

# Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church

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[www.wbpresbyterian.org](http://www.wbpresbyterian.org)

Facebook for WBPC and @ The Table

<https://www.facebook.com/Western-Boulevard-Presbyterian-Church-136611133054/>

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April 19, 2020

Virtual Service for the Lord's Day

## Second Sunday of Easter

❧ GATHERING ❧

### Welcome and Announcements

**We have started using a “NEW” telephone number for the Wednesday Prayer Line.** Please see the congregational email from Friday, April 3, 2020 for details.

**If you prefer to use Zoom during this prayer gathering,** that information is also included in the same email. Due to recent reports of hackers exploiting Zoom, please do not post the numbers or access information publicly. You may invite family and friends privately.

**Session** will meet tonight at 7:30pm via Zoom. Please see the relevant email posted on Wednesday, April 1, for details.

**Confirmation Class** will meet today at 3:30pm on Zoom.

### **Three critical requests of WBPC:**

- 1) Our world is experiencing the stress, trauma and pain of a pandemic. Please be patient with one another and be patient with yourselves.
- 2) Stay the course with the “Social Distancing” and mandates of the CDC and local officials.
- 3) Pray!!!

### **Let us pray for the following people:**

Larry and Judy Shelton's friend, Ed, and his wife who lost their only child, their son Mason. Ed Johnson's mom's surgery on last Thursday had favorable results- clean margins and nothing in the lymph nodes.

Let's continue to pray for Colista and Mark Freeman and family, Les Parnell, Greg Griffith and John Woodruff.

### **Call to Worship**

Like drops of water running together, we have come here to wait for you.

**Like the disciples in the locked room, we are longing for you.**

We have heard stories that you are alive.

**We are hoping to meet you.**

Like drops of water running together, we have come here to wait for you.

**We are waiting to meet you, but some of us aren't sure that we will.**

Some of us have lost our hope. Some of us are skeptical.

**Some of us need you to be real so much.**

Like drops of water running together, we have come here to wait for you.

**Lord, meet us here, greet us with your peace, bring us together like drops of water into a flood, into a blessing.**

*By Amy Scott Robinson*

### **Opening Hymn**

*Hymn to Joy*

arr. ELIZABETH DAVIS

### **Facing our Sin and Trusting God's Grace**

Even though we have come through the joy of Easter and the triumphant Easter songs, yet we doubt, Lord. Like Thomas who walked the Judean countryside with Jesus, we still have trouble believing in the resurrection of Jesus. We easily slip back into the darkness of doubts. We move the joy of Easter into the past and continue in a downward path to confusion. Shine your bright light of joy upon us. Lighten our dark path. Help us to believe, even though we have not seen you, touched your hands and side. Help us to proclaim Jesus as our Lord and Savior. Amen.

*(Silence for reflection and self-examination)*

### **Kyrie**

*Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us*

John Merbecke

*Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us... Christ, Have Mercy Upon Us... Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us*

### **Assurance of Forgiveness**

### **Passing of the Peace**

### **New Testament Lesson: Gospel of John 20:19-31**

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

 **PROCLAMATION** 

**The Word Proclaimed**

*A Life Amidst Locks and Doors*

Bruce T. Grady

 **RESPONSE** 

**Invitation to Discipleship**

**Affirmation of Faith**

*The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. AMEN.

**Offertory**

*Never Walk Alone*  
Van-Anthoney Hall

Richard Rogers and Oscar Hammerstein

**Tithes and Offerings**

In times like these, our financial demands tend to increase rather than decrease. We encourage you to continue to tithe even in the absence of regular gatherings. Here are the ways you can continue to support the ministries at Western Boulevard Presbyterian.

**By Check:**

Check offerings can be mailed to the church office.

Mail your check to: Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church 4900 Kaplan Drive Raleigh, NC 27606

Give on-line:

Once your profile is set up, just go to <https://wbpresbyterian.com/> and open the pull down menu on the left and click the "GIVE".

From here you can enter your gift amount, the designated fund and frequency of giving.

By Text:

To give via text, send WBPC to the phone number 73256. You'll receive a text message in response with your next steps. After you give one time, your payment method is saved, so you can quickly give again from your phone.

**Prayers of the People**

Surprising God, we come to Easter through the long Lenten journey in which you have called us to examine our inner lives. Then on Easter, it is as though we have been freed from our darkness to walk in the Light with you. However, Easter and its celebration so quickly slide into the past and we again are tempted to move back into our doubts and fears. Surprise us again, Lord, as Jesus surprised his disciple Thomas who feared and doubted. Remind us that the signs of Jesus' resurrection are all around us.

As we remember this day our dear friends who suffer from illness and loss, Lord, help us to be a presence of comfort for them; for those who are lost and alone, alienated from family and friends, we ask that you empower us to reach out in compassion, offering appropriate help that will lift them into new life with you; for all anywhere who are in situations of danger, war, and strife, we pray that your peace will be with them and that the warfare and dangers will be vanquished by your good news; for our community, our nation, Lord, we ask that you give to the leaders compassion and wisdom, remembering that their lives rest in your care. And for ourselves, we ask for the extra measure of faith so that as doubts arise, we may meet them with confidence, and emerge as strong witnesses to your love. In Christ's name, we offer this prayer. AMEN.

***The Lord's Prayer***

❧ SENDING ❧

**Charge and Benediction**

L: Go from this place in peace and joy to serve the Lord.

**P: We rejoice in the good news we have heard and go to serve God in all that we do.**

L: May God's blessing continue in and through you to others.

**P: May God's love also pour into your heart this day and always. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

*The Strife is O'er*  
Elizabeth Davis

VICTORY

**Worship Leaders:**

Bruce T. Grady, Associate Pastor

Elizabeth Davis, Director of Music

Van-Anthoney Hall, Soloist and Worship Leader of @ The Table

William Clifford, Virtual Worship Assistant

Jeff Cleveland, Virtual Worship Videographer

We live to share God's love for ALL.