

The Gospel According to

**WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NOVEMBER 5, 2023 • COMMUNION SUNDAY**

PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

Merciful and faithful God, you sent to us the true Messiah who brings us into your presence, forgiven and restored. Open our hearts, our ears, our minds to your nourishment by Word and sacrament, that we might willingly obey and believe; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

THE GATHERING PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION: Open Door Concert Series

Norman Elton

PRELUDE

Benedictus

Marsh

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, who is good.

All: God's steadfast love endures forever!

Leader: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so:

All: God's steadfast love endures forever!

*To all who are able, please stand as we offer God thanks and praise.
Bold type face indicates that the congregation participates in word or song.

1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

3 O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle; they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

4 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

5 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: God turns the desert into pools of water and guides those who have gone astray. Let us confess to God the depth of our need, that we may be saved from trouble.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Lord God, only you are holy. Yet we imagine that we are righteous, excusing our own faults while pointing out those of others. We are quick to lay burdens upon our neighbors but slow to help with their own. We take credit and give blame. In spite of the grace you have shown to us, we are slow to show mercy. Forgive us, O God, and wash us clean, that we may serve you with joy and thanksgiving. Amen.

A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

***KYRIE**

Lord, Have Mercy

Weaver

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy;

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It contains a vocal line with lyrics: "Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy;". The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

The second system of music also consists of two staves. The upper staff continues the vocal line with lyrics: "Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.". The lower staff continues the harmonic accompaniment.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: God is filled with everlasting mercy and desire for your well-being. In the gift of resurrection, we can rejoice and know the hope of renewed lives. Trust that you are forgiven, that you belong to the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

***GLORIA**

Glory Be to the Father

Weaver

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly
Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er
shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

(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

Laura Bechtler

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Unison)

Holy Spirit, faithful teacher, come to your people, that in all the words of the Holy Scriptures your power will fill us with thanksgiving. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 2:10-13

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

PSALM 107:1-7, 33-37 (Unison)

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

**All: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,
those he redeemed from trouble**

Leader: and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

**All: Some wandered in desert wastes,
finding no way to an inhabited town;
hungry and thirsty,
their soul fainted within them.**

Leader: Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress;

**All: he led them by a straight way,
until they reached an inhabited town.**

Leader: He turns rivers into a desert,
springs of water into thirsty ground,
a fruitful land into a salty waste,
because of the wickedness of its inhabitants.

**All: He turns a desert into pools of water,
a parched land into springs of water.**

Leader: And there he lets the hungry live,
and they establish a town to live in;

**All: they sow fields and plant vineyards
and get a fruitful yield.**

SECOND LESSON: *Ephesians 3:14-21*

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

SERMON

The Gospel According to Barbie:
"Every Day is the Best Day Ever"

Rev. John E. Morgan

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN 681** *This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made* NUN DANKET ALL' UND BRINGET EHR'

1 This is the day the Lord hath made;
the hours are all God's own.
Let heaven rejoice; let earth be glad,
and praise surround the throne.

2 Hosanna to the anointed King,
to David's holy Son!
Help us, O Lord; descend and bring
salvation from the throne.

3 Blest be the Lord, who comes in power
with messages of grace,
who comes in this accepted hour
to save our sinful race.

4 Hosanna in the highest strains
the church on earth can raise!
The highest heavens in which God reigns
shall now resound with praise.

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

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

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

As We Gather at Your Table

K. Lee Scott

As we gather at your table, as we listen to your Word,
Help us know, O God, your presence: let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;
Teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.

Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;
Send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave;
May we still behold your image in the world you died to save.

Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast
Where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us, nor will pride our peace destroy,
As we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDRETH

Musical notation for the first line of the doxology. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in G major. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here be low; praise".

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here be low; praise

Musical notation for the second line of the doxology. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in G major. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen."

God a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Williamsburg Presbyterian Church welcomes all who believe in Jesus Christ to share the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper with us today. We receive the elements by means of intinction, taking a piece of bread and dipping it into the cup. For those who desire an individual serving, regular or gluten free, they will be on a table in front of the baptismal font and on the small tables located in the balcony. If you are seated on the main floor of the sanctuary, you are invited to come forward to the chancel area by way of the center aisle and return to your pews by the side aisle. If you are sitting in the balcony, an usher will guide you to the sacrament. If you are unable to come forward easily, please signal to one of the ushers or elders so the communion elements can be brought to your seat.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: Eternal God...

