

WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST DEDICATION SUNDAY • OCTOBER 26, 2025

PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

God of power and mercy, you gather your people with the love of a parent for a child. You hear our cries in the night and in the day; you answer with healing and hope. Gather us into your strength and feed us with your wisdom. Amen.

THE GATHERING PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

PASTORAL GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Fritz Ober

PRELUDE

Contemplation Westminster Ringers

Buckwalter

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Leader: The Lord has filled our mouths with laughter

and our tongues with shouts of joy.

All: The Lord has done great things for us,

and we are glad indeed.

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.



Originally called "Harvest Hymn," this text is much more comprehensive than that title implies. It also deals with stewardship, thanksgiving, and God's endless gifts that continue to astound us. It is set to a familiar Welsh tune whose name means "throughout the night."

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: In spite of our best efforts to live faithfully, we fall short of what God intends for us. Because God has already promised to be merciful, we dare to tell the truth about our lives. In humility and trust, let us confess our sin.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Generous God, you have given us so much. Give us one more thing. Give us thankful hearts because we know our hearts can be hard and cold. We often hold on when we should let go. We are clutching when we should be spending, hoarding when we could be generous, doubting when we should lean on faith. We are fearful instead of trusting in your everlasting care. Open our hands and our hearts to the bounty of your love, which cares for the flowers of the fields, the birds in the air, each child who toddles, every parent who worries, every adult who struggles. Loving God, you have given us so much. Give us again the assurance of your love and care, and fill us with grateful hearts and open hands. Amen.

A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER



*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Hear the promise of the Lord: Those who love me, I will deliver. When you call me, I will answer. I will rescue you from danger and show you my salvation. Believe this good news: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.



(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

Jim Kirkpatrick

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Fritz Ober

Almighty God, speak your Word to us, and guide our feet, that we might be hearers and doers of your word. Amen.

First Lesson: Joel 2:23-29 Fritz Ober

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

PSALM 65 (responsive)

Leader: Praise is due to you,

O God, in Zion,

and to you shall vows be performed,

All: you who answer prayer!

To you all flesh shall come.

Leader: When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us,

you forgive our transgressions.

All: Happy are those whom you choose and bring near

to live in your courts.

We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,

your holy temple.

Leader: By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance,

O God of our salvation;

you are the hope of all the ends of the earth

and of the farthest seas.

All: By your strength you established the mountains;

you are girded with might.

Leader: You silence the roaring of the seas,

the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples.

All: Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs;

you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.

Leader: You visit the earth and water it;

you greatly enrich it;

the river of God is full of water;

you provide the people with grain,

for so you have prepared it.

(Psalm continues on the next page.)

All: You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers,

and blessing its growth.

Leader: You crown the year with your bounty;

your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

All: The pastures of the wilderness overflow;

the hills gird themselves with joy;

Leader: the meadows clothe themselves with flocks;

the valleys deck themselves with grain;

they shout and sing together for joy.

SECOND LESSON: John 15:1-8

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

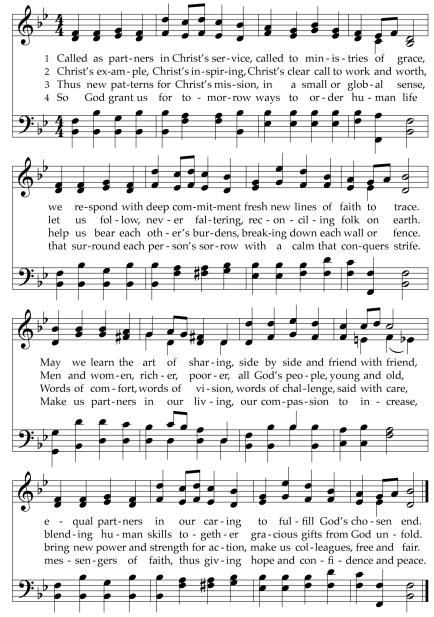
SERMON "A Time to Connect" Pastor John E. Morgan

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn 761

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

BEECHER



This hymn is a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion. This 20th-century text is set to a 19th-century tune named for the noted pastor and preacher Henry Ward Beecher.

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

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!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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.

LITANY OF STEWARDSHIP

Leader: Now there are various gifts, but the same Spirit.

All: With grateful hearts, we dedicate, not only these intentions of giving, but the gifts of ourselves, acknowledging that all that we are and all that we have are gifts from God.

