

Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church

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September 27, 2020

17th 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.
- Praises for Cris Butcher, who graduated bootcamp with the US Marine Corp (Paris Island, SC) on 9-11-20
- 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.
- 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.
- Sympathy extended to Elizabeth Davis and her family as her great aunt, Lois Tolar, passed away on Sept. 15. Prayers appreciated for the family, her husband, Ron, and children, Ron and Rhonda, during this time.
- Ed and Kathy Johnson's son, Ned, who is recovering from COVID. He remains congested but slowly improving.
- Chedlin Justinvil and his sister, Sherly. Their mother, Loreine Desir, recently passed away after a long battle with Alzheimer's Disease.
- Friends and members, Pansy and Rush Grimes, at Ed Johnson's church whose son, Will Gautier (age 25) was found dead in his apartment. He was a chef at Mitch's Tavern on Hillsborough Street.

- Sympathies extended to Holly Webster and family upon the recent death of her cousin's niece, Marie, from COVID on Thursday, Sept. 10
- Sympathies extended to Jimmy Wade and family upon the recent death of his niece, Melanie Wade Woodwin, on Tuesday, Sept. 1.
- Praises for Lori Grippo as her cancer scan came back free and clear of cancer!
- Sympathies extended to Libby Burton and family upon the recent death of her brother, Javis Arey, on Tuesday, Sept. 1.
- Happiest of birthday wishes goes out to Les Parnell who is turning 97 soon! If you wish to send him a birthday card, his address is 3712 Lail Ct., Raleigh, NC 27606
- For Pat Byers' friend, Gloria, recently diagnosed with breast cancer.
- For Gwen Orilio as she discusses a treatment plan with her doctors as several small "spots" on her bones have recently been discovered.
- For Amy Allridge, WBPC administrative assistant, who is having extensive surgery on Thursday, Oct. 22.

Call to Worship (Bold = All)

Let the same mind be in us that was in Christ Jesus.

He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

God has highly exalted him and given him the name that is above every name,

So, at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

In our worship, we bring glory to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We humble ourselves in praise, and offer ourselves in service in Jesus' holy name.

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

HYFRYDOL

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n to earth come down:
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown:
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit,
let us find the promised rest:
take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its Beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be:
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory,
'til in heav'n we take our place,
'til we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

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 17:1-7 **New Revised Standard Version**

¹The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, traveling from place to place as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²So they quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink."

Moses replied, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the Lord to the test?"

³But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?"

⁴Then Moses cried out to the Lord, "What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me."

⁵The Lord answered Moses, "Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will stand there

before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink.” So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ And he called the place Massah^[a] and Meribah^[b] because the Israelites quarreled and because they tested the Lord saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

The Word Proclaimed

“Where Is God During a Global Crisis?”

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

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.

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 with Liturgical Dance

"No Gray" by Jonathan McRenolds
Alexa Grady, liturgical dancer

Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

Hymn of Sending

"Go In Peace Follow Him"

Featuring Guest Guitarist Benjamin Pierre

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.