



WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REIGN OF CHRIST SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 24, 2024

PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

Sovereign God, come to us now in silent, holy power. Still our distracted minds, our bruised hearts, our longing bodies. Then speak the power of Jesus' name in such a way that we might hear it, in such a way that we might bear it into the world, for we move and pray by the gift of your breath within us. Amen.

THE GATHERING PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

PASTORAL GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Jean Felts

PRELUDE

I Give Thanks

Toni Sullivan

Carol and Junior Choirs

Refrain:

I give thanks, I give thanks,
I give thanks with a grateful heart.
I give thanks, I give thanks,
I give thanks with a grateful heart.

God has given us this world,
The moon and stars and sun.
The land and seas, the birds and trees,
God's given everyone. (Refrain)

(Prelude continues on the next page)

* Please rise in body or spirit.

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

God has given us good friends,
Our loving families, too.
The people who will share the love
That's sent from heaven above. (Refrain)

But the greatest gift of all,
God sent Jesus to show the way
Of God's great love and God's great care
That we can share today. (Refrain)

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

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

All: God's reign shall never end.

Leader: God delivered us in freedom and truth.

All: God's love is everlasting.

***HYMN 367**

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: Jesus loves us and frees us from our sins; therefore, let us confess our sins to God.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (unison)

Holy God, how often we trust in the promises of earthly rulers instead of the power of your love; help us to turn our hearts toward you. Restore us in your love, and set us free to forgive as we have been forgiven, by the grace and mercy of Christ. 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 consists of two systems of vocal and piano parts. The first system has a vocal line in G major with lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy;' and a piano accompaniment. The second system continues the vocal line with lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.' and piano accompaniment.

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Leader: Sisters and brothers, God loves us, forgives us, and frees us from our sins; therefore be at peace.

***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.

The musical score is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. It features a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: '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

Laura Bechtler

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Come, Holy Spirit; open our hearts to receive a word of truth, then set us free to follow in the power of Christ's love. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: 2 Samuel 23:1-5

Jean Felts

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

PSALM 93

Leader: The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty;
the Lord is robed; he is girded with strength.

**All: He has established the world; it shall never be moved;
your throne is established from of old;
you are from everlasting.**

Leader: The floods have lifted up, O Lord,
the floods have lifted up their voice;
the floods lift up their roaring.

**All: More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters,
more majestic than the waves of the sea,
majestic on high is the Lord!**

Leader: Your decrees are very sure;
holiness befits your house,
O Lord, forevermore.

SECOND LESSON: Revelation 1:4b–8

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

SERMON

The Alpha and Omega

Pastor John E. Morgan

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN 264**

At the Name of Jesus

KING'S WESTON

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:** *From A Brief Statement of Faith, 7–26 (unison)*

We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.

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 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

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

arr. Ron Mallory

Joyful Ringers

***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.

The musical score consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The first system covers the first two lines of lyrics, and the second system covers the last two lines. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and moving lines.

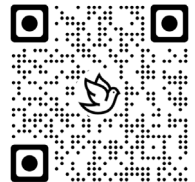
***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

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 or scan the QR code at the right to access the online friendship register.

***HYMN 348**

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

HELMSLEY

CHARGE AND BEDICTION*POSTLUDE**

A Festive Intrada
 Joyful Ringers

Cynthia Dobrinski

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.

✧ THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ✧

The Chancel Flowers are given today to the glory of God and
in memory of James Field “Dan Dad” and Martha (Marty) “Mom Mom” Thompson Bland
by Robin Bland.

☞ **THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY** ☞

PASTORS

John E. Morgan, Pastor/Head of Staff

MUSIC MINISTRY

Chris Bechtler, Director of Music Ministries

Norman Elton, Organist

Rebecca Elton, Carol Choir Director

Chancel Choir

Joyful Ringers directed by Chris Bechtler

Carol Choir and Junior Choir directed by Rebecca Elton

GREETERS

9:30 a.m. Bill Riffer

11:00 a.m. Karen Annoni and Megan Davis

USHERS

9:30 a.m. Lynn Newcomer, Tony Annoni, and Rebecca Caprio

11:00 a.m. Gene D'Orsogna, Ellen D'Orsogna, Rick Cheston, Maxine Cunningham, and Tom Moul

LITURGIST

Jean Felts

SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Laura Bechtler

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Happy Simmons, Ralph Simmons, and Jennifer LaDow

***WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHERS**

Nick and Anne Nicastro

***WINDSORMEADE USHERS**

Paul Hotinger and Peter Moriarty

AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS

Tom Squire and John Schoenberger

*Satellite campuses

∞ WPC ELDERS, DEACONS AND STAFF ∞

SESSION: CLASSES OF 2025, 2026, 2027

Moderator: John E. Morgan

Clerk of Session: Diane Schwarz

Administration: Faith Shartzter* (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 Hrcir, 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)