Leader: There are varieties of service, but the same Lord.

All: Stirred by the Spirit, we dedicate ourselves to the work of Christ's church in this place, recognizing and honoring among us the array of services necessary to meet a hurting and needy world.

Leader: There are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.

All: With renewed conviction, we commit to seek out and be receptive to new and fresh opportunities to make known God's message of reconciliation in this community and beyond.

May God's Spirit work within us and among us to strengthen our bonds with one another, as we endeavor to serve the Lord with gratitude and enthusiasm.

At this time you are invited to come forward and place your pledge card in the basket as an act of worship and dedication. If you pledged online or already turned in your card, you may still come forward and touch the basket as your dedication.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Simple Gifts

arr. Mack Wilberg

Sarah Bigley and Katrina Cabral, flute and piccolo with members of Joyful Ringers

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,

'Tis the gift to come down where you ought to be,

And when you find yourselves in the place just right,

'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.

Refrain:

When true simplicity is gained, To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed, To turn, turn will be our delight, 'Til by turning, turning we come 'round right.

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be true,
'Tis the gift to labor 'til the day is through.
And when you find yourself in the place so fine,
'Twill be in the cool of the birch and the pine. (Refrain)

'Tis the gift to be joyful, 'tis the gift to be free,
'Tis the gift, 'tis the gift, 'tis the simple gift to be!
And when you find yourself filled with pure delight,
The gift to be simple has led you aright. (Refrain)



*DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS AND PLEDGE CARDS

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:

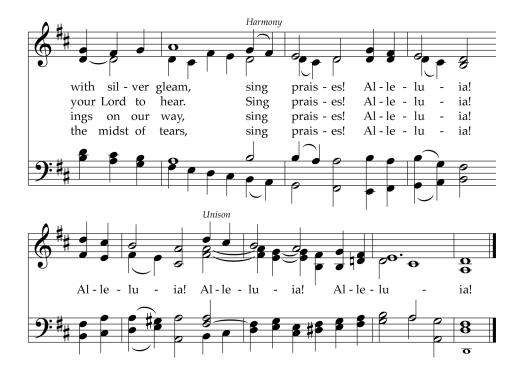
- Click on the *Welcome to WPC!* Click here to sign the Friendship Register banner at the top of the website page
- Visit <u>mywpc.org/friendship</u> or scan the QR code at the right to access the online friendship register.





(Hymn continues on the next page.)

Sometimes called "The Canticle of the Sun," this cosmic roll call allows human beings to give voice to all creation. One of the earliest religious poems in the Italian language, it is made even more expansive by this broad, repetitive melody with interspersed "Alleluias."



- 5 And you, most gentle sister death, waiting to hush our final breath:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom, fair is the night that leads us home.
 Sing praises! Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 - O sisters, brothers, take your part, and worship God with humble heart. Alleluia! Alleluia!
 All creatures, bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One! Sing praises! Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Exuberant Joy Sherman Westminster Ringers

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 loving memory of his son, David Irwin Kale, his good friend, Jim Weaver and her father, John W. Hasty by Kelly and Wilford Kale.

> THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY ◆

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

Westminster Ringers under the direction of Norman Elton

Joyful Ringers directed by Chris Bechtler

WPC Chancel Choir

GREETERS

9:30am Llz Favre, Jan Russell

11:00am Bruce Powell

USHERS

9:30am Matthew Underwood, Pat Underwood, Tony Annoni, David Littell

11:00am Ric Cheston, Kathryn Hall, Mike Hawley, Donna Powell

LITURGIST

Fritz Ober

SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Jim Kirkpatrick

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOST

Sallie McLain, Dave McLain, Jack Snell

*WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHERS

Robin Sabo, Linda Eichhorn

*WINDSOR MEADE USHER

Roy Knox and Ray Whitney

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 ≪

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 26 – Saturday, November 1 Pastor John • jmorgan@mywpc.org • 757-903-7800

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

 WPC member Sandy Good and family on the death of her husband, WPC member Ted (John) Good, who died on Wednesday, August 6, 2025. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date and the burial will be private.

