

The Season of ORDINARY TIME

WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JULY 27, 2025

PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

Holy God, you are our faithful lover, our generous parent, our patient teacher, our constant friend. We live by the hope of your promises, seek to follow your way, and rely on the gift of your Spirit, by whose power we breathe, and move, and pray. Amen.

THE GATHERING PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. John E. Morgan

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Elaine McBeth

PRELUDE Cantabile in C Knecht

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Leader: Come gather together here in the presence of Christ, who is our friend and healer.

All: We have entered here, and in our worship together, we yearn for hope and comfort.

Leader: Let us reach to the heart of Jesus, who is our life. **All:** We encounter our Lord, who makes us whole.

Leader: Here we are welcome and loved and cherished.

All: Here we are the people of God. Let us rejoice and give God praise.

Please rise in body or spirit. The people's responses are in **bold type**.

Our sanctuary is equipped with a T-coil hearing loop. Look for the blue sticker on the pews.



This hymn resembles many 18th-century drawings that show parallels between worship on earth and worship in heaven, especially as described in Revelation 7:9–11. This 18th-century tune has had many names; the one used here honors the dynasty of British monarchs, 1714–1901.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: The truth about us is this: we all sin and fall short of the glory of God. Yet God promises to pour out grace upon us, giving us confidence to show ourselves as we are and be freed from shame. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Ever-faithful God, how often we turn away from you, yet you remain constant to us. We run from you, but you call us back. In our words and our deeds we dishonor you, yet you still profess your love for us. We cut ourselves off from you and from others, but you will not let us go. Forgive our faithless and fickle ways and increase our gratitude, that we might grow in faithfulness to you, for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER



*Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Hear the good news! When you were buried with Christ in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God. By that power we are made clean and set free to live in gratitude and love with zeal.



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

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Elaine McBeth

God of Wisdom, overwhelm us with your Word, that we may know you more fully, love you more passionately, and follow you more closely; in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 18:20-32

Elaine McBeth

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

PSALM 49:1-12 (responsive)

Leader: Hear this, all you peoples;

give ear, all inhabitants of the world,

All: both low and high,

rich and poor together.

Leader: My mouth shall speak wisdom;

the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.

All: I will incline my ear to a proverb;

I will solve my riddle to the music of the harp.

Leader: Why should I fear in times of trouble,

when the iniquity of my persecutors surrounds me,

All: those who trust in their wealth

and boast of the abundance of their riches?

Leader: Truly, no ransom avails for one's life;

there is no price one can give to God for it.

All: For the ransom of life is costly

and can never suffice,

Leader: that one should live on forever

and never see the Pit.

All: When we look at the wise, they die;

fool and dolt perish together

and leave their wealth to others.

Leader: Their graves are their homes forever,

their dwelling places to all generations,

though they named lands their own.

All: Mortals cannot abide in their pomp;

they are like the animals that perish.

SECOND LESSON: Luke 12:13-21

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

SERMON

"Store Up God Not Riches"

Rev. John E. Morgan

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 175

Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

LAFFERTY



The author and composer wrote the first stanza and folk-style tune after attending a Bible study on Matthew 6:33. The later stanzas, based respectively on Matthew 7:7 and Matthew 4:4 emerged anonymously. Such meditative singing of scripture is an important form of sung prayer.



*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH (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.

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

Be Not Afraid

Craig Courtney

Be not afraid: for I am with you;

Be not afraid: I have called you by name.

Refrain:

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

When you pass through the floods, they will not sweep o'er you;

When you pass through the fire, you will not be consumed;

You are mine, you are precious in my sight.

Be not afraid: for I have redeemed you;

Be not afraid: I have called you by name. (Refrain)

My love for you is everlasting,

My love for you shall have no end. (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.





The author regarded this text as a communion hymn, a theme that seems eclipsed by the attention to Christ's exaltation, but a helpful reminder that such hymns are not always quiet and meek. This text is sung to various tunes, but this rousing Welsh one is a favorite choice.



*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccatina for a Flute Stop

Yon

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.

>> NOTES ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC ◆

This morning's organ selections highlight one of the instrument's most beautiful sounds, the flutes. Pipe organs are a collection of instruments, not unlike an orchestra. Each instrument produces a unique sound, produced by a set of pipes known as a stop. Our pipe organ has 33 different stops that can be combined in various ways. Many stops imitate their orchestral equivalent, such as trumpets and strings. The flutes may be diminutive in volume, but produce a lovely tone by themselves. A cantabile (from the same word as cantata) is a piece written in flowing style, akin to singing. Justin Knecht (1752-1817) wrote this lovely short piece which adapts well to flutes. A toccata (from the Italian word to touch) is a fast moving piece typically for keyboard or plucked strings. Pietro Yon (1886-1943) was an Italian composer who immigrated to America. His Humoresque L'Organo Primitivo, also known as the Toccatina for a Flute Stop, is a flighty piece that highlights one of the flute stops installed during our 2019 pipe organ completion project.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ←

The flowers are given today to the glory of God and in loving memory of her daughter, Colleen Louise Trimble by Patricia Trimble.

