

# The Season of ORDINARY TIME

## WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST AUGUST 17, 2025

## PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

God of grace, who are we that you should care for us? Yet you surprise us with grace, infuse us with hope, and teach us a better way. Make us ever more faithful, and ever more grateful, as we watch for the coming of your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

## THE GATHERING PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

Rev. John E. Morgan

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH** 

Rebecca Elton

MINUTE FOR MISSION: Flowering Sharing Ministry

Linda Stewart

**PRELUDE** 

Just As I Am

arr. McIntyre

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsive)

Leader: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us. Mindful of the gifts we receive and confident of the sustenance the Lord provides.

All: Let us all worship.

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.

GROSSER GOTT, WIR LOBEN DICH



Based on an 18th-century German metrical version of a celebrated 5th-century Latin hymn, *Te Deum laudamus*, this abbreviated 19th-century English paraphrase is sung by both Protestants and Roman Catholics. It is set here to the tune composed and named for the German version.

#### \*CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: Let us confess our sins, for God is gracious and strong to save.

## \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of goodness and truth, we have failed to seek after your wisdom and have followed paths that have led away from you. Forgive our foolish ways, and lead us in your truth, that we may live in the fullness of life as you intend through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER



#### \*Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Beloved, your sins are forgiven, for God is merciful and just. Therefore, be reconciled to the Lord and to one another, walking in the light of Christ.



(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

## THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Rebecca Elton

God of Wisdom, by your Spirit, speak your word to us, and give us your grace to recognize the abundant signs of your care for us, so that we might be freed to act in the world with courage and abandon. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 5:1-7 Rebecca Elton

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

**PSALM 80:1-2**, **8-19** (unison)

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.

Stir up your might,

and come to save us!

You brought a vine out of Egypt;

you drove out the nations and planted it.

You cleared the ground for it;

it took deep root and filled the land.

The mountains were covered with its shade,

the mighty cedars with its branches;

it sent out its branches to the sea

and its shoots to the River.

Why then have you broken down its walls,

so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?

The boar from the forest ravages it,

and all that move in the field feed on it.

Turn again, O God of hosts;

look down from heaven and see;

have regard for this vine,

the stock that your right hand planted.

(The Psalm continues on the next page.)

It has been burned with fire; it has been cut down; may they perish at the rebuke of your countenance. But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself.

Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

**SECOND LESSON:** Hebrews 11:29-12:2

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SERMON "The Great Cloud" Rev. John E. Morgan

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD



## \*Affirmation of Faith: "Communion of the Saints" from Westminster Confession

(unison)

All saints being united to Jesus Christ their head, by his Spirit and by faith, have fellowship with him in his graces, sufferings, death, resurrection, and glory: and, being united to one another in love, they have communion in each other's gifts and graces.

## 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 TALK Reid Kirkpatrick

#### **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 Guardian Angel Thou Sophie Morris-Suzuki, soprano Franz Abt (1819-1885)

Me thinks I feel a blessing streaming From out thine eyes so softly beaming Each thought and act speak low, Each thought and act speak low to me. My guardian angel thou must be, My guardian angel thou!

(Anthem continues on the next page.)

My restless sorrow haste to fly me Whene'er I feel thy presence near me, And sweet repose returns, And sweet repose returns to me. My guardian angel thou must be, My guardian angel thou!

And peace with earth comes o'er me stealing Whene'er thine eye is turned revealing The eternal light of heaven to me; E'en those that hate me I would gladden And bless all them that me would sadden, My heart is new create by thee. My guardian angel thou must be, My guardian angel thou.



<sup>\*</sup>PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

#### \*Invitation and The Lord's Day Greeting

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ia!

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 326 For All the Saints SINE NOMINE



- 1 For all the saints who from their la-bors rest, who
- 2 Thou wast their rock, their for-tress, and their might;
- 3 O blest com mu nion, fel low-ship di vine!
- 4 And when the strife is fierce, the war-fare long,
- 5 From earth's wide bounds, from o-cean's far-thest coast, through





## \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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 ◆

Concluding our four-week tour of the families of organ pipes, this morning we feature the reed pipes. Unlike other pipes, which produce sound from a vibrating column of air (much like a whistle), reed pipes include a small vibrating reed, similar to a clarinet. They also produce sounds resembling trumpets, tubas, and trombones, and are typically named similarly.

Phillip McIntyre (1951-1991) was born in Portsmouth, VA, where he attended public schools. He led his church choir as a teenager before studying at Virginia Union University, Catholic University, and Westminster Choir College. He taught in the Washington DC public school system from 1975-1989 before pursuing a church music career that took him to notable churches throughout the capitol area.

This morning's prelude features the sounds of the clarinet and oboe stops, while the postlude exercises the instrument's trumpets.

## **➣ THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ❖**

The flowers are given today to the glory of God by the Pulley Family in honor and loving memory of Penny.

