



WEBSTER GROVES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

45 West Lockwood Ave. ♦ Webster Groves, MO 63119

314-962-9210 ♦ wgpc.org

4th Sunday after Epiphany ♦ January 28, 2024 ♦ 9:30 a.m.

Our Mission:

We seek to live Christ's love, welcome all people,
and joyfully serve God.



As the music begins, let us use this time for quiet reflection and prayer, so that we, individually and as a great crowd of witnesses, may prepare ourselves to reaffirm our faith as the people of God.

✦ *When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.*

Gathering for God's Word

PRELUDE

"Pavane"
Shawn Portell, organ

Paul Drayton

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY LIFE

Rev. Ed Zumwinkel

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

Laura Putnam

L: The Spirit and the Church say, "Come."

P: The people of the Word say, "Come."

L: Let everyone who is thirsty come.

P: Receive the gift of the water of life.

L: Praise the Lord.

P: The Lord's name be praised.

✦ OPENING HYMN #263 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"
(see music in back of bulletin)

CORONATION

✦ CALL TO CONFESSION

Matt Miller

L: Remember that our Lord Jesus
can sympathize with us in our weakness,
since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin.
Let us then with boldness approach the throne of grace,
that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

✦ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Let us pray:

**P: Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Continued >>**

**P: Forgive what our lips tremble to name,
 what our hearts can no longer bear,
 and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.
 Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
 open to us a future in which we can be changed;
 and grant us grace to grow more and more
 in your likeness and image;
 through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.**

✠ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Hear the good news!
 As people born of water and the Spirit
 we have died to the old life, and a new life has begun.
 God's grace is poured out upon us day by day.
 Come to the water and remember your baptism.
 Be thankful,
 and live as one who has been raised to new life!
 In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

P: Thanks be to God.

✠ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

P: And also with you.

✠ RESPONSE #659

"Know That God is Good"

MUNGU NI MWEMA

1 Know that God is good. Know that
 2 Hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le,

God is good. Know that God is good;
 hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah,

God is good; God is good.
 hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Proclaiming God's Word

SCRIPTURE CONVERSATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Laura Putnam

L: Let us pray:

Loving God, fountain of every blessing,
open us to your life-giving word,
and fill us with your Holy Spirit
so that living water may flow through our hearts—
a spring of hope for a thirsty world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Pew Bible pg. 171
Laura Putnam

¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that 'all of us possess knowledge.' Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him.

⁴ Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that 'no idol in the world really exists', and that 'there is no God but one.' ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords— ⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷ It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸'Food will not bring us close to God.' We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling-block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

L: The Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

²¹They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

L: The Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Ed Zumwinkel

Responding to God's Word

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Rev. Christi Tennyson, Presbyterian Children's Homes & Services

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: Let us pray for the needs of the world, saying,
Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

For the healing of Earth and all its creatures;
hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

For the church's willingness to cast out demons in its midst,
for congregations that are in turmoil,
for the healing of divisions between the followers of Christ Jesus;
hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

For leaders of nations, for those who have great wealth, for those who have too much power,
for those who have destructive weapons, and for those who have none;
hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

For those who are victims of others' idolatry,
for children who have no one to listen to their cries for food and shelter,
for parents who cannot answer the needs of their children,
for peacemakers and diplomats, for those who give through charities,
and for those who use the law to make policies for the greater good;
hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.** *Continued >>*

L: For all who are in pain and in need of care,
especially those we name now aloud or silently, . . .

(JOYS AND CONCERNS)

hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

For the wisdom to fear you rightly,
the power to withstand changes in our own lives that bring us closer to you,
for the ability to give thanks for the people who have brought us to this time—
our ancestors, teachers, pastors, and the martyrs of every age;
hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

Into your hands we commend all those for whom we pray
and those it would be easy to forget.
We ask your blessing on all your people, that we may come at last to the truth
around your banquet table that has no end;
through Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OFFERING INVITATION

Laura Putnam

L: Do not let idols grow and multiply in your hands,
but give of yourselves, your time, and your possessions
out of love for this creation and honor toward what you have been given.

OFFERING (For those not using the offering plate, your offering can be made
by texting ALMS to 73256 or using the QR code to the right)



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Balm in Gilead"
Chancel Choir

M. Roger Holland II

✠ DOXOLOGY #327

"From All That Dwell Below the Skies"

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

From all that dwell below the skies let the Creator's praise arise:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let the Redeemer's name be sung through every land, in every tongue.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

✠ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

L: Let us pray:

For Earth, which you have molded,
for creatures and animals, plants, water, air, and fire,
for Jesus who died and rose again,
for the breath of life, we give you thanks, O God. *Continued >>*

L: Let these gifts be used for good wherever there is need,
in the name of all that you have first given us,
especially Christ Jesus, your Son, our Savior. **Amen.**

✠ APOSTLES' CREED

**P: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Sending

✠ CLOSING HYMN #450

"Be Thou My Vision"

SLANE

Stanzas 1, 2, 4: All

Stanza 3: Choir only

(see music in back of bulletin)

✠ CHARGE

L: Go out from this place to a world fully known by God.
Where there is fear, remember the authority of Christ Jesus.
Where there is need of love, give it.
Where there is pain, bring peace.
For you are loved by the One who redeems,
and freed to live by the Word of life.

