



WEBSTER GROVES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

45 West Lockwood Ave. ♦ Webster Groves, MO 63119
314-962-9210 ♦ wgpc.org

6th Sunday of Easter ♦ May 22, 2022 ♦ 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

"Greensleeves"
"The Bells of St. Mary"
Fox Creek Bluegrass Band

Traditional
A. Emmett Adams

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY LIFE

Rev. Jim Poinsett
Dennis Wacker

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

(Please rise in body or spirit.)

L: Alleluia, Christ is risen.

P: The Lord is risen indeed, alleluia.

L: Let the peoples praise you, O God.

P: Let all the peoples praise you.

✦ OPENING HYMN

"Family Bible"
Fox Creek Bluegrass Band

Willie Nelson

✦ CALL TO CONFESSION

✦ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Let us pray:

**P: Loving God,
we confess that we are an anxious people
who deny your blessing and fail to keep your word.
Forgive us, we pray, for these and all our sins,
that we might live in peace and reflect your love
in the world;
through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

✦ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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.

Proclaiming God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Dennis Wacker

L: Let us pray . . .
By the power of your Holy Spirit,
fling wide the doors of our hearts this day
as we hear your word of life,
that we too may open our lives to serve your world in love.
In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 16:9-15

Pew Bible p. 136
Dennis Wacker

⁹During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' ¹⁰When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.

SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 21:10; 21:22-22:5

Pew Bible pg. 260

¹⁰And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

²² I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Continued >>

²²Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ²through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

SERMON

Rev. Jim Poinsett

Responding to God's Word

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: In this season of the Spirit
let us offer our prayers and thanksgivings for the world, saying,
Lord, send out your Spirit
and renew the face of the earth.

All creation lives to praise you, O God.
As the earth yields its blessing,
may we honor and protect the precious gifts of nature and give thanks
for the beauty, healing, and sustenance it provides for all.
Lord, send out your Spirit

P: and renew the face of the earth.

L: You bless your church throughout all the ages
with leaders like Paul and Lydia
to share in the spreading of the gospel.
Give to your church this day a
profound sense of the mission to which you now call us
for the life and health of the world.
Lord, send out your Spirit

P: and renew the face of the earth.

L: You judge the people with equity
and guide the nations of the earth.
Give to all leaders and people
the gift of wisdom and the spirit of peace,
that we may walk by your light as we serve the common good.
Lord, send out your Spirit

P: and renew the face of the earth.

L: You promise to be with us always
through the comfort of your Holy Spirit.
Give to all who suffer violence, grief, or pain
an enduring trust in Jesus that joy will rise again.
Lord, send out your Spirit

P: and renew the face of the earth.

(JOYS AND CONCERNS)

L: We give thanks for the many blessings of our lives,
that we follow Jesus,
he journeys with us day by day
through the presence of your Holy Spirit, our Advocate and teacher.
Lord, send out your Spirit

P: and renew the face of the earth.

L: You are alpha and omega, the beginning and the end.
Be with all who are born this day,
and those who will die,
that your will for them may be fulfilled;
and may we all come to share
in your heavenly city with voices of unending praise.

P: Amen.

OFFERING INVITATION

L: The earth has yielded its increase
and God has richly blessed us.
Therefore bring your tithes and offerings
and come into God's courts with praise.

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

“House of Gold”
Fox Creek Bluegrass Band

Hank Williams

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Dennis Wacker

L: Let us pray:
Giving God,
as spring bursts forth its blossoms in witness to your love,
you bless us from generation to generation
with the new life of Easter Faith. *Continued >>*

All that we have and all that we are come from you, O God,
so we gladly share this offering,
that others too may be blessed,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

Sending

✠ CLOSING HYMN

“Take Your Shoes Off Moses”
Fox Creek Bluegrass Band

J.D. Jarvis

✠ CHARGE

✠ BENEDICTION

You are invited to be seated for today's postlude.