#### >> 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

Sophie Morris-Suzuki

#### **LITURGIST**

Rebecca Elton

#### GREETER

9:30am Bill Riffer, Anne Nordin

11:00am Bruce Powell, Rebecca Caprio

#### **USHERS**

9:30am Eric Beckhusen, Penny Marshburn, Lynn Newcomer, Fred Whitley

11:00am Bob Bolstad, Penny Marshburn, Ric Cheston, Donna Powell

#### **COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS**

Dave McLain, Sallie McLain, Bev Whitley

#### \*WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHERS

Robin Sabo, Linda Eichhorn

#### \*WINDSOR MEADE USHER

Ray Whitney and Peter Moriarty

AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS: Jim Marshburn and John Schoenberger

<sup>\*</sup>Satellite campuses

#### > WPC Elders, Deacons & Staff ≪

\*Moderator \*\*Second Chair

SESSION: CLASSES OF 2026, 2027, 2028

Moderator: John E. Morgan Clerk of Session: Diane Schwarz Administration: Larry Pulley\* (26), Margie Newcomer (26), Pat Murray (28)

Christian Education: JD Due\* (26), Kelly Kirkpatrick (26), Kathryn Hall (27), Megan Davis (28), Len Shartzer (28)

Christian Outreach: CW Stacks\* (28), Joseph Kinard (27), Carolyn Morgan (28)

Communications: Ellen Peters\* (27)

Facilities: Jerry Howell\* (26), Ric Cheston (27), Greg Walton (28)

Resources: Marc Moyers\* (27), Jay Eaton (26)

Worship: Becky Mckinley\* (27) ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE:

Joseph Kinard\* (26), Jim Austin (26), Martha Squire (27), Wray Russell (28) Mike Smith (28)

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE: CLASS OF 2025-26** 

Moderator: Ric Cheston, Kathy Chamber, Jim Kirkpatrick, Karen Lee, Carolyn Morgan, Nancy Moseley,

Jim Winthrop

BOARD OF DEACONS: CLASSES OF 2026, 2027, 2028

Moderator: Eric Beckhusen (26) Vice-Moderator: Julia Smith (27)

Pastoral Advisor: Pam Hrncir, Associate Pastor

Secretary: Robin Sabo (26)

**CARE TEAMS** 

Care Connections: Jennifer LaDow\*\* (26), Skip Perry (28), Patty Yewcic (28)

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

Patriot's Colony: Barbara Smith\*\* (28)

Williamsburg Landing: Carolyn Lodzieski\*\* (26)

Windsor Meade: Martha Burian\*\* (26), Jack Snell (28)

**MINISTRY TEAMS** 

Celebrations and Concerns: Laura Osman\*\* (27), Barb Timko (28)

Christian Fellowship: Bev Whitley\*\* (27), Dave McLain (26) Jim Carey\*\* (27), Jane Snyder (28), Steve Young (28)

Flower Sharing: Leigh Sutherland\*\* (26), Carol Thomas (26), Linda Stewart (28)

New Member: Eric Beckhusen\*\* (26), Rodney Lawrence (27), Suzanne Stewart (27)

Memorial Receptions: Rebecca Caprio\*\* (26), Karen Lauritzen (27), Julia Smith (27), Cheryl Roettger (28)

Memorial Services: Ford Moseley\*\* (27), Jack Lassiter (27), Kathy Chambers (27), Bruce Graham (28)

<u>STAFF</u>

Pastoral Staff: John E. Morgan, Pastor/Head of Staff; Pam Hrncir, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care

Program Staff: Melody Dillon, Director of Children Youth, and Family Ministries

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

Rebecca Elton, Junior 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 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.
- •The monthly grief support group resumes meeting the first Wednesday of the month, September 3, 2025 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 August, 2025, the Caregivers Support Group will meet on Monday, 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 <</p>

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, August 17 – Saturday, August 23 Pastor John • jmorgan@mywpc.org • 757-903-7800

#### **Upcoming Memorial Services:**

- Doris Gilfillan: Saturday, August 23, 2025, 11:00am
- James "Jim" Smith: Friday August 30, 2025, 1:00pm

All the services will be live-streamed at mywpc.org. The service bulletin will be available for viewing under the note tab the day before the service.

A reception will be held in Stevenson Hall after the services.

#### Please pray for:

• Terry Hancock, Nell Stowe, and families who have recently lost loved ones.

#### Please pray for those:

• 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.

#### **➢ ANNOUNCEMENTS ←**

- Melody Dillon, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries, is attending Continuing Education through Sunday, August 17, 2025.
- Pastor Pam is away spending time with family Monday, August 18, 2025 through Thursday, August 21, 2025.
- There are some in our church family who need a listening ear to get them through a hard time. Please reach out to Pastor Pam, Toby Lane, Becky McKinley or Ann Schulte about being a Stephen Minister.
- Fall Roundtable Pulpit Registration is Now Open. The Roundtable Pulpit is a 5-week group that meets with Pastor John to discuss the upcoming Sunday's scripture and help shape the sermon. No special qualifications are needed—just a willingness to engage and explore the text together.

