

Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church

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August 30, 2020

13th Sunday after Pentecost
Virtual Service for the Lord's Day



❧ GATHERING ❧

Welcome, Announcements, Joys and Concerns:

- If you would like to learn more about what Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church can expect during the joint interim pastoral ministry: [THE INTERIM MINISTRY AT WESTERN BOULEVARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH](#)
- 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/>.
- *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).
- Nicolas Melomo is a member of BSA Troop 398 and his family.
- LouGene Hempill is having severe pain in her shoulder. Please pray for her and the doctors who are seeking to identify the issue.
- Denise Weeks reports that Michael, her brother, had 2 superficial tumors removed from his bladder. A dye study did not show any kidney tumors – so she is grateful for all the prayers.
- Please be in prayer for Susan Sternberger who has been recovering from a heart valve replacement surgery done in June.
- Our sympathies extended to Cinderella Sohail and her family upon the death of her brother, Robin Victor.

Call to Worship (Bold = All)

God is calling us today to be a part of the healing ministry for this world.

But we aren't sure we are the ones for this job.

Moses received God's call and he wasn't sure either. Peter was so afraid of what was going to happen to Jesus that he tried to prevent Jesus from going to

Jerusalem. All of us experience concerns and questions when it comes to following God.

It may be difficult, but we will place our trust in God's guidance.

Come, let us offer our lives in service to God.

Let us praise God and serve by helping others in need. AMEN.

Opening Prayer

Hymn of Praise *"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!"*

NICAEA

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,

casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,

who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

all thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Lord, perhaps your voice issuing forth from a burning bush is what we need to shake us from our complacency. We have a hard time comprehending your call to us because we feel so inadequate to respond in faithful service. So we look to others to do the work. We are happy to support their efforts with our funds and our limited interest. Now, Lord, we need to take the next step into actual service to you. Forgive our slowness of action and heart, O Lord. Quicken our spirits to accept the call you have for us. Give us courage and strength to do

your will and help others in need. We ask these things in the name of Jesus our Lord. AMEN.

Lord, hear our individual silent prayers of confession ...

Declaration of Forgiveness

Passing of Christ's Peace

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.



Prayer for Illumination

Hebrew Scripture: Exodus 3:1–15 New Revised Standard Version

¹Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ²There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." ⁴When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

⁷Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, ⁸and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and

to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.” ¹¹But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” ¹²He said, “I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.”

¹³But Moses said to God, “If I come to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” ¹⁴God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’” ¹⁵God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you’:

This is my name forever,

and this my title for all generations.

The Word Proclaimed *“God’s Calling from a Burning Bush”* Bruce T. Grady, EdD

Invitation to Discipleship

Affirmation of Faith

God the Holy Spirit fulfills the work of reconciliation in human life. The Holy Spirit creates and renews the church as the community in which people are reconciled to God and to one another. The Spirit enables people to receive forgiveness as they forgive one another and to enjoy the peace of God as they make peace among themselves. In spite of their sin, the Spirit gives people power to become representatives of Jesus Christ and his gospel of reconciliation to all.

Prayers of the People

Offering

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 Song

"Lord I Want To Be a Christian"

African American Spiritual
Van-Anthoney Hall, Tenor

Prayer of Dedication

Living God, you miraculously used the burning bush to attract the attention of Moses. Just as the bush was on fire but not destroyed, so you sustain those you call to fulfill your purposes. Thank you for responding to the needs of your people and nurturing new leaders. By your Holy Spirit, help us to trust you completely as we seek to spend our lives following Jesus, your Son. Let us be bold witnesses of your amazing power and love. We offer you these monetary gifts for the work of your church here and around the world, through Jesus Christ. Amen. (*Exodus 3:1-15*)

 **SENDING** 

Hymn of Sending

"It Is Well With My Soul"

arr. Elizabeth Davis

Blessing and Charge

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

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We live to share God's love for ALL.