Windsor Meade: 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 Hrcir, 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 ∞

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 Pam Hrcir • phrncir@mywpc.org • 757-508-4668

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 homebound:

- Michelle, daughter of Ellen and Gene D'Orsogna, Denny Yeingst, Bob Siclari, Carol Sorensen, George Harris, Lee Beach, Clara Crumbly, Wolf Koenig, Nell Stowe, and 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 🌀

- **Pastor Pam Hrcir** is spending time with family.
- **Greetings to my WPC family!** It means a lot to me how supportive and caring everyone has been during my time of recovery. Your prayers and warm thoughts are the reason each day is a little better than the day before. Thank you for taking the time to send me such beautiful cards, emails, and notes of support. The flower bouquets I received included some of my favorites and brought a lot of joy right after the accident. I miss everyone so much and I can't wait to get back to WPC to thank you in person! Wishing you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving! Love, Vanessa
- **The Session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday December 1, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.** The purpose of this meeting is to vote to call Rev. Pam Hrcir as an installed Associate Pastor of Congregational Care. The meeting will be hybrid, in person and Zoom. If you are at home please use this link to join the meeting: mywpc.org/meeting
- **Cathedral Sunday at WPC!** If you have ever visited a cathedral in Europe, you know that you need to dress warmly because they are often not heated. Well, on December 1 we will have a "Cathedral Sunday." The work on the HVAC system is underway; however, we are told that it will not be up and running on Sunday December 1. Please dress warmly for worship.
- **Join us Today at the Historic Area Religions Together (HART) Interfaith Thanksgiving Service.** Give thanks with all of our faith communities in Williamsburg. The service is at 7:00 p.m. at the Walsingham Academy, 1100 Jamestown Road.
- **Calling all young musicians!** Dust off your flute, practice your piano! Join the Christmas celebrations by playing a favorite carol during the prelude to our family Christmas Eve pageant service at 11am on December 24. Contact organist Norman Elton at nelton@mywpc.org for more information.
- **Gift of Christmas 2024: The Gift of Christmas program will begin on Sunday, December 1.** The Gift of Christmas is a wonderful way to experience the true spirit of Christmas giving by supporting one of the listed programs helping folks in need in our communities. When you donate to one of these programs you can receive an Angel Ornament and a card that you can give to the family member or friend you are honoring. Look for the 19 different helping programs and their details in the bulletin starting December 1.
You can visit the Gift of Christmas table that will be set up in the parking lot entrance hallway each Sunday in December or call Karen Annoni* for more information.
- **Help share God's gift of love through the Salvation Army Angel Tree program.** The Outreach Ministry invites you to adopt a child or senior for the 2024 Angel Tree program. In Stevenson Hall, you will find a Christmas tree decorated with angels and instructions for the program. Plan to stop by and take one of the angels. **Gifts should be returned to the Salvation Army or to WPC by December 9.** If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Margie Ambrose,* Ellen D'Orsogna,* or Sarah Avellar.* *Thank you for your generous and loving support.*

- **Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign:** Join your fellow WPC members by ringing bells to spread comfort and joy to our neighbors in need. Volunteer to be a bell ringer for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign on December 11, 14, 18 or 21. Sign up for a one-hour shift at mywpc.org/advent. Questions? Please contact Tom Moul.*
- **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.*
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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/oy3qgn>

- **Sign-Ups for Coffee Fellowship 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 November 24th to learn more and sign up to host Coffee Fellowship, Usher, or Greet during the months of November, December, and January. Coffee Fellowship Deacons and Usher Coordinators will be available to answer your questions. No previous experience necessary and all ages are welcome!

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

- **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 24

- 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
4:45 p.m. Youth Choir / Choir Room and Bell Room
5:30 p.m. PYF Youth Fellowship / Rm 220, Youth Room
7:00 p.m. HART Annual Thanksgiving Service / Walsingham Academy

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25

- All day Sanctuary HVAC project—crane in parking lot
1:00 p.m. Caregiver Support Group / Rm 123
2:00 p.m. WPC Book Club / Rm 220
6:30 p.m. Williamsburg Choral Guild Rehearsal / Sanctuary

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

- All day Sanctuary HVAC project—crane in parking lot
10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study / Rm 220
1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting / Zoom
7:00 p.m. AA Williamsburg Big Book Study / LL009 and LL049

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Happy Thanksgiving! Church Office Closed

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30

🌀 NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP 🌀

December 1, 2024 • The First Sunday of Advent

Pastor John's sermon, "The Prophets of Advent: Hope," will be based on Jeremiah 33:14–16.