POSTLUDE

“The Walls Came Tumbling Down”
Fox Creek Bluegrass Band

MG. A. Thacker

Welcome to WGPC

- **FRIENDSHIP PADS:** Please sign the friendship pads located at the end of each pew.
- **CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS WELCOME:** Worship Activity Bags are located at each entrance to the Sanctuary.
- **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 to WGPC (or know someone who might be interested), we encourage you to stop by the Welcome Station in the main hallway and pick up a red welcome bag and additional information about our church. Bags are also located by the Lockwood and parking lot doors.

Worship Notes

Those Who Serve Today

Liturgist: Dennis Wacker

Greeting Team: Marilee and Craig Campbell, Karen Dapron, Diana Likely, Patty and Grant Mabie, Linda and Tom McNeely, Ruth Meyer, Karen Schneider, Ken and Mary Ann Wallace

Ushering Team: Donna Bellows, Freda Cook, Dan Egley, Deb Grossman, Rebecca and Scott Lyon, Dave Morris, Dorothy and Patrick Sinclair, Sam Stoll, Betsy Wacker, Judy and Bob Weng

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

Office Assistance: Leigh Porter

Chancel Flowers

Last week's Chancel Flowers were given to the Glory of God and in memory of Betty Gaylon, the gift of Judi Viox.

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 © 2018; Westminster John Knox Press from Book of Common Worship © 2018



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Ken Kastner

May 22, 2022 Announcements

Welcome Rev. James Poinsett, *Executive Director,* *Interfaith Partnership of Greater St. Louis*



Today we are pleased to have Rev. James Poinsett as our guest preacher. Jim has served as executive director of the Interfaith Partnership after serving 12 years as a minister for PC (USA) congregations in New York, Philadelphia, and St. Louis. He has worked for 11 years in politics, primarily as a lobbyist to state legislatures and Congress. Earlier this year,

Jim led a six-part course on the diversity of Christian thought and practice at WGPC and by Zoom. Thank you for sharing your talents, Jim!

Welcome Fox Creek Bluegrass Band Part of our *Music in a Great Place Series*



From Bluegrass to Beatles, to Southern Rock and Motown, there isn't anything the Fox Creek band hasn't played during the 20 years since the group's inception. Fox Creek started as a traditional bluegrass band, but the journey down those back roads took the band to new places, and Steve O'Connell, a founding member of the group, just keeps taking new turns. Current band members include O'Connell on guitar and vocals; long-time member Dan Horner on banjo; Joe Rapisardo on mandolin, harmonica and vocals; and Tracey Rapisardo on upright bass and vocals. Congregation members may remember Tracey who previously served as Connections Coordinator at WGPC.



Join Us on the Parking Lot After Worship!!

Don't miss our festive all-church event! Hamburgers, brats, hot dogs, and other traditional picnic food will be served. The Bubble Bus will join us, and there will be crafts, games, a cake walk, Bingo, face painting, Silly Jilly the Clown, and more! Enjoy food, fun, and fellowship as we welcome summer!



**Agape and Celtics End-of-Year
Murder Mystery Party**
TONIGHT, May 22, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Celebrate with a mystery to solve, a Pasta House dinner to savor, and a make-your-own Sundae bar!

Coming Soon: Young Families Barbeque Sunday, June 12, 4:00 p.m. at the Escott's Home

Join your hosts – the Escotts, Scotts, and Ringkamps – for some fun community time for the younger members of WGPC to celebrate the start of summer! Food, drinks, and desserts will be provided so just bring yourselves! The event will be moved to Fellowship Hall if the weather is overly hot or rainy. If you or someone in your family has any food/allergy restrictions please email amydescott@gmail.com so that we can plan accordingly. To RSVP, please visit wgpc.org/get-involved/sign-up-links or use the link in the Friday Flash. We hope to see you there!!



we can
end gun violence
wear orange

Weekend of June 3-5

Per the World Population Review, in 2021, the United States had the 10th highest firearm-related death rate in the world, behind Honduras, Venezuela, El Salvador, Eswatini, Guatemala, Jamaica, Brazil, Columbia, and Panama. The United States also had the highest gun-related suicide rate *in the world*. Something needs to change. *Some things need to change.*

The weekend of June 3-5 is Wear Orange weekend, an event in support of gun violence prevention. Why Orange? In 2013, a young girl was shot and killed in a case of mistaken identity. To honor her memory, her friends wore orange to school, choosing orange for its connotations of safety as hunters wear orange to let other hunters know not to shoot. Wear your own orange gear to church on Sunday, June 5 to show your support of sensible gun laws, safe firearm education, and services that can help reduce the incidence and impact of gun violence.

