

WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST FAMILY WORSHIP SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

You hear the cries of your people for justice and mercy; you answer our prayers with the gift of your Son, who bears our burdens and sets us free. Speak your truth to us; purge and refine us; that we may love and serve you alone. Amen.

THE GATHERING PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. John E. Morgan

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Jeff Teucke

MINUTE FOR MISSION: Rise Against Hunger

Wray Russell

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on *Blessed Jesus, We Are Here*

J S Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Leader: We are held in the arms of grace,

All: Supported by a compassionate friend,

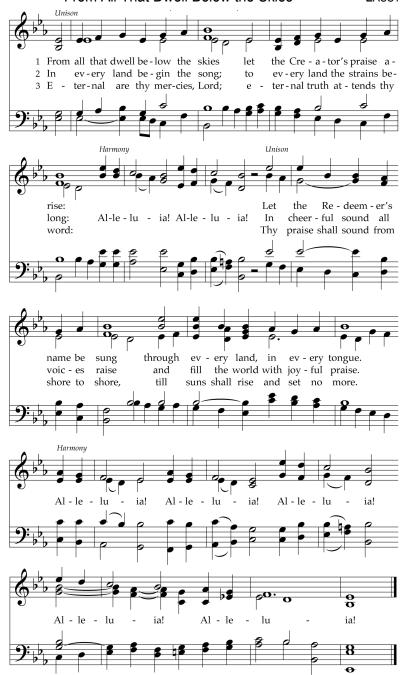
Leader: Uplifted on the wings of hope,

All: Sustained by the words of prayer, Leader: Aided by a mysterious presence,

All: Cared for in surprising ways. So let us sing our praise and live our gratitude.

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.



Because Psalm 117 contains only two verses, Watts's paraphrase had only two stanzas. Most later hymnals have created or borrowed additional stanzas, like the one included here, to enlarge the hymn. Perhaps the best solution is found by adding Alleluias, as this tune invites.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sin, God who is faithful, washes us clean. With one heart and voice, let us pray.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Creator of the universe, the one who gives us life, we come humbly before you for we have hoarded and bartered what has never been ours in the hope of securing our future.

We have yearned for wealth more than we have yearned for you. We have squandered your trust and grieved your heart with our betrayal. Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us, and forgive our sins, for your name's sake. Amen.

A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER



*Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Our loving God desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. Hear the good news! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.



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

Megan Davis

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Jeff Teucke

God our Savior, as we hear your Word send your Holy Spirit to be our teacher of faith and truth and show us how we are called to live, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

(9:30) Jeff Teucke

(11:00) Kenzie Eritano

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

(9:30) PSALM 91:1-4, 14-16 (unison)

Those who go to God Most High for safety will be protected by God All-Powerful.

I will say to the Lord, "You are my place of safety and protection.

You are my God, and I trust you."

God will save you from hidden traps

and from deadly diseases.

He will protect you like a bird

spreading its wings over its young.

His truth will be like your armor and shield.

The Lord says, "If someone loves me, I will save him.

I will protect those who know me.

They will call to me, and I will answer them.

I will be with them in trouble.

I will rescue them and honor them.

I will give them a long, full life.

They will see how I can save."

From The International Children's Bible

(11:00) EMBODYING PSALM 91:1-4, 14-16

WPC Children

SECOND LESSON: I Timothy 2:1-7

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SERMON "Pray for Everyone"

Rev. John E. Morgan

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 346 For the Healing of the Nations St. Thomas



The first line of this text quotes the declared purpose of the leaves of the tree of life growing beside the river of life in the heavenly Jerusalem (Revelation 22:2). The hymn continues by identifying some of the many ways we are called to share with God in this healing work.

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

The Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

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

Sheep May Safely Graze

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Sheep may safely graze and pasture In a watchful shepherd's sight.

Those who rule with wisdom guiding, Bring to hearts a peace abiding, Bless a land with joy made bright.



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.





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.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Little Prelude and Fugue in C Major

attr. J. S. Bach

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 ◆

Our music this morning features the work of J. S. Bach (1685-1750), the most prominent of a large musical family and arguably the greatest composer of all time. Our opening selection is a chorale prelude, or a piece of music featuring a hymn tune that would likely have been easily recognizable by the church attendee. This morning's offertory is from a larger cantata, a choral work, that was not originally intended for worship, but features this well-loved tune. The postlude is from a collection of "preludes and fugues", each featuring an opening movement followed by a fugue, a musical form featuring a repeating melodic line. The "little" preludes and fugues, so named to avoid confusion with their "great" cousins, were originally thought to be the work of Bach. Subsequent scholarship has resulted in a consensus that these were likely from the pen of a student or musical colleague. Such ambiguity is not uncommon, as the vast majority of Bach's musical output was not published in his time, but rather handed down to his students.

≫ THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ≪

The flowers are given today to the glory of God and in memory of her husband, Phillip Trimble, by Pat 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

LITURGIST

Jeff Teucke

YOUTH READER

Kenzie Eritano

EMBODYING THE PSALM

WPC Children

GREETER

9:30am Skip Perry, Shanna Due

11:00am Laura Osman

USHERS

9:30am Karen Lauritzen, David Littell, Harley Stewart, Rebecca Caprio

11:00am Rick Murray, Pat Murray, Shanna Due, Rebecca Caprio

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Jim Carey, Anne Nordin, Carolyn Lodzieski

*WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHERS

Bill and Janice McGuire

*WINDSOR MEADE USHER

Ray Whitney and Peter Moriarty

AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS: Dave McLain and John Schoenberger

^{*}Satellite campuses

≈ CHILDREN'S STATEMENT ≪

Children are welcome at WPC! We have Sunday School for all ages at 9:30am and a nursery for children ages 3 and below during both services. Sharing Faith with Children returns to our 11am service. 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!