THOSE SERVING THIS MORNING ←

PASTOR

John E. Morgan, Pastor, Head of Staff

Pam Hrncir, Associate Pastor

MUSIC MINISTRY

Christopher Bechtler, Director of Music

Norman Elton, Organist and Assistant Director of Music

WPC Chancel Choir

PROGRAM STAFF AND SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Melody Dillon, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries

LITURGIST

Elaine McBeth

GREETER

9:30am Nancy Moul, Jim Winthrop

11:00am Susan White, Jan Russell

USHERS

9:30am Shanna Due, Penny Marshburn, John VanAken, Tom Moul

11:00am Sarah Houghland, Kirk Lovenbury, Penny Marshburn, Tom Moul

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Dave McLain, Sallie McLain, Eric Beckhusen

*WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHERS

Bill and Janice McGuire

*WINDSOR MEADE USHER

Ray Whitney and Peter Moriarty

AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS: Jim Marshburn and John Schoenberger

^{*}Satellite campuses

≈ CHILDREN'S STATEMENT ≪

Children are welcome at WPC! We have a nursery for children ages 3 and below during our 9:30am service. Also, during our 9:30am service we have Sharing Faith with Children. There are 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!

≫ T-LOOP ENABLED ≪



Did you know you can receive amplified sound in the Sanctuary with a t-loop enabled hearing aid? The "loop" signal is strongest in certain pews along the center aisle. Look for the blue symbol pictured here.

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 227 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.
- •Caregivers Support Group Summer Schedule: During July and August, 2025, the Caregivers Support Group will meet on Mondays, July 14, July 28 and August 11, August 25 in room 222 at 1pm. The Caregiver Support Group will resume their weekly meetings on September 8, 2025.

>> 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 (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. During the week, please call the church office.

Pastor-on-Call Sunday, July 27 – Saturday, August 2 Pastor John • imorgan@mywpc.org • 757-903-7800

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

 WPC member Carolyn Smith, wife of WPC member James "Jim" Smith, who went home to be with our Lord and Savior, Monday, July 14, 2025. A Memorial Service will be held at Williamsburg Presbyterian Church, Saturday, August 30, 2025 at 1:00pm followed by a reception in Stevenson Hall. A private interment will be held at Woodbine Cemetery in Harrisonburg, VA.

Please pray for those:

- Attending the Montreat Youth Conference from Saturday, July 26 Saturday, August 2: Six WPC High School youth along with WPC members CW Stacks, Summer Kirkpatrick, and UKirk Student Atticus Gore.
- Families who have recently lost loved ones, recovering from various surgeries, who are homebound, who have family and friend concerns, affected by natural disasters, country in the military services and their families, serving our country in leadership roles, experiencing homelessness and hunger, affected by the wars in Gaza, Israel, Sudan, and Ukraine.

A MESSAGE FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE



A TIME TO FLOURISH

FAITH • RELATIONSHIPS • PURPOSE

GOAL: \$1,400,000 TOTAL PLEDGED: \$1,456,764





Congregational Participation

351 Pledges Submitted

- 45 were new pledgers!
- Average pledge increased by 15%



What Your Generosity Made Possible

- A balanced budget for the first time in 4 years without using savings!
- 5-10% budget increases for every Ministry.
- · Savings replenishment has begun!



Thank You!

Your incredible support made this success possible. We are deeply grateful.



What's Next?

- Periodic Offering Talks to show how your gifts are making a difference.
- Focus on growing the percentage of congregation members who pledge.

