



Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church
A Church of the PC(USA)

4900 Kaplan Drive
Raleigh, NC 27606
919-851-4713

www.wbpresbyterian.org

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October 25, 2020

20th Sunday after Pentecost
Reformation Sunday

GATHERING

Prelude

“My Spirit Be Joyful” from Cantata 146

J.S. Bach;

transcribed by E. Power Biggs

Noa Miller and Drew McGee, trumpet

Minute for Stewardship

Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act --- Proverbs 3:27

Tithing enables us, as children of God, to share our income, our time, and talents to help support and grow the church and spread the good news of Jesus Christ throughout our community, our state, our nation, and the world. To us it is an act of love, a way of giving of ourselves to help God's people, to better the world. God has blessed us and we need to bless others. Stewardship packets were mailed October 23rd. Please return pledge card and time and talent sheet in included stamped envelope.

Blessings, Gene and Sally Curtis

Call to Worship (Bold = All)

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

**God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.**

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; God speaks and the earth melts.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Come, behold the works of the Lord!

**God makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
God breaks the bow, shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.**

Be still, and know that the Lord is God!

**God is exalted among the nations;
God is exalted in the earth.**

The Lord of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn

"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

EINE FESTE BURG

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.
Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he.
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him.
His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure.
One little word shall fell him.

interlude, arr. Susan Caudill

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth.
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also.
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still.
His kingdom is forever!

Call to Confession

What is faith in Jesus Christ? Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace, whereby we receive and rest upon him alone for salvation, as he is offered to us in the gospel. What is repentance unto life? Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby sinners, out of a true sense of their sin, and

apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, do, with grief and hatred of their sin, turn from it to God, with full purpose of, and endeavor after, new obedience.

Westminster Shorter Catechism, 7.086–7.087

Prayer of Confession

Holy Creator, we confess and acknowledge that you created us in your own image and likeness, so that in our whole nature no imperfection could be found. From this dignity and perfection man and woman have fallen, both conspiring against your sovereign majesty. We have shown ourselves hostile to you, and have made ourselves servants to sin. And thus everlasting death has power and dominion over us all, unless we are reborn from above.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, work this rebirth in us, creating in our hearts the confidence of chosen ones, with assured faith in your promise revealed to us in your Word; by this faith we grasp Christ Jesus with the graces and blessings promised in him.

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

Declaration of Forgiveness

Passing of Christ's Peace

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament:

Isaiah 58:1–9a

Robert Owens

¹Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

² Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments,
they delight to draw near to God.

³ “Why do we fast, but you do not see?
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
and oppress all your workers.

⁴ Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵ Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the Lord?

⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator^[a] shall go before you,
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

⁹ Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

New Testament Lesson:

Acts 10:9–23

⁹ About noon the following day as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. ¹⁰ He became hungry and wanted something to eat, and while the meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance. ¹¹ He saw heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners. ¹² It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles and birds. ¹³ Then a voice told him, “Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.”

¹⁴ “Surely not, Lord!” Peter replied. “I have never eaten anything impure or unclean.”

¹⁵ The voice spoke to him a second time, “Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.”

¹⁶ This happened three times, and immediately the sheet was taken back to heaven.

¹⁷ While Peter was wondering about the meaning of the vision, the men sent by Cornelius found out where Simon’s house was and stopped at the gate. ¹⁸ They called out, asking if Simon who was known as Peter was staying there.

¹⁹ While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, “Simon, three^[a] men are looking for you. ²⁰ So get up and go downstairs. Do not hesitate to go with them, for I have sent them.”

²¹ Peter went down and said to the men, “I’m the one you’re looking for. Why have you come?”

²² The men replied, “We have come from Cornelius the centurion. He is a righteous and God-fearing man, who is respected by all the Jewish people. A holy angel told him to ask you to come to his house so that he could hear what you have to say.” ²³ Then Peter invited the men into the house to be his guests.

Sermon

“Who Needs a Reformation?”

Rev. Dr. Bruce T. Grady

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostle’s 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 Ghost,
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.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Mindful of our hunger and thirst, from the cravings for spiritual nourishment in this community to the need for clean drinking water in Haiti, let us ask God to save us and sustain us, saying:

Give us this day our daily bread.

Lord, you are our blessing and our joy. We thank you for all the blessings of this life, for those who love us, for occupations that fulfill us, and for leisure that restores us. Make us faithful stewards of your bounty and make us ever mindful of the basic needs of others, especially those who go to sleep hungry or malnourished in our world.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Lord, you are our provider and our sustainer. Be with your church worldwide. Bind us in unity as we share in one bread and one cup.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Lord, you are our confidant and counselor. Be with the leaders of our world and especially the leaders of our country. Give them wisdom to sow seeds of peace and righteousness on our native soil.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Lord, you are the bread of life. Use us to give healing and comfort to those who are suffering mentally, physically, and spiritually. We remember especially all of those on our Prayer Chain, on the Wednesday Conference Prayer List and the Deacons' List. Nourish us all with your saving word and assist us to do your will here on earth. Give us this day our daily bread. Lord, may the cries of the marginalized for the daily bread of justice, relief, and sanctuary inspire works of mercy among those to whom much has been given.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Lord, instill in our hearts a spirit of faith, hope and love as we walk through the valley of shadow of death. Remind us of that great banquet that awaits us in heaven, even as we sit down to tears and sadness.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Give us this day our daily bread: this is our communal prayer. We are your voice, your hands, and your feet, dear Lord. Use us to show compassion to a broken world and empower us to share the Bread of Life, your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns forever and ever.

And now we pray as Jesus taught us, saying:

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

(See options for giving at the end of the bulletin)

Offertory Response

"Available To You"

by Rev Milton & Brunson
arr by Van Anthony Hall

Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

Sending Hymn

"Take My Life, and Let It Be"

HENDON

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord to thee;
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise; let them
flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my voice and let me sing, always, only, for my King;
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee, filled with
messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I with-hold;
Take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose, every power as
thou shalt choose.

Blessing and Charge

*Prelude from a service at Bethel Lutheran Church in White Rock, SC for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017.

OFFERING OPTIONS

By Check:

Mail to: 4900 Kaplan Drive Raleigh, NC 27606

Give On-line:

Go to <https://wbpresbyterian.com/>

Open the pull down menu on the top left and click "GIVE".

From here you can register and 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.

Joys and Concerns

Prayer Requests

If you wish to make a prayer request, call or email your request to Amy by Tuesday. amy@wbpresbyterian.org – 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 during this time of pandemic and worldly difficulties
- For Amy Allridge, WBPC administrative assistant, who is having extensive surgery on Oct. 22.
- For Bobbi Cross's husband, Jerry, who had surgery on his broken knee cap and is recovering at home.
- For Anna and Jonathan Raab as they mourn the loss of Jonathan's grandfather, Fred Raab, on October 19. Sympathies extended to their family.

Worship Leaders:

Jonathan Barker, Interim Pastor;
Bruce T. Grady, Associate Pastor;
Rev. Robert Owens
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.