

WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST OCTOBER 12, 2025

PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

God of our salvation, you are the source of wisdom and joy. Your love and mercies are not limited to one time or to one people. You continue to heal and to save, transcending the artificial boundaries and barriers we set. For such expansive love, it is our right, duty, and joy to offer you all our thanks and praise, now and forever. Amen.

THE GATHERING PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. John E. Morgan

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Nancy Moseley

MINUTE FOR MISSION: Stewardship: A Time to Connect

Sam Due

PRELUDE

God Walks with Me Carol Choir and Junior Choir Benjamin Kornelis

God was there with me on the day I was born,

God walks with me;

Just a little baby cradled safe and warm,

God walks with me.

Refrain:

God walks with me,

Every day for the rest of my life.

God walks with me,

Every day for the rest of my life.

(Prelude continues on the next page.)

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

 \mathcal{O}_{τ} Our sanctuary is equipped with a T-coil hearing loop. Look for the blue sticker on the pews.

God will be with me when the sun shines bright,
God walks with me;
God will be with me in the darkest night,
God walks with me. (Refrain)

God will be with me when I'm old and gray,
God walks with me;
I'm going to praise God every day!
God walks with me! (Refrain)

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Leader: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of God's name.

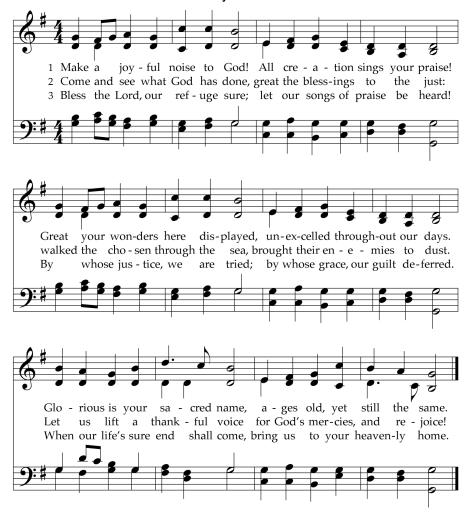
All: How awesome are your deeds, O God! We sing praises to your name.

Leader: Come and see what God has done: turning the sea into dry land; bringing us across the river Jordan.

All: How awesome are your deeds, O God! We sing praises to your name.

Leader: Even when God has tested us; even when we have gone through fire and water:

All: God has brought us out to a spacious place.
Our God is an awesome God!



This paraphrase of Psalm 66 maintains a corporate tone more suitable for congregational singing than does the original psalm, which moves to a personal narrative in its latter part. The reference to "all creation" is strengthened by the associations of the tune (see no. 14).

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*CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: Even when we are faithless, Christ remains faithful. Trusting in grace, let us confess our sins.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. We keep our distance from you, for we are broken and sick with sin. Yet you see us, and cleanse us, and make us whole. Forgive us when we forget to return to you—have mercy when we fail to praise your name, and help us to exude the faith that makes us well. Amen.

A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER



*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Hear the good news: Your call has been answered. Christ has healed you and forgives your sin. With glad hearts, return praise to God.



(11:00am) 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)

Nancy Moseley

These are your words, O God. Humble us to speak their weight. Strengthen us to hear their truth. Unbind us to live their call. Through the power of your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7 Nancy Moseley

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

PSALM 66:1-12 (responsive)

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;

sing the glory of his name;

give to him glorious praise.

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!

Because of your great power, your enemies cringe before you.

All the earth worships you;

they sing praises to you,

sing praises to your name." Selah

Come and see what God has done:

he is awesome in his deeds among mortals.

He turned the sea into dry land;

they passed through the river on foot.

There we rejoiced in him,

who rules by his might forever,

whose eyes keep watch on the nations-

let the rebellious not exalt themselves. Selah

Bless our God, O peoples;

let the sound of his praise be heard,

who has kept us among the living

and has not let our feet slip.

For you, O God, have tested us;

you have tried us as silver is tried.

