



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

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

www.wbpresbyterian.org

November 22, 2020

Reign of Christ Sunday

GATHERING

Prelude

O Worship the King

arr. Ken Davis

Greeting

Call to Worship (Bold = All)

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.

Worship the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

Know that the LORD is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name.

For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Opening Prayer

Hymn of Praise

Holy, Holy Holy! Lord God Almighty

NICEA

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, who art, and evermore shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see,
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
Perfect in power, in love and purity.

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

Righteous God, you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him, and are slow to acknowledge his rule. We give allegiance to the powers of this world, and fail to be governed by justice and love. In your mercy, forgive us. Raise us to acclaim him as ruler of all, that we may be loyal ambassadors, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Forgive us, and strengthen us so that we may live in the unity that you grant us. In Christ, with Christ and through Christ we pray. Amen.

(Silence for reflection)

Declaration of Forgiveness

Thanks be to God for the Good News:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven

Passing of Christ's Peace

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the
Son and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be:
World without end. Amen, amen.

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Hebrew Scripture

Ezekiel 34:11-16

34:11 For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out.

34:12 As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness.

34:13 I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land.

34:14 I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel.

34:15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD.

34:16 I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Epistle

Ephesians 1:15-23

1:15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason

1:16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.

1:17 I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him,

1:18 so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints,

1:19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.

Gospel

Matthew 25:31-46

25:31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory.

25:32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats,

25:33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.

25:34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world;

25:35 for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me,

25:36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'

25:37 Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink?

25:38 And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing?

25:39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?'

25:40 And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

25:41 Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels;

25:42 for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink,

25:43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.'

25:44 Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?'

25:45 Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.'

25:46 And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Sermon

The Reign of Christ

Rev. Dr. Jonathan C. Barker

RESPONSE

Ascription of Praise

Invitation to Discipleship

Affirmation of Faith *The Apostles' Creed*

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers of the People and 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 (See options for giving at the end of the bulletin)

Offertory Response *Holy God, We Praise Your Name with Prelude in F Major*
Johann Schicht and J.S. Bach/arr. Elizabeth Davis

Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

Sending Hymn

Now Thank We All Our God NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

Introduction arr. Jason Payne

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices.
Who, from our mothers' arms hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
To Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
The one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
The God who was, and is, and shall be evermore!

Blessing and Charge

Postlude

Postlude on DUKE STREET

OFFERING OPTIONS

By Check:

Mail to: Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church 4900 Kaplan Drive Raleigh, NC 2760

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.

Announcements

- CONGREGATIONAL MEETING FOLLOWING WORSHIP – There will be a brief Congregational Meeting via Zoom at 11:30am today for the purpose of electing officers. See your email for Zoom information.
- ENDOWMENT FUND REQUESTS – WBPC's Endowment Fund currently has \$4,000 available for utilization to support the benevolent, education, and mission work of the church. These funds cannot be used for the operation of the church or its regularly budgeted program. Requests for these monies should be made by Dec. 6, 2020. Contact Phil Westerman for an Endowment Fund Request form (Email: westerma@ncsu.edu).
- 2021 BUDGET CAMPAIGN UPDATE – For 2021 our pledge budget goal is \$419,506.00. As of this past Sunday (11-15-20) we have received 36 pledges (out of a potential 100 pledges) in the amount of \$180,699.00. This represents 43.07% of the proposed pledge budget. Last year, as of the second Sunday we had received 63 pledges which totaled \$304,884.00. If you have not received a pledge card, please contact the church office.

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.

Pastoral Concerns

- For Peggy Stevens, who is recovering at home after a hospitalization.
 - For Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church, members and friends, the session, teachers and church leaders. Pray for our nation and all nations.
 - For Ella McNeill, who is now in hospice care in heart and kidney failure.
 - For Amy Allridge, WBPC administrative assistant, who is recovering after having extensive surgery on Oct. 22.
 - For the Family of Eleanor Sykes, who passed away at the age of 97. Eleanor was a long-time member of Western Boulevard.
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Worship Leaders:

Jonathan Barker, Interim Pastor;
Bruce T. Grady, Associate Pastor;
Robert Owens, Liturgist;
Elizabeth Davis, Director of Music;
Van-Anthoney Hall, @The Table Worship;
Jeff Cleveland & John Clapp, Production

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We live to share God's love for ALL.