Please pray for:

 Robin Midlam (Cheyenne, WY), sister of Jodie Davis; Anabel Crane, Jerry 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 ←

- Stephen Foster, Director of Finance, is spending time with family through November 3, 2025.
- Guatemala Update Join us TODAY, Sunday, October 26 after the 11am service in Stevenson Hall. The Global Missions team will host a light lunch and report, with photos, on their July trip to Chajul. Come learn some of the ways your pledges are making the world a better place for Christians in our sister churches. Everyone is welcome, no sign-up required.
- Join us TODAY 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! Invite friends for this super fun event!
- 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.
- The Squares: Most of us have been baptized, but how many have been consecrated? What is consecration? Isn't that just a church thing? The Squares will use the story of Jesus being consecrated in Luke 2: 21-35 to consider these, more than you think, significant questions. You are welcomed to join this men's group on Thursday, November 6, at 7:00 in room 227. For more information contact either Chuck Timko* or Jim Kirkpatrick*.
- Save the Date: Monday, November 10, 2025, 5:30pm! Discover the Zero Waste Lifestyle with Jana Flores of the Fill Happy Store located at 5251 John Tyler Hwy, #52, Williamsburg, VA. Have you been frustrated about the fact that almost everything you buy is in or wrapped with plastic? Much of it is not recyclable and ends up in the ocean and landfills. The WPC Earth Care ministry invites you to join us for an inspiring discussion on living a zero-waste lifestyle with Janna, the owner of Fill Happy—a unique store dedicated to providing bulk sustainable products for your home, all without any plastic containers.
 - Don't miss this opportunity to learn practical tips and discover how minor changes can make a significant impact on our planet. Whether you are new to zero waste or looking to deepen your commitment, Janna's insights, and experiences from running Fill Happy will leave you motivated to see how you can practice a more sustainable lifestyle. Please sign up at mywpc.org/fill-happy no later than November 7.
- The Roadmap to Aging ministry presents "Healthy Habits for Your Brain and Body," a lunchtime seminar featuring guest speaker Douglas Panto, the Community Programs Manager for the Southeastern Virginia Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. The seminar will take place on Sunday, November 16, immediately following the 11 am worship service, in Stevenson Hall. Optional box lunches can be pre-ordered for \$10 each (to be collected at the door). Sign up in the welcome lobby, or online at mywpc.org/roadmap2aging.

- WPC will be collecting NEW and ALMOST NEW winter coats in early NOVEMBER to
 distribute to our neighbors in need. Please consider purchasing a coat, or donating a
 very gently used one. Teen and children's sizes are especially helpful, as they outgrow their
 clothing more often, but ALL sizes are wanted! A donation bin will be located in Stevenson Hall
 from Saturday November 1 Monday November 10. Brought to you by the Hunger and
 Homeless team. Contact Barb Timko* if you have questions.
- Global Missions is planning the next trip to Chajul, Guatemala soon. The trip dates are March 7- March 14, 2026. Anyone interested, or have questions and would like more information are encouraged to contact Bill Vardeman*
- 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 (mdillon@mywpc.org) with questions or help signing up at mywpc.org/youthdinner
- 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 Volunteer and Program Coordinator Caitlyn Martens for more information or questions at caitlyn@williamsburghouseofmercy.org.

*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 26 • DEDICATION SUNDAY

9:30am-12pm Nursery open during both worship services
9:30am Sunday School / Christian Education Wing

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

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

12:00pm Guatemala Luncheon and Update / Stevenson Hall 4:00pm Halloween Trunk or Treat / Back Parking Lot

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27

1:00pm Caregiver Support Group / Rm 222

2:00pm WPC Book Club / Rm 220

6:30pm Williamsburg Choral Guild Rehearsal / Sanctuary

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

10:00am Tuesday Adult Bible Study / Rm 220

10:00am PEVA Mtg / Royster Memorial Presbyterian Church, Norfolk, VA

2:00pm From His Hand Motel Meals Prep / Kitchen

6:30pm UKirk Dinner & Dialogue /UKirk Rm

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

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29

3:00pm Endowment Committee Mtg / 227 6:00pm Joyful Ringers Rehearsal / Bell Rm 7:00pm High School Bible Study / Rm 222 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Rm

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30

9:00am Sanctuary Cleaning

4:30pm Carol and Junior Choir Rehearsal / Choir Rm
7:30pm ARC W&M Literacy Program / Stevenson Hall
7:30pm Westminster Ringers Rehearsal / Bell Rm

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31 • HAPPY HALLOWEEN

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1

> NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP ≪

November 2, 2025 • 21st Sunday after Pentecost • Communion Sunday

We will celebrate the Lord's Supper together at all worship services.

Pastor Pam's sermon, "Keep Watch," will be based on Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4.