You brought us into the net;

you laid burdens on our backs;

you let people ride over our heads;

we went through fire and through water;

yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

SECOND LESSON: Luke 17:11-19

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SERMON "Gratitude" Rev. John E. Morgan

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn 439

O, My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer

STUTTGART



- 1 O my soul, bless your Re-deem-er; all with-in me bless God's name;
- 2 God for-gives all your trans-gres-sions, all dis-eas-es gent-ly heals;
- 3 Far as east from west is dis-tant, God has put a way our sin;
- 4 As it was with-out be gin-ning, so it lasts with-out an end;





bless the Sav - ior, and for - get not all God's mer - cies to pro-claim. God re-deems you from de-struc-tion, and with you so kind-ly deals. like the pit - y of a fa - ther has the Lord's com - pas-sion been. to their chil-dren's chil-dren ev - er shall God's righ - teous-ness ex - tend:



- 5 Unto such as keep God's cov'nant and are steadfast in God's way; unto those who still remember the commandments and obey.
- 6 Bless your Maker, all you creatures, ever under God's control, all throughout God's vast dominion; bless the Lord of all, my soul!

These stanzas are selected from sixteen that originally made up this paraphrase of Psalm 103, the second of two versions in the volume where they were first published. The tune used here was probably created as a German psalm tune but later came to be used with hymn texts.

TEXT: The Book of Psalms, 1871, alt. MUSIC: Witt's Psalmodia Sacra, 1715; harm. William Henry Havergal, 1847, alt.

STUTTGART 8.7.8.7

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

We trust in God the Holy Spirit everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

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

Great Day

arr. Howard Helvey

Refrain:

Great day! Great day, the righteous marching, Great day! God's gonna build up Zion's walls.

Chariot rode on the mountain top

God's gonna build up Zion's walls.

My God spoke and the chariot did stop.

God's gonna build up Zion's walls. (Refrain)

This is the day of jubilee,

God's gonna build up Zion's walls.

The Lord has set his people free,

God's gonna build up Zion's walls. (Refrain)

(Anthem continues on the next page.)

We want no cowards in our band,
God's gonna build up Zion's walls.
We call for valiant-hearted men,
God's gonna build up Zion's walls. (Refrain)

Gonna take my breastplate, sword and shield, God's gonna build up Zion's walls.

And march out boldly in the field,

God's gonna build up Zion's walls. (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.



*HYMN 772 Live into Hope Truro



This text on Luke 4:16–20, the author's first, was written for the United Presbyterian Women's National Meeting in July 1976 because the team planning worship could not find a suitable hymn on that passage. She wrote the words with this vigorous 18th-century tune in mind.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

arr. Travis

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 anthem "Great Day" is a traditional African American spiritual that celebrates the promise of God's justice and the hope of final victory over sin and suffering. Its refrain—"Great day, the righteous marching"—looks forward to the day when God's people will gather under God's protection within "Zion's walls" and flourish.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ≪

The flowers are given today by Kathryn Hall to the glory of God and in honor of her family, Raymomd, Dawn, and Jordan. Thank you for all your support and love.

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

Carol Choir and Junior Choir directed by Rebecca Elton

LITURGIST

Nancy Moseley

SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Megan Davis

GREETER

9:30am Llz Favre, Shanna Due

11:00am Bob and Nancy Archibald

USHERS

9:30am Lynn Newcomer, Karen Lauritzen, John VanAken, Rebecca Caprio

11:00am Bob Bolstad, Shanna Due, Jerry Howell, Martha Jean Howell

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Steve Young, Carolyn Lodzieski, Sarah Houghland

*WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHERS

Dottie Teubner, Terry Backus

*WINDSOR MEADE USHER

Ray Whitney and Peter Moriarty

AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS: Dick Sahlen 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.

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, 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 222 on the second level

→ 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, October 12 – Saturday, October 1\8 Pastor Pam • phrncir@mywpc.org • 757-508-4668

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

Mike Healy and family on the death of former WPC member Pat Healy, who went home to be
with our Lord and Savior, Saturday, September 27, 2025, in Lancaster, PA. Pat sang in our
Chancel Choir for many years before leaving Williamsburg. At this time no plans have been
made for a service.