2025 CAMPAIGN RESULTS | JULY 2025

➢ ANNOUNCEMENTS ←

- Coffee Fellowship, Usher and Greeter Sign Ups Continues Today in Stevenson Hall! Have you been looking for an opportunity to share your smile and meet new people on Sunday mornings? Please stop by the tables in Stevenson Hall between services today to learn more and sign up to host Coffee Fellowship, Usher or Greet during the months of July, August, and September. Deacons, Ushers and Greeters 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 serve as a greeter/usher and https://signup.com/go/yOsEWmJ to host coffee fellowship.
- Flower Sharing Ministry: Deacon Linda Stewart, member of the Flower Sharing Ministry, will also be available in Stevenson Hall to share information and answer any questions about the ministry. Each week, with the donor's permission, volunteers create smaller arrangements from the sanctuary flowers and deliver them to members who are ill, homebound, or grieving. It's a simple yet powerful way to spread kindness and show care—bringing beauty, comfort, and a smile when it's needed most. If sharing "love in a vase" sounds like your kind of ministry, see Linda to learn more and sign up!
- **THANK YOU!!** What an incredible showing for Meals on Wheels Summer Meals for Kids program. With your generosity, we filled the van Saturday, July 19. All of these donations will feed the approximately 250 children served lunches each weekday throughout the summer right here in Williamsburg and James City County. We appreciate the kindness and generosity of all those who brought items directly to our food drive, and to all those who brought items throughout the collection. We couldn't do it without your help!
- Summer with the WPC Book Club: Mark your calendars and plan to join us. All are invited to join us on Monday, July 28, at 2pm in room 220. Bring your favorite book (or whatever you're currently reading) and enjoy a free-wheeling conversation! In August we will hold a joint evening meeting with the Earth Care Committee on Monday, August 18, 2025, at 7pm in Room 220 (and on Zoom). We will discuss the classic Beautiful Swimmers: Watermen, Crabs and the Chesapeake Bay, by William W. Warner.
- Backpack Blessing: It's time to go back to school and we want to send you off with prayers and blessings! All students (PreK-grad school!) and teachers are invited to join us for the annual Blessing of the Backpacks at both 9:30am and 11:00am on August 24. You are encouraged to bring your school bag or backpack for a blessing and a special backpack tag. Then stick around for the Back-To-School Bash at 12:30am to celebrate a great summer and get excited for the school year!
- Back-To-School Bash: Join us on August 24 for a community Back-To-School Bash from 12:30-2:30! We will have a bounce house, games, popcorn, snow cones, and more! This event is taking place in collaboration with Williamsburg Baptist Church next door. This is a great opportunity to bring friends and neighbors. The annual Blessing of the Backpacks will take place at the 9:30am and 11:00am services prior to the Back-To-School Bash. Contact Melody Dillon (mdillon@mywpc.org) with questions or to volunteer.

- SAVE THE DATE: Rise Against Hunger. Saturday, September 27, 2025, 8am-5pm. Online registration begins Monday, September 1, 2025.
- Preschool Dance and Play Fall Session Registration Now Open: Children ages 3–5 and their parents are invited to join us this fall for WPC's 10-week Preschool Dance and Play program!
 Experience fun, movement, and connection every Wednesday at 1:30pm, September 10–November 12. The program is taught by our Director of Children, Youth, and Families Ministries, Melody Dillon. Cost: \$95. Learn more and register at mywpc.org/danceandplay. Questions? Contact Melody at mdillon@mywpc.org.
- 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 12. Please consider joining us to help our neighbors in need and put the date on your
 calendar.
- Our next New Member Orientation Luncheon is scheduled for Sunday, October 5, 2025, immediately after the 11:00 a.m. worship service. 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 Holy Spirit is nudging you to become a part of this church community, reach out to Pastor Pam (phrncir@mywpc.org) after the service.
- The Hunger and Homeless Team is hosting a fall work weekend at Habitat for Humanity's Eastern Shore site on October 9-11. 2025. Space is limited. Contact Chuck Timko* to sign up.

*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, JULY 27

Montreat Youth Conference

9:30am ONLY Nursery open during 9:30am worship service

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

11:00am In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Listen at FM93.5 The Burg and AM740 or wmbgradio.com

MONDAY. JULY 28

Montreat Youth Conference

1:00pm Caregiver Support Group / Rm 222

2:00pm WPC Book Club / Rm 220

6:00pm Summer Handbell Ensemble Practice / Bell Rm

TUESDAY, JULY 29

Montreat Youth Conference

1:00pm Staff Meeting / Zoom

2:00pm From His Hands Motel Ministry Meal Prep / Kitchen

2:00pm Safi Tutoring / Rm 255

7:00pm AA Williamsburg Big Book Study / LL009 and LL049

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30

Montreat Youth Conference

8:00am Summer Meals for Kids / Kitchen
3:00pm Endowment Committee Mtg / Rm 220

THURSDAY, JULY 31

Montreat Youth Conference

9:00am Sanctuary Cleaning 5:00pm Safi Tutoring / Rm 255

4:00pm Nominating Committee Mtg / Rm 220

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1

Montreat Youth Conference

2:00pm WYO Summer Camp Concert 2025 / Sanctuary 3:00pm From His Hands Motel Food Prep / Kitchen

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2

Montreat Youth Conference

> NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP ↔

August 3, 2025 • 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Celebration of the Lord's Supper will be served at all worship services.

Pastor John's sermon, "New Clothes," will be based on Colossians 3:1-11.