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE MEAL

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Speak, Lord

Tom Trenney

You are the way, the truth, and the life.
You are our hope, our victory o'er the strife.
You are our peace, our calm upon the sea,
Bringing good news to the oppressed,
You call us to set the captive free.

Refrain:

Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.

Speak, Lord, how we need to hear from you.

Give us courage to speak, Lord, till injustice is silent.

Speak your words of love in all we say and do.

You come to heal the broken heart,

To comfort as we mourn, just mercy to impart.

You call us to preach the Gospel, dream the dream

Till justice rolls down like water,

Righteousness like a mighty stream. (Refrain)

Give us sight to see the world through the eyes of a stranger.

Help us hear the beauty of a language not our own.

Set our hearts to beat with compassion for our neighbor.

When we love each other, you are seen and known. (Refrain)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (Unison)

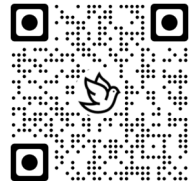
Gracious God, may we who have received this sacrament live in unity of your Holy Spirit, that we may show forth your gifts to all the world. We ask in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

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 mywpc.org/friendship or scan the QR code at the right to access the online friendship register.



***HYMN 634**

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

1 To God be the glory;
great things he has done!
So loved he the world
that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life
an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate
that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;
let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father
through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory:
great things he has done!

2 Great things he has taught us;
great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing
through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher
and greater will be
our wonder, our transport,
when Jesus we see. (Refrain)

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Fugue in C Minor

Alonso

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 memory of their loved ones by Robin and Greg Sabo.

∞ THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY ∞

PASTORS

John E. Morgan, Pastor/Head of Staff

Pam Hrcir, Covenant Pastor for Congregational Care

MUSIC MINISTRY

Christopher Bechtler, Director of Music

Norman Elton, Organist and Assistant Director of Music

LITURGIST

Betsy Anderson

SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Laura Bechtler

GREETER

9:30am: Bill Riffer

11:00am: Dick Hubbard

USHERS

9:30am Nick Nicastro, Pat Murray, Suzanne Holliday, Rick Murray

11:00am Jodie Davis, Kathryn Hall, Megan Davis, Kirk Lovenbury

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOST

Happy and Ralph Simmons, Cooper Perry

***WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHERS**

Dick Sahlen, Duncan McIver, Harold Herring

***WINDSOR MEADE USHER**

Liz and Jack Snell, Paul Hotinger

AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS: Jim Marshburn and John Schoenberger

*Satellite campuses

≈ SUPPORT FOR OUR MEMBERS ≈

- **Stephen Ministry offers help, hope, healing:** Are you going through a difficult time? A Stephen Minister can help. Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support to people going through difficult times or crisis. To learn how you can receive a Stephen Minister's confidential care, please contact pastor Pam Hrcir (phrncir@mywpc.org). Learn more about this ministry at mywpc.org/stephen.
- **In need of one-on-one prayer?** After the 9:30am and 11:00am Sunday morning services, a Stephen Minister will be available in the Church Library to talk and pray with you. No need to sign up. All interactions and conversations with a Stephen Minister are confidential.
- **Monthly grief support group** meets the first Wednesday of the month at 10am in room 220 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.

≈ 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 (handbellringer@cox.net). 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. To reach a Pastor during the week, please call the church office.

Sunday, November 5 – Saturday, November 11

Pastor Pam Hrcir

phrncir@mywpc.org; (757-508-4668)

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

- The family of WPC member John Seel, who died on Wednesday, October 4, 2023. A celebration of John's life will be conducted at Williamsburg Landing on Saturday, December 2.

Please pray for:

- Bob Siclari, Ellie Thuermer, Courtney, Craig, Evelyn Sailor, Rice Trolan, Steve Custer, Mary Voorhess, Richard Friese, Jean Young, Don Swain.
- Those who have recently lost loved ones, those recovering from various surgeries and our sick and shut-ins who are at home or facility bound.
- Those serving our country in the military services and their families.
- Those affected by the wars in Gaza, Israel and Ukraine.