Please pray for:

• Robin Midlam (Cheyenne, WY), sister of Jodie Davis, began a 3-month chemotherapy regimen for breast cancer on October 1; Anabel Crane recovering from a successful heart value replacement, Terry Hancock, Nell Stowe, and families who have recently lost loved ones.

Please pray for those:

 Recovering from various surgeries, who are homebound; who have family and friend concerns, affected by natural disasters, serving 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 ←

- We are delighted to invite you to join the Kirk Krafters, a welcoming group dedicated to creativity, friendship, and sharing our crafting passions together. Whether you knit, crochet, do needlepoint, you are welcome. We meet the second Tuesday of each month at 1:30pm in the Church Library. The first meeting is on October 14. Please feel free to bring along your current project or just come to meet others and see what inspires you.
- Blessing of the (Stuffed) Animals is next week! Next week during Sharing Faith with Children at 11:00am, we will be having a Blessing of the Stuffed Animals. All children are encouraged to bring in a very special stuffy or two for a blessing during the 11:00am service. Adults and youth are also welcome to bring a cherished stuffed animal or a photo of their real-life pet for the blessing.
- Join us for the annual Presbyterian Women's Fall Luncheon and Thank Offering, Grace in Motion: Movement As Worship for All Ages, on Wednesday, October 22, 2025, 11 am in Stevenson Hall. Melody Dillon, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries, will share ways that dance and movement can be a powerful form of worship and prayer for people of all ages. The annual Thank Offering will be collected and it is one of Presbyterian Women's two offerings for the church year. Received in the fall each year, it gives women a tangible way to express their gratitude for the special blessings in their lives. Please register by Sunday, October 19. A suggested donation of \$8 will be collected at the door to cover the cost of the lunch.
- Dining Together signup has begun! We are a BIG church! We cherish the wonderful things a large congregation makes possible, including many opportunities to work together in SMALL groups. So, why not just have some fun getting to know other members of WPC through great conversations over lunch or dinner together this fall and winter. Our Dining Together groups will be organized in October and kick off with a potluck dinner at the church on Sunday, November 2. Singles and couples are encouraged to participate. In the past, diners often rotated hosting in each other's homes, but more recently, choosing favorite restaurants to share together has become a popular option. Please signup before Tuesday, October 21 and indicate your preferences. You can signup TODAY in the Fellowship Hall or the back entrance. You can also complete the insert included in today's bulletin and place in the manilla envelope in the Welcome Center.

Save the Date Now for the Potluck Kick-off Dinner for all participants: Sunday, November 2, 2025 in Stevenson Hall. We will gather for appetizers at 5:30pm followed with dinner at 6:00pm. Questions? Contact Sudie Watkins*, Nancy Archibald* or Kay Allen*.

• Participate in National Rx Takeback Day: Saturday, October 25, 2025. Got expired or unused prescription medications? Don't flush them! Flushing drugs down the drain can contaminate our waterways and harm aquatic life.

The WPC Earth Care team encourages a safer, eco-friendly alternative: take advantage of DEA National Prescription Takeback Day on Saturday, October 25, from 10 am to 2 pm. Drop off your medications at the James City County Law Enforcement Center, 4600 Opportunity Way.

Accepted: prescription tablets and capsules. Not accepted: IV solutions, liquids, needles, or over-the-counter medications.

<u>National Rx Takeback Day announce continued</u>: **Can't make it that day?** You can safely dispose of medications year-round at the following locations: Sentara Hospital; CVS Pharmacy, 7529 Richmond Rd (near Croaker Rd); The Prescription Shoppe, 5223 Monticello Ave; Walgreens Pharmacy, 1309 Richmond Rd at Lafayette.

Join the WPC Earth Care team in our mission to Protect and Preserve Living Waters—so all life may flourish!

