



Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church

4900 Kaplan Drive

Raleigh, NC 27606

919-851-4713

www.wbpresbyterian.org

Fourth Sunday in Lent

PC(USA) Self-Development of People Sunday

March 14, 2021

10:30 AM

GATHERING

Prelude

Meditation

Welcome

Minute for Mission

Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People is a ministry of our Mission Agency supported by our One Great Hour of Sharing offering that affirms God's concern for humankind. We are Presbyterians and ecumenical partners dissatisfied with poverty and oppression, united in faith and action through sharing, confronting, and enabling by participating in the empowerment of economically poor, oppressed, and disadvantaged people, seeking to change the structures that perpetuate poverty, oppression and injustice.

SDOP Core Strategies:

- Promote Justice
- Build stronger communities
- Seek economic equity

To learn more, go to:

[SELF DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE](#)

Call to Worship (Bold = Unison) Psalm 107

We come to worship on this Self Development of People Sunday to give thanks to the LORD, for God is good; the Creator's love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those God redeemed from trouble

and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

Some were sick through their sinful ways, and because of their iniquities endured affliction;

they loathed any kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death.

Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and the Spirit of the Lord saved them from their distress;

God sent out the word and healed them, and delivered them from destruction.

Let them thank the LORD for steadfast love, for God's wonderful works to humankind.

And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of the Lord's deeds with songs of joy.

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

RESTORATION

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,
Weak and wounded, sick and sore:
Jesus ready stands to save you,
Full of pity, love and power.

Refrain

I will arise and go to Jesus,
He will embrace me in his arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior,
O there are ten thousand charms.

Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome;
God's free bounty glorify,
True belief and true repentance,
Every grace that brings you nigh. (*refrain*)

Come, ye weary, heavy laden,
Lost and ruined by the fall:
If you tarry till you're better,
You will never come at all. (*refrain*)

Litany of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Jesus Christ, Son of God, you took on human form so as to show us what it is God requires of us: (Phil. 2:7)

To do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly before You our God. (Micah 6:3)

Jesus, you came so that all might have life abundantly; give us the strength to continue Your mission, (John 10:10)

By bringing good news to the poor, release to the captives, and sight to the blind. (Luke 4:18-19)

Forgive us, Lord, for not having dealt justly with those who are different, for we are all created in Your image. (Gen. 1:27)

Steer us to seek good and not evil, so that we all may live. (Amos 5:14-15)

Forgive us, Lord, for neglecting mercy and not sharing what we have. (Heb. 13:16)

**We confess that our selfishness obstructs the flow of Your love, God, to all humankind.
(1 John 3:17)**

From the beginning, Your Word, Lord, has taught us to show justice and mercy towards strangers, outsiders, the neglected and lowly. (Ex. 22:21-22)

People: Forgive us, Lord, for not being constant advocates for the victims of injustice, oppression and abuse. (Prov. 31:8-9)

Awake in us, O Lord, the desire to love others as we love ourselves, so that when Christ comes again, He may not find us sleeping. (Matt. 22:39)

Lord, hear our prayers.

Joanna Kennedy
Lincoln, Nebraska

Kyrie

**Change my heart, O God,
Make it ever true
Change my heart, O God,
May I be like you.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

Passing of Christ's Peace

The Children's Message *Pray with Your Feet*

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Hebrew Scripture *Numbers 21:4-9*

21:4 From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way.

21:5 The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food."

21:6 Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died.

21:7 The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

21:8 And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live."

21:9 So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Epistle

Ephesians 2:4-10

2:4 But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which the Lord loved us

2:5 even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ--by grace you have been saved--

2:6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

2:7 so that in the ages to come God might show the immeasurable riches of the Lord's grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God--

2:9 not the result of works, so that no one may boast.

2:10 For we are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Gospel

John 3:14-21

3:14 And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,

3:15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

3:17 "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

3:18 Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

3:19 And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil.

3:20 For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed.

3:21 But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

Sermon *Good Disruption: Through Transition to Transformation*

Rev. Dr. Jonathan C. Barker

Ascription of Praise

Affirmation of Faith

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible. All things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn of the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.

Col. 1:15-20

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Lord, all this we ask in your name, for you taught us how to pray with this example:

**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

God So Loved

Matt Crocker and Marty Sampson

Prayer of Thanksgiving

SENDING

Hymn of Sending

Amazing Grace

AMAZING GRACE

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

Charge and Benediction

Due to the solemn, reflective season of Lent, there will be no postlude. We conclude the worship in silence and reflection.

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.

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

- Prayers of thanks for those who have been able to receive a COVID-19 vaccination
- Pray for Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church and all churches. Pray for our members and friends, the Session, deacons, teachers and church leaders. Pray prayers of thanksgiving for our nation during our time of transition and pray for peace in the world.
- Pray for Elizabeth Davis, her father and her family
- Prayers of thanksgiving for friendships which endure, giving us comfort.

Worship Leaders:

Jonathan Barker, Interim Pastor;

Elizabeth Davis, Director of Music;

Anna Raab, videography and production;

Robert Owens, worship assistant

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We live to share God's love for ALL.

"God So Loved"

CCLI Song # 7102394

Marty Sampson | Matt Crocker

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