≫ YOUTH STATEMENT ≪

All youth in 6th-12th grade are invited to join us every Sunday evening for WPC Youth Group! We meet from 5:30-7:00pm and enjoy dinner, singing, and a variety of activities from Bible study to Gaga Ball.

High schoolers in 9th-12th grade are invited to join for a midweek Bible study on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00pm. Please reach out to Melody Dillon with any questions.

≈ FAMILY STATEMENT ≪

Every 3rd Sunday is WPC Family Sunday! During Sunday School, families are invited to gather upstairs in Room 227 for coffee, breakfast treats, and informal conversation and community building. Then, during the 11:00am service, all kids in preschool-5th grade are invited to sit together and help lead the congregation in Embodying the Psalm.

≈ 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.

- •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, 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 will resume their weekly meetings on Mondays at 1:00pm in room 227 on the second level.

>> 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, September 21 – Saturday, September 27 Pastor John • jmorgan@mywpc.org • 757-903-7800

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

- Pastor Pam Hrncir and her husband, Brent, and her children, Hannah, Matthew, Sam, Abby and Lilli, on the death of her mother and their grandmother, WPC member Cherry (Cheryl) Henry, who went home to be with our Lord and Savior, Saturday, September 13, 2025. A Memorial Service will be held at a later time.
- The family of WPC member Margaret Adams, who went home to be with our Lord and Savior, Friday, September 12, 2025. A Memorial Service will be held at a later time.

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 ←

- Fall Coffee Fellowship, Usher and Greeter Sign Ups Begin 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 through September 28th to learn more and sign up to host Coffee Fellowship, Usher or Greet during the months of September, October, and November. 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!
- Join us TODAY 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. Tents and seating will be setup in
 the small parking lot next to the playground at the rear of the building. There is no charge for the
 event. Didn't register? Still come out and join us for a taste of delicious ice cream or sorbet!
- The WPC Book Club will meet on Monday, September 23, 2025, at 2 pm in Room 220 (and on Zoom) to discuss The Covenant of Water, by Abraham Verghese.
- KAIROS Love Cookie Guidelines: We need cookies and lots of them! WPC going into Greensville Correctional Center for KAIROS 87 from October 1st to October 5th. You can serve in this ministry by simply baking cookies! The WPC team is asked to bring a minimum of 200 dozen homemade cookies for distribution over the weekend. Please leave your cookies in the WPC kitchen by Tuesday, September 30th by close of business.

Love Cookie Kits are available in the Welcome Center. Kits for making 3 dozen include 3-quart freezer bags, special instructions and directions for baking cookies. Take as many as you feel you can bake! Thank you so very much for your help. May God continue to bless you richly.

• In keeping with WPC's 2025 Living Waters theme, the Earth Care and Christian Education ministries collaborated to focus on clean drinking water into this summer's Vacation Bible School's Waves of Wonder theme. They asked the children to bring some coins in every day to help support a Christian nonprofit that provides drinking water filtration systems after natural disasters, including after Hurricane Helene in North Carolina in 2025. They raised \$510 during that week! We thank all the parents and children that participated in this effort. The Earth Care committee matched the funds from their budget. A total of \$1020 has been donated to the Water Mission. Praise God!

• Rise Against Hunger: We are behind in registration and the needed donations to make this event a success. Please signup TODAY USING THE QR CODE TO THE RIGHT and join us for WPC's annual mealpackaging event on Saturday, September 27 in Stevenson Hall. Our 2025 goals are big: 55,000 meals packaged (bringing WPC's lifetime total to 600,000!) and \$10,000 raised to cover costs. This intergenerational event is a



WPC favorite. Sign up for a two-hour shift or make a donation at mywpc.org/rah. Questions? Contact Wray Russell*.

- The first Kids Connect Day Camp of the year is on Friday, October 3! When our public school teachers have scheduled work days, all kids in Kindergarten-5th grade are invited to spend the day at WPC playing games, doing crafts, learning a Bible story, doing a service project, and much more. For this first Kids Connect of the year, there will even be a special visitor from the Virginia Zoo! Registration can be found at mywpc.org/children or by emailing Melody Dillon at mdillon@mywpc.org. There is a suggested donation of \$15 per child (or \$40 per family).
- 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 5. If you have questions or want to volunteer to provide bread, please contact Ruth Cobb*by September 29.

*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, SEPTEMBER 21

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

2:00pm All-Church Ice Cream Social / Small Church Parking Lot

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

1:00pm Caregiver Support Grp / Rm 227 2:00pm WPC Book Club / Rm 222

6:30pm Williamsburg Choral Guild Rehearsal / Sanctuary

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

10:00am Tuesday Bible Study / Rm 22211:30am Communications Mtg / Rm 220

1:00pm Staff Mtg / Zoom

6:30pm UKirk Dinner & Dialogue / UKirk Rm Lower Level 7:00pm Roundtable Pulpit with Pastor John / Library

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

7:30pm Men's Bible & Bacon Study / Stevenson Hall

6:00pm Joyful Ringers Rehearsal / Bell Rm 7:00pm High School Youth Bible Study / Rm 227

7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Rm

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

9:00am Sanctuary Cleaning

4:30pm Carol Choir and Junior Choir Rehearsal / Choir Rm

7:00pm Session Mtg / Rm 220

7:30pm Westminster Ringers Rehearsal / Bell Rm

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

11:00am 1st 2-hr Rise Against Hunger Shift / Stevenson Hall 1:30pm 2nd 2-hr Rise Against Hunger Shift / Stevenson Hall

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

> NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP ◆

September 28, 2025 • 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor John's sermon, "To Be Content," will be based on I Timothy 6:6-19.