- Join us for our Fall Festival featuring Trunk or Treat, Sunday, October 26, 4:30pm-6:30pm. This year we are collaborating with Williamsburg Baptist for a giant Trunk or Treat Fall Festival spanning two parking lots with not only trunk or treating, but also an inflatable obstacle course, pumpkin decorating, a hot cocoa bar, and more! Save the date now and plan to invite friends for this super fun event! Signup at mywpc.org/trunk to sponsor trunks. Also, all church members are asked to donate candy to be passed out to the children. Candy is being collected in the bin in the welcome center.
- Help feed the WPC Youth Group! One of the highlights of our Sunday evening youth group is the meal enjoyed by all! You are invited to sign up to provide a meal for approximately 15 people on Sunday evening at 5:15pm. Homecooked meals are always a highlight, but restaurant takeout or providing a gift card is amazing as well. The best part is that we would love for you to join us during dinner and get to know the amazing WPC Youth a little better! Sign Up Genius or reach out to Melody Dillon with questions or help signing up at mywpc.org/ youthdinner
- An Opportunity to Connect! Hang out with the other parents of WPC during Youth Group on Sunday from drop-off to pick-up (5:30pm-7:00pm). Chairs are available, but feel free to bring your own. We sit outside when it's nice and inside when it's not. No agenda, just people who are interested in getting together while our youth are together.
- WPC Book Club: Join the group on Monday, October 27, 2025, at 2 pm in Room 220 (and on Zoom) to discuss Fractured Frame, by WPC member Robert Archibald. We will welcome Bob to our discussion.
- Volunteers needed: The Harbor Day Shelter at the Williamsburg House of Mercy is looking for volunteers to help create a safe, supportive space for neighbors experiencing housing instability. Volunteer hours are 9:30am-1:30pm, Monday through Friday. In this collaborative role, you'll serve meals, welcome guests, and help connect them with essential resources—while also receiving training in CPR and de-escalation skills to strengthen your ability to serve with confidence. Together, we make a lasting impact through dignity and hope.

Contact: Caitlyn Martens, Volunteer and Program Coordinator

caitlyn@williamsburghouseofmercy.org

№ UPDATE FROM JOE AVELLAR AND THE WPC KAIROS TEAM <

The WPC Kairos team returned from the Kairos Prison Workshop at Greensville Correctional Center Sunday evening. Sixty-one prisoners and 27 Kairos volunteers attended. WPC members baked 264 dozen cookies, which were taken into the prison with another 1,800 or so dozen.

I would like to report that the cookies, the placemats decorated by the children, and the prayers from the congregation during the four-day weekend were well received and appreciated. Not only did the workshop attendees receive the cookies but every prisoner in Greensville S1 received a bag of one dozen cookies.

At the closing Graduation Ceremony, one prisoner said at the open mike segment of the ceremony that his family has forgotten him and he receives nothing from outside the prison. He said the fact that people who didn't know him gave him cookies, letters, and prayers meant more to him than anyone could possibly imagine. He said this has encouraged him and will help him to get over his feelings of shame and worthlessness. He said now has new hope that he can be a better person.

He was not the only one. We heard this throughout the weekend. Many now know they are blessed even though they are still in prison. The Kairos team will go back every month to help them to grow in their faith and support their efforts to live a better life closer to God.

*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, OCTOBER 12

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

3:00pm York River Symphony Concert / Sanctuary

5:30pm WPC Youth Group / Stevenson Hall

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13

1:00pm Caregiver Support Grp / Rm 222 1:00pm Presbyterian Women's Circle 3—Miriam 5:30pm Hunger and Homeless Mtg / LL010

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14

10:00am Tuesday Bible Study / Rm 222

1:00pm Staff Mtg / Zoom

1:30pm Kirk Krafters / Church Library 5:30pm Resources Ministry Mtg / 5:30pm 6:00pm Stephen Ministry Mtg / Rm 220

6:30pm UKirk Dinner & Dialogue / UKirk Rm Lower Level 7:00pm AA Williamsburg Big Book Study / LL009 and LL049

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15

6:00pm Joyful Ringers Rehearsal / Bell Rm
6:30pm Facilities Ministry Mtg / Stevenson Hall
7:00pm Administration Ministry Mtg / Rm 220
7:00pm High School Youth Bible Study / Rm 227
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Rm

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

9:00am Sanctuary Cleaning

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

5:00pm Christian Outreach Ministry / LL010

7:30pm Westminster Ringers Rehearsal / Bell Rm

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

> NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP ◆

October 19, 2025 • 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor John's sermon, "Keep Praying," will be based on Luke 18:1-8.