🌀 ANNOUNCEMENTS 🌀

- **Join the Open Door Concert Series in welcoming the Seamus Egan Project TODAY at 4:00pm, Sunday, November 5.** From his beginnings as a teen prodigy, to his founding of the powerhouse Celtic band Solas, to his current work as a leading composer and interpreter of the tradition, Egan has inspired multiple generations of musicians and helped define the sound of Irish music today. Since 2018, Egan has toured with friends and musical colleagues as the Seamus Egan Project. More information is available at mywpc.org/concerts. Invite a friend!
- **New! Kids Connect Day Camp Program: First Camp: Tuesday, November 7.** The Christian Education Ministry invites everyone to be part of a new opportunity to support our WPC children, parents, and families during scheduled teacher workdays for WJCC and York County schools. This mission is brand new, and we need the help of caring adult volunteers to make it happen. Families, registration for day campers is now open! The camp is for pre-K through 5th grade. **To learn more, volunteer and/or register visit <https://mywpc.org/daycamp>**
- **Second Families:** Are you a college student who is looking for any of the following pieces of home while you are away at school or are you a family who can provide any of these for a college student: a quiet place for studying, hanging out, laundry, etc.; a pet; family meals; rides when needed; people to share life experience or the love of arts or sports, or just a family to check in and love you from time to time. If any of this sounds interesting, sign up for our “Second Family” program students: me.mywpc.org/2family; congregants: me.mywpc.org/secondfamilies
- **The WPC Book Club will meet on Monday, December 4, 2023 (NOTE DATE CHANGE),** at 2 pm in the WPC Library (and on Zoom) to discuss *This is God's Table: Finding Church Beyond the Walls*, by Anna Woofenden. Adrian Williams, Director of Educational Ministries, will facilitate the discussion.

***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.

🌀 SPECIAL EVENT AT WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 🌀

Sponsored by the Virginia Arts Festival, The King's Singers will perform their holiday concert in our Sanctuary, Thursday, December 14, 2023 7:30pm. The group, made up of 6 singers, have represented the gold standard in a cappella singing on the world's greatest stages for over fifty years. They are renowned for their unrivaled technique, versatility and skill in performance, and for their consummate musicianship, drawing both on the group's rich heritage and its pioneering spirit to create an extraordinary wealth of original works and unique collaborations. To learn more about the King's Singers and their history, visit [kingssingers.com](https://www.kingssingers.com).

Tickets can now be purchased at <https://secure.vafest.org/2247/2249>. Discounts are offered for students, military or seniors.

☞ OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS ☞

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

- 9:30am In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Live-Stream Worship; visit mywpc.org to access
10:30am Fellowship Coffee Hour / Stevenson Hall
11:00am In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740 or wmbgradio.com
4:00pm ODOS: Seamus Egan
5:30pm Youth Group / CE Wing

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6

- 10:00am Grief Share Group - Closed Group / Rm 123
1:00pm Caregiver Support Group / Rm 123
2:00pm Grief Share Group - Closed Group / Rm 227
6:00pm UKirk Dinner and Dialogue / LL012

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

- 9:00am Kids Connect Day Camp / Stevenson Hall, LL049, Rm 202
10:00am Adult Bible Study: Christian Believer-Knowing God with Heart and Mind / Rm 220 and Zoom
1:00pm In-person Staff Mtg / Stevenson Hall
6:30pm Presbyterian Women's Circle 4 / Zoom
7:00pm AA Williamsburg Big Book Study / LL009 and LL049

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

- 7:00am Bible and Bacon Bible Study / Stevenson Hall
10:00am Presbyterian Women's Circle 14 / Rm 220
6:00pm Genesis Ringers Rehearsal / Bell Rm
5:00pm Congregation Nominating Committee / Rm 220
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Rm

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9

- 9:00am Sanctuary closed for weekly cleaning
10:00am Presbyterian Women's Circle 7 / Rm 220
4:30pm Carol and Junior Choir Rehearsals / Choir Rms
5:00pm Worship Ministry Mtg / Rm 220
7:00pm Deacon Mtg / Stevenson Hall and Zoom
7:30pm Westminster Ringers / Bell Rm

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

☞ NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP ☞

November 12, 2023 • 24th Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Series: The Gospel According to Barbie: "Barbie and (Ken) Learn to have Feelings."

The sermon will be based on 2 Corinthians 2:1-10.

*9:30am service is live-streamed on mywpc.org. **11:00am service is broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740