

WHITE MEMORIAL

— PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH —

September 13, 2020
Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Live Streaming at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Christopher H. Edmonston, Pastor
Cate Church Norman, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care
Grier Booker Richards, Associate Pastor for Discipleship
Kirsten Homdrom, Associate Director of Music
Kelly Gold, Director of Children's and Youth Music
Karl Zinsmeister, Director of Music
Liz Marks, soprano
Timothy Sparks, tenor
Jared Smith, bass

ORDER OF SERVICE

GREETING

PRELUDE

Andante con moto from *Sonata in D Major, Op. 65 No. 5*
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN 446

How Blest, Those Whose Transgressions

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, in the name of Jesus hear our prayer of confession.
In you God there is both righteousness and mercy.
Mercy that comes to us through your loving heart.
Righteousness which comes to us by your holy law.
In our lives we make mistakes and fall short of your kingdom.
In our mistakes we fail your law and soon
our vision of your mercy is obscured.
In following your law we learn the way of truth and blessing.
Help us to recover our need for your holy ways.
Help us to keep our vision affixed on your mercy
that we might do justice, love kindness,
and walk humbly before you.
Amen.**

(CONTINUED)

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 14:19-31

¹⁹The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them.

²⁰It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

²¹Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided.

²²The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

²³The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers.

²⁴At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic.

²⁵He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

²⁶Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers."

²⁷So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea.

²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained.

²⁹But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

³⁰Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore.

³¹Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 18:21-35

²¹Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive?
As many as seven times?”

²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.

²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him;

²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made.

²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying,
‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’

²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’

²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him,
‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’

³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.

³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.

³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.

³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’

³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.

³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SERMON

Settle Up

MUSICAL OFFERING

With a Voice of Singing

M. Shaw (1875-1958)

COMMISSIONING OF THE 2020-21 CONFIRMATION CLASS

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.**

RESPONDING IN FAITH

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(Adapted from Philippians 2)

**Let the same mind be in us that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death —
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

(CONTINUED)

HYMN 4

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

POSTLUDE

Prelude and Fugue in D
Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

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JOYS & CONCERNS

IN THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

Cynthia Stoltze Hardison – September 9, 2020
WMPC family member: son, Sandy Hardison and
daughter, Anna Hardison.

NEW PRESBYTERIANS

Claire Cashion Poplin, born August 28,
child of Kate and Dave Poplin.

Romy Ada Springfield, born September 5,
child of Zoe Balaconis and Jonathan Springfield, Somerville, MA,
grandchild of Lynn and Mark Springfield,
great-grandchild of Carol and Jim Springfield.

Nora Jean Edwards, born September 8,
child of Casey and Michael Edwards,
grandchild of Jan and Robert Hinson.

How Blest, Those Whose Transgressions 446

(Psalm 32)

1 How blest, those whose trans-gres-sions have free - ly been for-given;
 2 While I kept guilt - y si-lence, my strength was spent with grief.
 3 So let the god - ly seek you, when trou-bling times are near;

whose guilt is whol - ly cov - ered be - fore the sight of heaven.
 Your hand was heav - y on me; my life found no re - lief.
 no storm or flood shall reach them, nor cause their hearts to fear.

Blest, those to whom our Lord God will not im-pute their sin:
 But when I made con - fes - sion and hid no sin from you,
 In you, O Lord, I hide me; you save me from all ill.

whose guilt has been for - giv - en; whose hearts, made true a - gain.
 when I re - vealed my fail - ings, you gave me life a - new.
 And songs of your sal - va - tion my heart with rap-ture fill.

Although this is one of the traditional seven penitential psalms, it could equally well be called a psalm of thanksgiving for forgiveness. It bears witness to the desirability of confession as well as to God's gracious and forgiving nature, encouraging the faithful to seek God.

THE TRIUNE GOD

4 Holy God, We Praise Your Name

1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -
 3 All a - pos - tles join the strain as your sa - cred
 4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, Ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it:

bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim;
 bove are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
 name they hal - low; proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
 three we name you, while in es - sence on - ly one;

all in heaven a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your
 in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heavens with
 and the bless - ed mar - tyrs fol - low, and from morn to
 un - di - vid - ed God we claim you, and a - dor - ing,

vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.
 sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
 set of sun, through the church the song goes on.
 bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

Based on an 18th-century German metrical version of a celebrated 5th-century Latin hymn, *Te Deum laudamus*, this abbreviated 19th-century English paraphrase is sung by both Protestants and Roman Catholics. It is set here to the tune composed and named for the German version.