✠ BLESSING

L: Now may the Lord of peace
give you peace at all times and in all ways.
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

"Scherzo"

Alan Ridout

Shawn Portell, organ

*You are welcome to stay for the postlude, especially when we have musical guests.
If you would like to respond at the end, please do so with an "Amen."*

Welcome to WGPC

- **FRIENDSHIP PADS:** Please sign the friendship pads located at the end of each pew.
- **CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS WELCOME IN WORSHIP:** The nursery (designed for children from newborn through three) is open from 8:45 to 11:45 a.m. But if you need to step out of the Sanctuary, the new Gathering Spot (formerly the front office) will be open with a comfy place to relax with toys, books, coffee, and a live-stream of the worship service.
- **COMMUNION:** Everyone is invited to participate in Communion including children and the unbaptized.
- **ASSISTIVE DEVICES:** Hearing devices, large print hymnals, and cushions are available. One of our ushers will be happy to assist you.
- **WELCOME BAGS:** If you are a visitor or know someone who might be interested in WGPC, please pick up a red welcome bag at our Welcome Station in the main hallway or at the church entrances.

Those Who Serve Today

Liturgist: Laura Putnam

Greeters: Ruth Clynes and Diana Likely

Ushers: Margy Beggs-Irwin, Freda Cook, George Irwin, and Dave Morris

Tech Team: Lia Fairbanks, Tom McNeely, Rob Meyer, Spencer Roudebush, Joey Stokes, and Dennis Wacker

Nursery Caregiving Team: Anna Stokes, Debbie Goss, Tammy Graning, Sophia Kenow, and Carrie Rao

Office Assistance: Leigh Porter



Online Worship: Our worship services are live-streamed and video recorded for viewing on our website (wgpc.org) and YouTube pages. Children's participation in the Scripture Conversation indicates implied parental consent to be recorded.

Resources: Some prayers and liturgical texts for worship are provided by: Westminster John Knox Press from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1 © 2012; Westminster John Knox Press from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 2 © 2014; Westminster John Knox Press from Book of Common Worship © 2018.

Ministry Staff

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Custodians: (ext. 3212)

Pete Brennan (Supervisor) pjb@wgpc.org
Pierre Campbell
Ken Kastner

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Art Webster,
chq2@fairpoint.net

January 28, 2024 Announcements

WORSHIP

Calling All Bread Bakers!

The Deacons are looking for volunteers to bake communion loaves. We need one round loaf for Pastor Ed to hold and break at each communion service. If you can help bake, contact Jen Blumenkemper at Jblum010403@gmail.com. Many thanks to Lia Fairbanks, Laurie Goodfellow, and Jan Hanson for sharing their bread baking talents with us.



Thanks to Those Who Have Donated Chancel Flowers!

Arrangements to beautify the Sanctuary are appreciated by all. If you would like to donate an arrangement, please contact Gay Moppert at mopfam@aol.com. Your donation of flowers can be made in memory or honor of a loved one/s. After Worship, chancel flowers are traditionally arranged into smaller bouquets and delivered to members who could use a little extra cheer from our congregation.



FELLOWSHIP

Finding Your Friday Flash

On February 1, Google and Yahoo will implement new guidelines for bulk email senders. We are working with our IT team to strengthen our email authentication, so there should be no change to your email delivery from the church. However, if you do not see your Friday Flash next week, [February 2](#), check your junk mail folder. If you still can't find it, please notify Cherstin Byers at chb@wgpc.org.

Per Capita Giving Reminder

As Presbyterians, we embrace the concept of "polity," the form of government that unites us with our own presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy and the Office of General Assembly. To support the operations of the broader Church, each member is asked to donate \$35 per member per year. This reduces the amount WGPC must pay toward these services and allows more funds to remain for our ministry here. Please make your donation at wgpc.org/give/paying-per-capita/.

MISSION

"Snacks for Students" Deliverers Still Needed!

This Wednesday, January 31, 10:00 a.m., from WGPC
Twice a year our congregation delivers healthy snacks to each of the schools in the Webster Groves School District through our Snacks for Students program. The goal is to support students who may come to school hungry by providing a snack to help them focus on learning. If you can help us deliver items to schools in the district on January 31 (weather permitting), please contact Beth Kazlauskas at bok@wgpc.org.

Join Us Next Sunday for Rise Against Hunger, Our All Church Mission Project
Sunday, February 4, in Fellowship Hall following Worship



Help us Rise Against Hunger by joining us in this popular mission project for all ages! With your help we will package 15,000 just-add-water, fully nutritious meals for people in need of critical aid across the globe. To sign up for a volunteer shift, please visit wgpc.org/get-involved/sign-up-links.

Homeownership for the Afghan Family!