◆ Dates: Tuesdays, September 9, 16, 23, 30 & October 7

◆ **Time:** 7:00-8:30pm in the Church Library

Group Size: Limited to 15 participants

Together, the group explores the scripture for the coming Sunday, offering perspectives that help shape the sermon preached by Rev. Morgan. These conversations promote a collaborative, public forum of theology and deepen our shared witness to God's presence in our lives and world. Sermons will be posted online after they are preached, and feedback is always welcome. **WPC members and non-members are welcome.** Past participants are encouraged to join again! To register or learn more, email Pastor John, jmorgan@mywpc.org.

- The WPC Endowment Fund Web Page has been enhanced. On the church website (mywpc.org), click on Serve, and then Endowment Grants for an overview of the Endowment Fund and the 2025 endowment grant status; how to give a gift to the Endowment Fund; and how to obtain Endowment Grant application forms. These forms are in both fillable, for online submission, and printable formats. If you are aware of a need at a local charitable organization, consider completing and submitting a Charitable Account Grant Application. Since the WPC Endowment Fund inception in 2015, over \$168,000 in grants have been awarded!
- Interested in the Deacon Flower Sharing Ministry? Come learn more about this meaningful ministry. A short class will be held today, in the sanctuary, after the 11am worship service. Ministry team members rearrange the flowers from the Retable and deliver them to members of our congregation who are bereaved, ill, homebound, or simply in need of a thoughtful visit and reminder that they are cared for. Committee members will also be available at TODAY the sign-up table during coffee hour to answer questions. If you're unable to attend on after worship, please contact Linda Stewart\* to arrange a more convenient time to learn more.
- Register now for the WPC Ice Cream Social: Sunday, September 21, 2pm. Ice cream is for everyone! Drop in for yummy scoops of ice cream (including a non-dairy sorbet) with toppings, and enjoy time in fellowship with old friends and new acquaintances. We will be set up with tents and seating in the small parking lot next to the playground at the rear of the building. There is no charge for the event, but please register by Thursday, September 18, so we can provide enough ice cream and toppings for all. Contact Bev Whitley\* with any questions.

- UKIRK is back! Our fabulous UKIRK students will be returning soon, and we need your help! Starting Tuesday, September 2, we're looking for volunteers to provide meals for about 15 students before their "Dinner & Dialogue" gatherings. You're warmly invited to stay, share the meal, and get to know these amazing young adults. If you're interested, sign up at mywpc.org/ ukirkdinners, or reach out to Megan Davis\* with any questions. We hope to see you there!
- Volunteers Needed for Meal Sharing Ministry: Would you be willing to periodically make or
  deliver a meal to someone experiencing a life event such as welcoming a new baby or recovering
  from a medical procedure? Meals can be homemade or purchased. You may want to provide the
  meal and take it to the church for delivery or deliver it yourself. Please contact Copper Perry\* if
  you have any questions. She is also available to listen to your ideas.
- WPC Book Club: Mark your calendars and plan to join us. 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.
- Notes for Our Students and Teachers: Help to fill the Flourish Tree with words of encouragement. The school year is almost here, and our Flourish Tree in the back lobby is ready to bloom with encouragement! Church family—write a quick note to cheer on our students and teachers as they head into a new year. Students and teachers—stop by and grab a message that speaks to you. Keep it as a little reminder that your church is cheering you on every step of the way. Look for the colorful backpacks in the Friendship Register pads Sunday morning or in the basket under the Flourish Tree.
- 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.
- 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 12 from 8:30 to 2:30. There are indoor jobs (shopping with neighbors, organizing the clothing closet, and painting) and outdoor jobs (pressure washing, 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!

- SAVE THE DATE: Rise Against Hunger. Saturday, September 27, 2025, 11am-3:30pm. Learn more at mywpc.org/rah.
- 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.
- 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.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE ←**

Upcoming Office Schedule & Bulletin Deadlines: Vanessa Gamble, our Church Secretary, will be out of the office from Monday, September 1 through Friday, September 12, 2025.
 Worship bulletins for Sunday, September 7, 2025 and Sunday, September 14, 2025, will be prepared and printed in advance.

Please email any announcements you would like published in bulletins for September 7 and/or September 14 to publications@mywpc.org no later than noon on Monday, September 25, 2025.

Thank you for your cooperation and timely submissions!

\*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, AUGUST 17**

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, AUGUST 18**

5:30pm Christian Education / Rm 220

7:00pm WPC Book Club Joint Meeting with Earth Care / Rm 220 and Zoom

#### **TUESDAY, AUGUST 19**

1:00pm Staff Meeting / Zoom 2:00pm Safi Tutoring / Rm 255

7:00pm Christian Fellowship Committee / Rm 220

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

#### **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20**

8:00am Summer Meals for Kids / Kitchen

10:00am Finding Hope Grief Support Group / Rm 227 7:00pm Administration Ministry Mtg / Rm 220

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 21

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

5:00pm Christian Outreach Ministry Mtg / LL010

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 22 SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

11:00am Doris Gilfillan's Memorial Service / Sanctuary and Stevenson Hall

#### >> NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP ◆

#### August 24, 2025 • 11th Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor John's sermon, "Unshaken," will be based on Hebrews 12:18-29.