What's happening this week at WMPC

SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 13

Cancer Companions

4:30 p.m. -6:00 p.m. | Zoom | [Registration required](#)

This support group uses Cancer Companions devotionals, videos and Bible lessons to explore how we can draw closer to God as we go through difficult times. Contact Jean Williams, Parish Nurse at jwilliams@whitememorial.org or Jim Ferry, Parish Associate at jferry@whitememorial.org. Registration is required; register online at www.whitememorial.org.

MONDAY | SEPTEMBER 14

9@9 a.m.

Daily | Facebook Live

Begin the morning each weekday with a live Bible study with Grier Booker Richards, Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Chip Pope, Associate Pastor for Youth and their Families.

Women's Monthly Fellowship

Please visit our website to see circle dates and times. Most circles are meeting via Zoom.

Churchwide Bible Study: The Parables of Jesus

7:00-8:00 p.m. | Zoom | [Registration required](#)

The well-known parables of Jesus are deep wells of Christian instruction and reflection, but ones that are often reduced to a single, simplistic meaning. Join us for a 10-week study of parables led by WMPC pastors as we explore the depth of Jesus' teaching and ask what these stories might have to say to us today.

Registration required:

www.whitememorial.org/register.

TUESDAY | SEPTEMBER 15

Men's Breakfast & Bible Study

7:30 a.m. | Zoom | [Registration required](#)

www.whitememorial.org/register

Aging Well | 1:00 p.m.

Zoom | [Registration required](#)

To register contact: Jennifer Eastman at jeastman@whitememorial.org or Liisa Ogburn, liisaogburn@gmail.com. Lisa Levine, of Dementia Alliance NC, will discuss the common issues and helpful resources they are seeing during COVID, as well as address any questions you have regarding caregiving, worries about loved ones isolated in Memory Care, etc.

WEDNESDAY | SEPTEMBER 16

Meaning as Millennials: Faithful Conversations About Christianity and Culture

6:30-8:00 p.m. | Weekly | Zoom

Meaning as Millennials is a social and study group for people in their late 20s to late 30s interested in exploring their faith and today's culture. Discussions are based upon Scripture, articles, current events, podcasts, or books. For more information contact Kevin Thompson, kpthomps@ncsu.edu.

Roundtable Discussions for Parents

Parents of Preschool and Elementary School Students

7:00-8:30 p.m. | Zoom | [Registration Required](#)

After a great response to the WMPC Mental Health and Wellness Webinars about parenting, we're offering two follow-up opportunities. Parenting in the age of COVID presents an entirely new set of challenges, especially as we navigate our kids' schooling. Join other parents for a time of conversation where we'll ask, "How are you doing?" and check in with one another as we settle into the school year. Registration is required; register online at www.whitememorial.org.

Zoom Hosts:

Dr. Emily King, Child, Adolescent, and Family Psychologist
Cate Church Norman, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care
Gwen Whiteman, Director of Young Children's Ministry
Cynthia Baggett, Director of Weekday School

THURSDAY | SEPTEMBER 17

Presbyterian Russia Mission Network

Virtual Conference

Thursday - Saturday | Zoom | [Registration required](#)

This year's virtual conference, Thursday, September 17- Saturday, September 19, is a great way to interact and learn more about Russia, Belarus, and the Ukraine. The format will provide education and interaction among participants. Registration information can be found on our website.

Support for Healthcare Workers

12:00-12:45 p.m. | Zoom | [Registration required](#)

All healthcare workers are invited to join Pastoral Resident Anne Galliher for a weekly opportunity to reflect and recharge in an environment of care and support. Connect with others experiencing similar challenges in healthcare settings and engage in self-care. Join us every week or drop in as you are able. All are welcome. Registration is required; register online at whitememorial.org/register.

Lectio Live

1:00 p.m. | Facebook Live

Cate Church Norman, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care or Anne Galliher, Pastoral Resident practice a contemplative way to read the Bible called Lectio Divina. It's an ancient yet simple practice that means "holy reading." In Lectio Divina, we slow down and listen for God's word. We take time to listen for words or phrases that stand out for us, and we listen for a call that God may be placing on us.

Keenagers

3:00 p.m. | Zoom

If you are 55 years old +, we invite you to join Keenagers via Zoom. If you would like to participate in Keenager Zoom meetings, please contact Tonya Higgins at thiggins@whitememorial.org to receive your Zoom link. On Thursday we will gather virtually at 3:00 p.m. to listen to *The Journey of a young Harpist* by Bella Clinton.