When their landlord decided to sell their rental home, he generously offered it to them at a price below market value. With the help of WGPC members Margy Beggs-Irwin and Emily Booker, both real estate agents, a deal was negotiated and a contract signed (below)! They have worked hard to build an excellent credit rating and maintain steady employment to make this possible. See the Friday Flash for the full story.



Give-A-Meal-A-Month January Menu

Help those served by Webster-Rock Hill Ministries by purchasing a bag of menu items and dropping it off in the Mission Hub. The GAMAM January menu is: canned pasta (ravioli, spaghetti with meatballs, etc.), canned mixed vegetables (low or no salt), canned peaches (lite or in juice), can of soup, and hot chocolate mix. Additional needs: diapers, baby wipes, diaper rash ointment.

FAITH FORMATION

FAITH FORMATION THIS WEEK

Sunday (January 28)

Coffee & Conversation with the Lectionary 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School for pre-K – 3rd Graders
(starts during Worship)

"The Historical Jesus and the Christ of Faith"
(part 3) 10:45 a.m.

Celtics 4:00 p.m.

Agape 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday (January 30)

Men's Bible Study 7:00 a.m.

Thursday (February 1) Disciples' Bible Study
10:00 a.m.

Sunday (February 4)

Coffee & Conversation with the Lectionary 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School for pre-K – 3rd Graders
(starts during Worship)

Detailed information about Faith Formation opportunities can be found online at wgpc.org (click on the Ministries tab, then click on Faith Formation).

Save the Date and Tell Your Friends!

WGPC Women's Retreat

Saturday, April 20, 2024

Mercy Conference and Retreat Center
2039 N. Geyer Road

More details will be coming!

Today's Adult Faith Formation . . .

The Historical Jesus and the Christ of Faith: A Roadmap for the Confused Believer

10:45 a.m. in the Parlor and by Zoom

Dr. Ruben Rosario-Rodriguez returns to WGPC to lead the final part of an intriguing three-part series exploring the interplay of history and faith in our knowledge of Jesus. The class begins by introducing the "Quest for the Historical Jesus" followed by discussion of what we can and cannot know about Jesus Christ from historical study. Then, we will examine the importance of encountering the risen Christ in history – not just as a past historical figure, but as an ongoing locus of divine revelation. Dr. Rosario is the Clarence Louis and Helen Steber Professor of Theological Studies at St. Louis University. He is also an ordained minister of the Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and currently serves as moderator for the Committee on Preparation for Ministry.

Whom to Contact on Staff

We are a busy church! So that plans can be properly coordinated, please be sure to share your information with the appropriate staff person as follows:

- Adult fellowship activities and membership interest – Michelle Lepak (mmml@wgpc.org)
- Bulletin announcements, calendar, meeting room requests, and Zoom links – Barb Fischer (baf@wgpc.org)
- Friday Flash announcements and children/youth details – Cherstin Byers (chb@wgpc.org)
- Mission projects and collections – Beth Kazlauskas (bok@wgpc.org)
- Music activities – Shawn Portell (spp@wgpc.org)

Bulletin and Friday Flash Announcements

For spacing reasons, please limit announcements for the bulletin to **150 words or less**. A few more details and links to websites can appear in the Friday Flash. Announcements for both publications are due by the end of Tuesday prior to the desired Friday or Sunday. Email Barb Fischer at baf@wgpc.org for the bulletin and Cherstin Byers at chb@wgpc.org for the Friday Flash. Email both Barb and Cherstin if you'd like the announcement to appear in both. Thank you!

263 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

Descant

4 O that with yon - der sa - cred throng we at his feet may fall!

1 All hail the power of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
 2 Ye cho - sen seed of Is - rael's race, ye ran-somed from the fall,
 3 Let ev - ery kin-dred, ev - ery tribe on this ter - res - trial ball
 4 O that with yon - der sa - cred throng we at his feet may fall!

We'll join the song, and crown him Lord of all!

bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all!
 hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
 to him all maj - es - ty as - cribe, and crown him Lord of all!
 We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, and crown him Lord of all!

We'll join the song, and crown him Lord of all!

Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all!
 Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
 To him all maj - es - ty as - cribe, and crown him Lord of all!
 We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, and crown him Lord of all!

This 18th-century text celebrating the sovereignty of Christ has been through several expansions and contractions before reaching its present form. It is set here to the oldest American hymn tune in continuous use since first published in 1793, which was written for it.

TEXT: Stanzas 1-3, Edward Perronet, 1779, 1780; stanzas 2-3, alt. John Rippon, 1787; stanza 4, John Rippon, 1787

MUSIC: Oliver Holden, 1793; desc. Michael E. Young, 1979

Music Desc. © 1979 GIA Publications, Inc.


CORONATION

8.6.8.6.8.6

450


Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) E^b (G) A^b (D/F#) E^b/G (A7) B^b7 (D) E^b




1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) B^b (D) E^b (G) A^b (A) B^b




naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) A^b (D) E^b (F#m7) $Gm7$ (G) A^b (A) B^b



thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) Cm (D/F#) E^b/G (G) A^b (D) E^b



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.