722 Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak

1 Lord, speak to me that I may speak in liv - ing  
 2 O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wan - dering  
 3 O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the pre - cious  
 4 O fill me with your full - ness, Lord, un - til my  
 5 O use me, Lord, use e - ven me, just as you

ech - oes of your tone. As you have sought, so  
 and the wa - vering feet. O feed me, Lord, that  
 truths which you im - part. And wing my words that  
 ver - y heart o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and  
 will, and when, and where un - til your bless - ed

let me seek your err - ing chil - dren, lost and lone.  
 I may feed your hun - gering ones with man - na sweet.  
 they may reach the hid - den depths of man - y a heart.  
 glow - ing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.  
 face I see, your rest, your joy, your glo - ry share.

Two great truths inform this text: first, that the testimony of experience is powerful and persuasive; and second, that no one should venture to minister on one's own strength rather than God's. The tune reflects a 19th-century practice of adapting piano pieces as hymn tunes.

## \*CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: The Lord listens to the cries of the people who turn with full hearts to the One who has mercy. Let our tongues now make confession in the presence of God and of this body.

## \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Holy God, in the face of sin, our gravest enemy, we call to you for help. You know our fault before we speak. Forgive us for what we have done in opposition to your will. Forgive us for those things we have not undertaken and for which we know are wrong. We have not loved you and our neighbors as we ought. We have denied our dependence on you. Lead us away from this grief and sorrow. Save us so that we may fulfill our vows to you and attend to the needs of your people. Amen.

## A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

## \*KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy

Schubert

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

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The second system also has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines.

## \*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: God, who is full of compassion knows that those who repent have set their minds and hearts on what endures for all time. The Lord God is a very present help to those who seek to follow in the way of divine things. Go with God in joy as your sin is forgiven.

**\*GLORIA**

**Glory Be to the Father**

**GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex)**

Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly

Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er

shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

**(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**

Lynne Savidis

## THE WORD

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)**

**You speak to us, Lord, with tongues of wisdom. Let your Holy Spirit now open us to hear with greater clarity the teachings of today, that we may hold dear in yet new ways what it is you will for us, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON: *Isaiah 50:4-9a***

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

**PSALM 116:1-9** (unison)

I love the Lord, because he has heard  
my voice and my supplications.  
Because he inclined his ear to me,  
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.  
The snares of death encompassed me;  
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;  
I suffered distress and anguish.  
Then I called on the name of the Lord:  
“O Lord, I pray, save my life!”  
Gracious is the Lord, and righteous;  
our God is merciful.  
The Lord protects the simple;  
when I was brought low, he saved me.  
Return, O my soul, to your rest,  
for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.  
For you have delivered my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears,  
my feet from stumbling.  
I walk before the Lord  
in the land of the living.

**SECOND LESSON:** *James 3:1-12*

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

**SERMON**

*“Taming the Tongue”*

Pastor John E. Morgan

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

**\*HYMN 693**

*Though I May Speak*

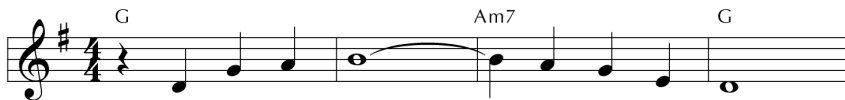
GIFT OF LOVE

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: CONFESSION OF 1967** (unison)

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God’s reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God’s message of reconciliation and shares God’s labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit.

# Though I May Speak 693

## The Gift of Love



1 Though I may speak with brav - est fire,  
 2 Though I may give all I pos - sess,  
 3 Come, Spir - it, come, our hearts con - trol;



and have the gift to all in - spire,  
 and striv - ing so my love pro - fess,  
 our spir - its long to be made whole.



and have not love, my words are vain,  
 but not be given by love with - in,  
 Let in - ward love guide ev - ery deed;



as sound - ing brass, and hope - less gain.  
 the prof - it soon turns strange - ly thin.  
 by this we wor - ship, and are freed.

