

Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church

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June 14, 2020

Virtual Service for the Lord's Day Confirmation Sunday



Welcome and Announcements:

- On Thursday, June 11, at 7:00pm, seven candidates for confirmation were examined by WBPC's session. It gives me great pleasure to announce that all of them did an excellent job and were approved. Praise the Lord for these young followers of Jesus Christ! Our new confirmands are as follows:
William Atwell Fischer, Lily Elizabeth Fleming, Olivia Brooks Holt, Oliver Jude Milchuck, Lydia Hester Smith, Jessup Michael Whitehurst, William Clifford Winslow.
- Session will meet at 7:30pm tonight.
- If you wish to include prayer requests for our Wednesday Conference Prayer Call, please email your request to Amy or Bruce by noon on Tuesday.
amy@wbpresbyterian.org or bgrady9039@gmail.com
- Type "Prayer Request" in the subject line. Please be specific and concise.
- ***Wear Masks and Gloves in Public. Wash Hands Frequently. If You are Sick, Stay Home. Apply Extra Precaution if You are High Risk. Please Stay Safe!***

Pastoral Concerns:

- Pray for WBPC, our country and our world.
- Holly Webster needs renewed strength during this recovery.
- Nicolas Melomo is a member of BSA Troop 398 and his family.
- Claudia's mother died. She has a major court date in this month. We're not sure about the date.

I have 3 critical requests of everyone:

- 1) We need to communicate more with one another than we ever did before.
Phone, Email, Zoom
- 2) We need to continue to have our committee meetings.
- 3) Pray!!!

Call to Worship

One: Through every age, Christ calls disciples to follow him.

Many: And where is it that we go with Christ?

One: Christ leads us among enemies and strangers, causing us to regard all persons as potential friends.

Many: Christ leads us into uncharted places of spiritual wilderness where the presence of the spirit will lead us.

One: Christ leads us to love ourselves so we might be found, so grace might become real.

Many: We gather to worship the Christ who leads. May we gain the wisdom and courage to follow.

Opening Song

“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN
African American spiritual
Elizabeth Davis

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

Facing our Sin and Trusting God’s Grace

Creator God, by your design we are whole people, yet we deny this gift of wholeness when we have been willing to be entertained but not changed;
We have allowed our insights to harden into clichés;
We have seen our youth as “the future of the church,” but not as valuable members of the church today;
We have called on you only to hear the sound of our own voices;
Forgiving God, who makes community from the raw materials of our lives, teach us the humility to learn from those who know a true rejoicing. Restore to us wholeness through the Oneness we have in your Son, our risen Savior, Christ Jesus. 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: Matthew 22:15-22 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” ²¹ They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²² When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



The Word Proclaimed

Giving to God What Belongs to God

Bruce T. Grady



Invitation to Discipleship

Service of Confirmation

William Atwell Fischer, Lily Elizabeth Fleming, Olivia Brooks Holt, Oliver Jude Milchuck, Lydia Hester Smith, Jessup Michael Whitehurst, William Clifford Winslow

Affirmation of Faith

*A Musical Reflection on The Apostle’s Creed by The Newsboys - ‘We Believe’
and Excerpts from our Confirmands’ Personal Statements of Faith*

Confirmation Questions:

Do you profess your faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Confirmands: I do, with God's help.

Do you renounce evil, and affirm your reliance on God's grace?

Confirmands: I do, with God's help.

As you continue along your journey of faith, will you do your best to participate actively and responsibly in the worship and mission of Jesus Christ, being a faithful member of his church? Will you use your God-given gifts to make a difference in God's world?

Confirmands: I will, with God's help.

Prayer and Blessing of Confirmands

May the Lord bless you and keep you. Remember you are God's beloved.

May the Lord make His face to shine upon you.

May the Lord give you comfort and peace. Remember you are Christ's own.

May the Lord challenge and convict you, guard and guide you through the Power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Tithes and Offerings

One of the ways that we continue to worship God, in the midst of "Social Distancing", is through GIVING.

If you prefer to present your tithes and offering...

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.

Offertory

"I Am Not Alone"
Van-Anthoney Hall

Kari Jobe

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Loving God,

You have made all races and nations to be one family, and you sent Jesus Christ to proclaim the good news of salvation to all people.

Pour out your Spirit on the whole creation and hasten the coming of your reign of justice and love among the nations of the world.

God of love grant our prayer.

Let us remember with thanksgiving before God those who have died in Christ, and those whose faith is known to God alone.

Let us pray that God may be glorified in all the saints.

(Silence)

Life-giving God, we give you thanks and praise for the wonderful grace and love declared in all your saints.

Grant to us, and to all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, a share in the fulness of your joy.

God of love grant our prayer.

Let us give thanks for all God's goodness.

(Silence)

You are worthy, O God, to receive honor and blessing and praise.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

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.



Charge and Benediction

Closing Hymn

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

ASSAM (Anonymous)

Elizabeth Davis

I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
no turning back, no turning back.

Though none go with me, I still will follow;
though none go with me, I still will follow;
though none go with me, I still will follow;
no turning back, no turning back.

Worship Leaders:

Bruce T. Grady, Associate Pastor;
Elizabeth Davis, Director of Music;
Van-Anthoney Hall, Leader of @The Table Worship;
Jeff Cleveland, Video Production

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We live to share God's love for ALL.