

# Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church

4900 Kaplan Drive

Raleigh, NC 27606

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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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July 12, 2020

## Virtual Service for the Lord's Day



### GATHERING

#### **Welcome and Announcements:**

- 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](mailto:amy@wbpresbyterian.org) or [bgrady9039@gmail.com](mailto:bgrady9039@gmail.com) Type "Prayer Request" in the subject line. Please be specific and concise.
- Have you heard about congregations becoming a "Matthew 25 Church"? There are already PC(USA) congregations that identify themselves as Matthew 25 churches. We aim to help multiply this loving commitment to radical and fearless discipleship by partnering with mid councils and congregations to help them embrace one or more of these three focuses: 1) Building Congregational Vitality, 2) Dismantling Structural Racism, and 3) Eradicating Systemic Poverty.
- See the following link for more details.  
<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/become-a-matthew-25-church/>
- Are you interested in an excellent resource that explains systemic racism in our criminal justice system? See a powerful Netflix documentary (13<sup>th</sup>) at this link: <https://www.netflix.com/title/80091741>.
- For an article on "doing justice" read "*Enough Conversations; Let's Do Something about Racism*" by Rev. Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley (Research Professor of Theology and Black Church Studies and Director of the Office of Black Church Studies at Duke Divinity School) [https://ethicsdaily.com/enough-conversations-lets-do-something-about-racism/?fbclid=IwAR1X4AJNZTuOZMooMYGZOocPVmbro3CWxO7SLD5VHxO\\_qytUUu8WTQifAas](https://ethicsdaily.com/enough-conversations-lets-do-something-about-racism/?fbclid=IwAR1X4AJNZTuOZMooMYGZOocPVmbro3CWxO7SLD5VHxO_qytUUu8WTQifAas)

- Racial Justices Resources Recommended by the PCUSA:  
<https://www.pcusa.org/racial-justice-resources/>
- ***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.
- Pray for former member, Cris Butcher, who is in bootcamp with the US Marine Corp (Paris Island, SC).
- Pray for Jeff Landons, Joe and Becky Burmester's son-in-law. His heart catheterization revealed several blockages. He meets with his surgeon on Monday to learn about surgery. Prayers for care and wisdom.
- Holly Webster's continued healing.
- Nicolas Melomo is a member of BSA Troop 398 and his family.

#### **Call to Worship**

When we seek justice for the other,  
when we love kindness more than ever,

**we live as God asks us to live.**

When we walk humbly through life,  
when we offer mercy to those who hurt us,

**we are the blessing God hopes we will be.**

When we are willing to look foolish by following Jesus,  
when we choose weakness rather than power,

**we reflect the One who is in our midst.**

#### **Opening Song**

*"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"*

CHERPONI  
Elizabeth Davis

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love; show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet,  
Master who acts as a slave to them.

Neighbors are wealthy and poor, varied in color and race;  
Neighbors are near us and far away.

Loving puts us on our knees, willing to wash others' feet;  
This is the way we should live like you

**Facing our Sin and Trusting God’s Grace**

Holy Creator, we praise your omnipotence and proclaim your omniscience, knowing that even your foolishness is wiser than our wisdom. And yet, too often, we mistake ourselves as the source of wisdom. We take pride in our own intelligence and our own strength, time and again placing our power and influence in the ways of the world instead of in the ways of your kingdom. Help us to remember that through Christ, you flipped the power structures of this world and that when we embrace those the world deems weak and foolish, we are embracing you. By your love, may we be made new.  
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**

*“Surely the Presence”*

by Larry Wolf  
Van-Anthoney Hall

**New Testament Lesson:**

**John 15:12 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

<sup>12</sup> This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

 **PROCLAMATION** 

**The Word Proclaimed**

*The Gospel According to Dr. Seuss*

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.

## **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**

*“We Are One in the Spirit”*

THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS  
Elizabeth Davis

## **Prayers of the People**

O God, our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. In this challenging and uncertain time of global pandemic, public health crisis and systemic racism, we come before you offering our prayers on behalf of those in need, the Church and the world.

For the Church, that it may not grow weary of doing justice, loving mercy and walking humbly before you. That the Church will faithfully proclaim the gospel of Christ and serve as beacon of hope to a suffering world. We pray for all who minister in your name.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

For all affected by the coronavirus around the world. For all who are impacted by the violence and hatred towards African Americans, Latin(X), Indigenous people and other people of color. For the leaders of the nations that they may work together for the common good as these outbreaks spread. May barriers that divide be brought down that bonds of trust may be strengthened to benefit the entire human family.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Grant public health and government officials in our nation the strength and will to act swiftly and decisively, with wisdom and compassion in service to all. We pray especially for all of God's agents of justice, peace and healing around the globe, in the United States of America, in North Carolina, and in this City of Raleigh.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they have access to medical care and regain their strength and health; grant them your healing grace. Give strength to all who are caring for loved ones.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

For healthcare workers, who with hearts of service, stand on the front lines of providing care. Grant them courage and protection as they put the needs of public safety before their own.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Bless scientists and researchers around the world as they combat the virus, that their work may yield knowledge to develop a vaccine, treatments, and improved measures to reduce its spread.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

For the safety and well-being of all who travel and those who remain quarantined.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Remove the presence of fear and anxiety from our hearts, that confident in your providence we may be generous in sharing our resources.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Grant that our churches and communities of faith may reflect your love, as they minister to the most vulnerable among us; fill them with your Holy Spirit as they work to be your healing hands and feet to all in need.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

For those who have already lost loved ones to the virus and those who will yet suffer such loss that they may know the consolation of your love.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. 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**

Horton is an elephant who always knows just what to do,  
Including the first time that he ever met his good friend - the esteemed Mayor Who.

A small speck of dust at first was what Horton thought,  
But it turned out that there were many Who's in there...a ton...a whole lot!!

We should all learn from Horton to take action right away;  
His insistence to sound the Who's voice is what helped to save the day.

We are the Body of Christ and live as God's whole, THIS is how we best serve and nourish our soul...

To be the WE in God's word and respond to his call,

Because a Person's a Person, no matter how small

**Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring your love. Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord, and where there's doubt, true faith in you.**

**Closing Hymn**

“Go In Peace”

by Van-Anthoney Hall

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**Worship Leaders:**

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

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We live to share God's love for ALL.