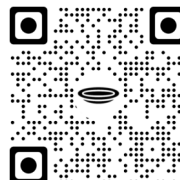
As paraphrases of 1 Corinthians 13:1, 3 the first two stanzas here are in the first person singular, yet they lead into a plural prayer for the gift of such love, for it thrives in community. These words are especially poignant with this adaptation of an English folk melody.

## 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

Steal Away

arr. Westley Art Hodges

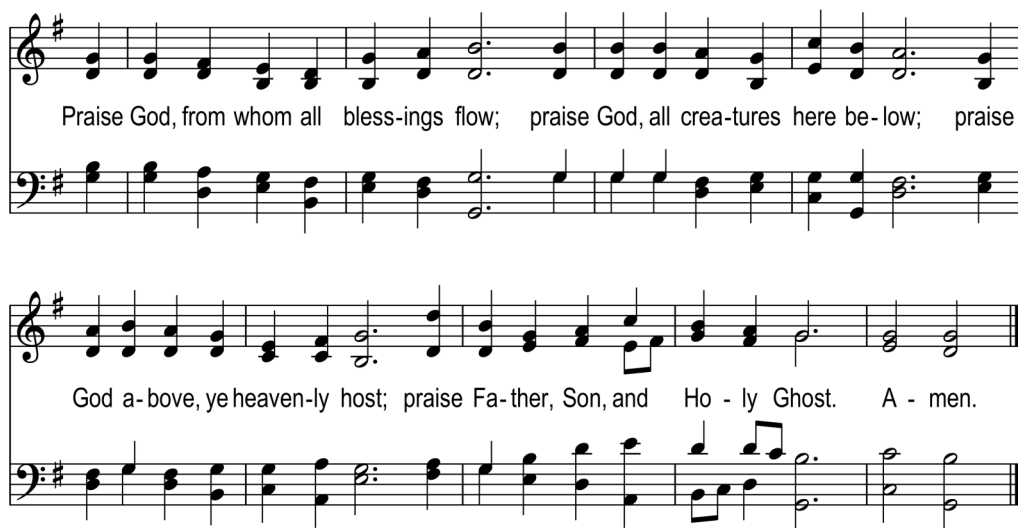
Steal away to Jesus,  
Steal away home,  
I ain't got long to stay here.

My Lord, he calls me,  
He calls me by the thunder.  
The trumpet sounds within-a my soul,  
I ain't got long to stay here.

Green trees are bending,  
Poor sinners stand a-trembling.  
The trumpet sounds within-a my soul,  
I ain't got long to stay here.

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

OLD HUNDRETH



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.

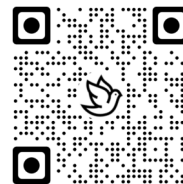
**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

## 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 265***Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun*

DUKE STREET

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

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

arr. Behnke

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.



# 265 Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -  
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es  
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue dwell on his  
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - oners  
 5 Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring hon - ors pe -

ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from  
 throng to crown his head; his name, like sweet per -  
 love with sweet - est song, and in - fant voic - es  
 leap to loose their chains; the wea - ry find e -  
 cu - liar to our King; an - gels de - scend with

shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
 fume, shall rise with ev - ery morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.  
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.  
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud A - men!

This hymn is a classic example of how Isaac Watts Christianized the Psalms, in this case Psalm 72:5–19, by turning their messianic language to New Testament equivalents. The tune was at first nameless and anonymous, but is now called by the address of the supposed composer.

## ❧ NOTES ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC ❧

“Steal Away” is a spiritual in a style very different from last week’s “Down by the Riverside.” As in many spirituals, the words have double meanings. The song is a response to a call from Jesus, but it is also coded advice on how to steal away to freedom. “My Lord, he calls me by the thunder” is a reminder that it’s safer to escape during a storm, with the “green trees a-bending.” The song was first written down in 1862, but it likely existed for thirty years or more before that.