**Theology on Tap:
Good Discussions, Good Fellowship!**

Please join us once a month at a restaurant, brewery, or bar to share a drink, build friendships, and discuss various faith topics. For more info, contact Scott Lyon at 636-675-7893 or silyon33@gmail.com.



**Formula Shortage and our Afghan Family
Can You Help?**

As many have heard, there is a national shortage of baby formula which is affecting our Afghan partner family. Mom is nursing her twin infants, but they still need to supplement with formula. If you see **Enfamil NeuroPro EnfaCare** (see photo) at the store and are able to purchase a can to donate, please bring it to church and place it in the baby crib in Fellowship Hall. Due to the shortage, some stores are keeping their stock at Customer Service so you may need to ask for it. Your assistance is much appreciated by our family!



Stay
CONNECTED

**Sign up for our emailed Friday Flash
at wgpc.org/announcements/**

to learn more about upcoming events with access to direct links for sign-ups and other resources.

Please submit bulletin announcements by the end of **Tuesday** prior to the desired Sunday to Barbara Fischer at baf@wgpc.org.

**Forms for Next of Kin and
End-of-Life Wishes**

For those who would like WGPC to have information about next-of-kin and end-of-life wishes, please complete the form in the bulletin and return them to:

Webster Groves Presbyterian Church

ATTN: Records

45 W. Lockwood Ave.

St. Louis, MO 63119

NEXT-OF-KIN FORM

Webster Groves Presbyterian Church

There are occasions in the care and concern for one another when it is desirable for the church to have on record the names of next of kin and/or close friends. We would appreciate your sharing this information, as well as keeping it up to date when any of the information changes. **This form will be kept in a confidential file and will be used ONLY in the case of an emergency.**

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____ TODAY'S DATE _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ Cell/Alternative (_____) _____

Name of spouse or other family member living with you _____

Alternative address (if applicable) _____ City/State/Zip _____

People to Contact in Case of Emergency

Your next of kin (such as a son, daughter, sister, etc.)

Name _____ Relationship _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ Cell/Alternative (_____) _____

A second person (if you choose)

Name _____ Relationship _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ Cell/Alternative (_____) _____

Someone who might know about your schedule or travels (if there is a need/concern and we need to contact you)

Name _____ Relationship _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ Cell/Alternative (_____) _____

Please return form to our church office: Webster Groves Presbyterian Church
ATTN: Records
45 West Lockwood Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63119

MY WISHES AT THE END OF MY LIFE

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____ TODAY'S DATE _____

Date of birth _____ Place of birth _____

Spouse's name _____ Alive ___ Deceased ___ Anniversary _____

Family members:	<u>Name</u>	<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Phone</u>
	_____	_____	(____) _____
	_____	_____	(____) _____
	_____	_____	(____) _____

Legal Information

Do you have an attorney? _____ Name and phone number: _____

Do you have a Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) order? _____ Where is there a copy? _____

Do you have a Will? _____ Where is there a copy? _____

Do you have a Living Will? _____ Where is there a copy? _____

Do you have a *general* Power of Attorney? _____

Name _____ Phone (____) _____

Do you have a *health care* Power of Attorney? _____

Name _____ Phone (____) _____

End-of-Life Plans

Name of funeral home _____

Name of cemetery/crematorium _____

If applicable, body donation to _____

Memorial Garden of Webster Groves Presbyterian Church: Niche _____ Burial _____ Paver _____

Type of service: Funeral _____ Memorial service _____ Graveside only _____

With interment? _____ With interment? _____ With interment? _____

Meaningful scripture verses

Special hymns/anthems

Will there be memorials directed to WGPC? _____

Will there be a legacy gift from your estate plan for WGPC? _____