

Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church

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August 2, 2020

Virtual Service for the Lord's Day Holy Communion



❧ ❧ ❧ **GATHERING** ❧ ❧ ❧

Welcome and Announcements:

- Today is Communion Sunday. We will celebrate the Sacrament immediately following the "Offering". Please prepare your home with grape juice, bread, punch, crackers or whatever is suitable.
- 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.
- 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 (13th) at this link: <https://www.netflix.com/title/80091741>.
- Racial Justice Resources Recommended by the PCUSA: <https://www.pcusa.org/racial-justice-resources/>
- Remember that Urban Ministry food bag donations are being accepted each Wednesday morning between 9:30 and 11 AM at the fellowship hall door.
- ***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.
- Nicolas Melom is a member of BSA Troop 398 and his family.
- Holly Webster's continued healing.
- Please pray for the family of Alice Powell who died Sunday, July 19, at her home in Boone, NC. Alice and her husband, Dick, were very active members of WBPC for many years before they moved to Virginia.

Call to Worship (Bold = All)

We are gathered in your presence, God, in the spirit of service and hope.

We give thanks for your grace that has no limits and your love that knows no boundaries of race, nation, or creed.

Show us your will, Lord, as we live our lives for your glory.

May our lives be a reflection of your compassion and love for all people

Opening Song

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

LAUDES DOMINI
Elizabeth Davis

When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries: may Jesus Christ be praised!
Alike at work and prayer to Jesus I repair: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find: may Jesus Christ be praised!
Or fades my earthly bliss? My comfort still is this: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine: may Jesus Christ be praised!
Be this the eternal song through all the ages long: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Facing our Sin and Trusting God's Grace

God of Grace, We confess that there are times when it is difficult for us to think of others, to feel selfless, generous or brave; Forgive us for the times when we feel helpless, when we fear that nothing we do will help the poverty and oppression that surround us; Pardon us for the times that our human frailties overwhelm us with doubt and despair. God our Redeemer, Restore our faith in You, ourselves, and each other, that we may have the courage to work for change where it is sorely needed; Fill our spirits with the will and the generosity to give of our time, talents and gifts, in the spirit of your son Jesus Christ. 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

The Scriptures tell us that in Christ, we are a new creation: everything old has passed away; everything has become new. In Christ, we are forgiven! We are grateful to claim God's promise of new life, and pledge to live as messengers for justice and reconciliation in the world.

Passing of the Peace

"This Is the Day"

arr. Van-Anthoney Hall

 **THE WORD** 

Hebrew Scripture: Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21 (NIV)

**8 The Lord is gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger and rich in love.**

**9 The Lord is good to all;
he has compassion on all he has made.**

**14 The Lord upholds all who fall
and lifts up all who are bowed down.**

15 The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food at the proper time.
16 You open your hand
and satisfy the desires of every living thing.
17 The Lord is righteous in all his ways
and faithful in all he does.
18 The Lord is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.
19 He fulfills the desires of those who fear him;
he hears their cry and saves them.
20 The Lord watches over all who love him,
but all the wicked he will destroy.
21 My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord.
Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever.

Epistle: Romans 9:1-5

I speak the truth in Christ—I am not lying, my conscience confirms it through the Holy Spirit—
2 I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. 3 For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my people, those of my own race, 4 the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption to sonship; theirs the divine 4 glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. 5 Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of the Messiah, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.

Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

13 When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. 14 When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.
15 As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food.”

16 Jesus replied, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."

17 "We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered.

18 "Bring them here to me," he said. 19 And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. 20 They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. 21 The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

 **WORD PROCLAIMED** 

The Word Proclaimed

"Spiritual & Material Unity"

Jonathan C. Barker, D. Min.

 **RESPONSE** 

Invitation to Discipleship

Affirmation of Faith

The Nicene Creed

Let us confess our faith. We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father; through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and His kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one

baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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.

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 Response

"Breathe On Me"

Lucy Fisher
Van-Anthoney Hall

COMMUNION CELEBRATION

Communion Song

"I Come with Joy"

DOVE OF PEACE
Elizabeth Davis

I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and free, the life of Jesus to recall,
in love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love in Christ's communion bread, in Christ's communion bread.

Invitation to the Table

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God...

The Words of Institution

The Communion of the People
(Serve by intinction in your home.)

Prayer after Communion (Unison)

Thank you for calling us to your Table, Lord, where the simple gifts of the bread and of the cup have filled us with your Spirit. As you heal us through the brokenness of Jesus, send us to bring hope to the world. As you satisfy us with the joyous taste of grace, may we offer mercy and peace to everyone we meet. We pray in Jesus' name and Spirit. Amen

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Lord of the seasons and of all life, we come to you this day with so many cares and concerns on our lives. We have planned for the summer months as times of relaxation and refreshment. We need to take some time to stop the frantic running around, to focus on your healing love, to let go of all those demands that weigh us down. Heal and restore us, O Lord. Help us be the church in times of leisure as well as in times of work and stress. As we have brought our cares to you in our prayers, let us bring our lives to your healing mercies. Strengthen and heal us, Lord. Get us gently ready for all the joyful opportunities that stretch before us. We ask these things in Jesus' Name.
Amen.

**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.**

❧ **SENDING** ❧

Charge and Benediction

The Spirit of God is upon you.

We go forth proclaiming God's love and liberation.

The Spirit of Christ is upon you.

We go forth to live lives of justice and freedom.

The power of the Spirit is upon you.

**We go forth as one body, one spirit,
one witness to the promises of our God**

Closing Hymn *“God Be with You Till We Meet Again”*

GOD BE WITH YOU
arr. Elizabeth Davis

God be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again.

Worship Leaders:

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

Video Reflection on the PCUSA's Ministry of Freedom by the Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett, President and Executive Director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency, one of the six agencies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Posted on her Facebook page, July 2, 2020.

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We live to share God's love for ALL.