This morning’s postlude is a rhythmic setting of a Jamaican hymn, *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*, which can be found on page 526 of our hymnal. The text states that “Christ is able to make us one; at the table he sets the tone, teaching people to live to bless, love in word and deed express”. The calypso rhythm is highlighted by organist John Behnke in this dance-like setting.

## ❧ THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ❧

The Chancel Flowers are given today to the glory of God and  
in memory of their parents by Robin and Greg Sabo.

☞ **THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY** ☞

**PASTOR**

John E. Morgan, Pastor/Head of Staff

Pam Hrnrcir, Covenant Pastor for Congregational Care

**MUSIC MINISTRY**

Christopher Bechtler, Director of Music

Norman Elton, Organist and Assistant Director of Music

WPC Chancel Choir

**GREETERS**

9:30am Rebecca Caprio

11:00am Jerry White

**USHERS**

9:30am Matt Underwood, Pat Underwood, Cheryl Roettger, Jenn LaDow

11:00am Bob Bolstad, Susan White, Megan Davis, Kirk Lovenbury

**LITURGIST**

Scott Stabler

**SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN**

Lynne Savidis

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOST**

Sue Rennagel, Leigh Salud, Karol Sibley

**\*WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHERS**

Terry Backus, Linda Eichhorn

**\*WINDSOR MEADE USHER**

Paul Hotinger and Ray Whitney

**AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS:** Jim Marshburn 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, September 15 – Saturday, September 21**

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

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

- The family of WPC member, Ellie Thuermer, who died on Thursday, September 5, 2024. Arrangements are pending. Please keep Ellie's daughter, Karen and son-in-law, Mike in your prayers.

**Please pray for:**

- Lee Beach, Clara Crumbly, Wolf Koenig, Nell Stowe, Doris Gilfillan, Carole McNeel
- 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.

## 🌀 ANNOUNCEMENTS 🌀

- **Sign-Ups for Coffee Hosts/Ushers/Greeters Begin Today!** Have you been looking for an opportunity to get involved in the Sunday morning action at WPC? Please stop by the tables in Stevenson Hall between services today through September 22 to learn more and sign up to host Coffee Fellowship, Usher, or Greet during the months of September, October, or November. Usher Coordinators and Coffee Fellowship Deacons will be available to answer your questions. No previous experience necessary and all ages are welcome!

Feel free to sign up online for any Sunday in 2024 from the comfort of your home by going to <https://signup.com/go/iGCDndF> to sign up as a greeter/usher and to sign up for coffee fellowship go to <https://signup.com/go/yOsEWmJ>

- **SAVE THE DATE for Kitchen Orientation and Training. Attend one of two offered sessions: Thursday, September 19, 3:30pm or on Thursday, October 3, 3:30 pm.** Sign-ups begin in September. Our WPC Kitchen gets a lot of use and some changes have occurred recently. If you are a deacon or member volunteer who helps with events from coffee hour, memorial receptions, special event meals or any of the outreach programs providing food for the community, this is for you.

Joe Avellar will instruct us on some of the kitchen basics that we all need to remember. In addition, learn how to use the new warmer, make coffee, use the convection and gas oven, run the dishwasher, discover where items are stored, and answer any questions you may have.

For more information please call or email Karen Annoni\*

- **The Open Door Concert Series is excited to kickoff its 2024-2025 season with the *National Chamber Winds*.** Since its founding in 2017, the National Chamber Winds have risen to become a premier wind ensemble in the capital region. Their unique instrumentation, including flutes, oboes, clarinets, horns, bassoons, and double bass, affords the opportunity to perform a vast array of repertoire. This program, entitled Mozart in the Garden, pairs major compositions by the contemporary Jonathan Dove and classical W. A. Mozart. **This free concert starts at 4:00pm on Sunday, September 22. Doors open at 3:30pm. Invite a friend!**
- **Be a part of World Communion Sunday.** The Worship Ministry invites you to participate by baking bread that represents your heritage or that is a family favorite. **The breads will be assembled into a centerpiece for October 6.** If you have questions or want to volunteer to provide bread, please contact Ruth Cobb by **September 29**.
- **Fall Ice Cream Social:** Drop in to enjoy some ice cream with your favorite topping on **September 29, 2-4pm** in the small parking lot next to the playground. All are welcome!!
- **New Member Orientation Luncheon: October 13 immediately after 11am worship in Stevenson Hall.** Come and enjoy great food and great conversation with members and staff as you get to know the people and ministries of WPC. If the Spirit is leading you to become part of the WPC family, please reach out to Pastor Pam, Deacon Eric Beckhusen\*, or the church office. We look forward to getting to know you better.

- **Help Feed our UKirk Students!** We are looking for people or groups willing to help feed our UKirk Students on Tuesday Nights at 6:30pm. 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/oy3qgn>

- **We look forward to an exciting fall for our Children and Family Ministries! Melody Dillon, Director of Children and Family Ministries, invites you to mark your calendars and register now for the following upcoming activities:**

⇒ The new Sunday School year began today. The nursery will return to its 9:30am to noon schedule on September 8.

⇒ Our Carol and Junior Choirs begin rehearsals on Thursday, September 12 at 4:30pm.

⇒ WPC Family Sunday Activity, happening on the third Sunday of each month, will begin on September 15,

⇒ Preschool Dance and Play begins Wednesday, September 18 at 1:30pm.

Learn more about all of these activities, and get a jump on registering, at [mywpc.org/children](http://mywpc.org/children).

- **Volunteers Needed to Help at Grove Christian Outreach Center on United Way 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, from 8:30am to 2:30pm.** There are indoor jobs (food pantry distribution and organizing work spaces) and outdoor jobs (pressure washing, painting, weeding, trimming and yard cleanup). If you can help us in this worthwhile endeavor, please contact Tom Moul\* and let him know if you would like to work inside or outside. Thanks for volunteering!

**\*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.**

## ☞ THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ☞

### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 • WPC FAMILY SUNDAY**

- 9:30am-12pm Nursery open during both worship services  
9:30am Sunday School / Christian Education Wing  
9:30am In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Live-Stream Worship; visit [mywpc.org](http://mywpc.org) to access  
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)  
6:00pm Youth Group / Senior High Room

### **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**

- 1:00pm Caregiver Support Group / Rm 123  
6:30pm Williamsburg Choral Guild Rehearsal / Sanctuary

### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**

- 11:30am Communications Ministry Meeting / Rm 220  
2:00pm Stewardship Meeting / Rm 220  
3:30pm In-Person Staff Mtg Off-Site  
5:30pm Resources Ministry Meeting / Rm 220  
6:30pm UKirk Dinner & Dialogue / UKirk Rm  
7pm Christian Fellowship Committee / Rm 220  
7:00pm AA Williamsburg Big Book Study / LL009 and LL049

### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**

- 1:30pm Preschool Dance & Play / Rm 123 and Stevenson Hall  
6pm Genesis Ringers Rehearsal / Bell Rm  
7:00pm Administration Ministry Mtg / Hybrid  
7:00pm Wednesday Wonders—Life Skills / LL012 UKirk  
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Rm

### **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**

- 9:00am Sanctuary Cleaning  
3:30pm Kitchen Orientation and Training / Kitchen  
4:30pm Carol and Junior Choir Rehearsal / Choir Rm  
7:00pm Christian Outreach Ministry Meeting / Rm 220  
7:30pm Westminster Ringers Rehearsal

### **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**

- 8:30am-2:30pm United Way Day of Caring at Grove Christian Outreach Center.

### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**

- UKirk Service Day  
12:00pm ODCS Dress Rehearsal

## ☞ NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP ☞

### **September 22, 2024 • 18th Sunday after Pentecost**

Pastor John's sermon, "Wisdom From Above" will be based on James 3:13-18, 4a.